IDEAL PROGRAM
COURSE SYLLABUS

Dear Student,

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course dates, times and location. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in our classes build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student's preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount of time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend a minimum of ten-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:

1. Attend every class session. Be on time.
2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the first class session.
3. Complete the first assignment prior to the first class session and all subsequent assignments to the best of your ability.
4. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.

If you cannot perform these four expectations, **it is recommended that you drop the course**.

Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if the student earned a grade of "B" in the course, the final grade would be a "C"). If a student misses two or more classes a grade of F will be entered as their final grade.

Cheating and Plagiarism

It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with and adhere to the standards set forth in the policies on cheating and plagiarism as defined in Chapters 2 and 5 of the Key to UB http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2623.asp or the appropriate graduate program handbook

E-mail correspondence

It is imperative that you check your UB e-mail on a regular basis. All written correspondence, to include IDEAL and the University will be sent to you through his e-mail. **The University can no longer correspond to your personal e-mail account(s).**

Ethics Statement of Confidentiality

An integral component of an IDEAL course is student and faculty expression of personal experiences for the purpose of facilitating coursework. Students enrolled in the program are expected to honor confidentiality as it pertains to student disclosure. Shared information, comments, or opinions expressed by another student or the faculty member during the course of classroom discussion should never be used in a manner which is intended to humiliate, embarrass,

harass, damage, or otherwise injure other students in their personal, public, or business lives. In addition, confidentiality must be upheld by not disclosing any information that would identify any particular individual.

SOC 102 SOCIOLOGY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS
Summer 2013
Thursdays 7/17/2013 – 8/14/2013
6:00-10:00 PM
Stamford Campus

Instructor: Charles Phillips PhD
Email: cphillip@bridgeport.edu

1. **Course Description**

This course is an analysis of major contemporary social problems and existing methods for dealing with these problems. What is a social problem? How does it differ from a personal problem? We will critically examine troubled institutions, inequality, conformity, deviance, and the problems of a changing world from the "functionalist," "conflict," and "interactionist" perspectives.

3. Required textbook
Leon-Guerrero, Anna. (2013). Social Problems: Community, Policy, and Social Action. 4th Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press.
ISBN: 9781452205434

Learning Outcomes for the course:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

A) Understand the basic overarching sociological problems involving culture, socialization, and stratification.

B) Explain how society functions as a dynamic process in which social structure, institutions, organizations, formal and informal groups are created, maintained and sustained through social interactions.

C) Analyze how class, race, and gender impact group and have an affect on social problems.

D) Identify theoretical frameworks for analyzing social problems and policies, and critical empirical questions about society and human behavior.

<u>To be completed prior to first class session.</u>

1. Read Leon-Guerrero (2009) Chapters 1-6
2. Be prepared for a quiz.
3. Be prepared to answer the discussion questions in class. No written assignment needs to be turned in prior to class. However, it may be

helpful to have notes on the main points of each of the discussion questions for the quiz. You will be allowed to use your notes but not the textbook for the quiz.

Schedule with assignments for the remainder will be given in the first class session.

Expectations:

1. Discussion and questions are encouraged. A free flow of ideas is essential to a college education. No student should hesitate to express him/herself for fear of being wrong, etc. All ideas are valuable, and all contributions are welcome.

2. Respect is an essential element of academic discussion and interaction: between students and between instructor and students. Prejudice, resentment and other hostilities are not a part of academic behavior. Disagreements will be mediated with the help of the instructor. Agreeing to disagree is an acceptable academic resolution.

3. Class attendance is expected and absences will affect your final grade. Leaving the class early will also be noted and could affect your final grade. If for some reason legitimate or not - you miss a deadline, or are continuously absent from class but intend to continue, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. Students absent for whatever reason are responsible for all material, including announcements that they missed.

4. Anyone caught cheating on a test/assignment will receive a grade of zero for that assignment. Anyone guilty of plagiarism will receive a zero on that assignment. Plagiarism is copying someone else's writing and claiming that it is your own. This includes ANY AND ALL material from the Internet, papers of other students, material from the text or any other book.

5. Late papers or assignments will be docked <u>10% per diem</u>.

Research and Reflection Evaluation RUBRIC

Evaluating reflection journals is as challenging as evaluating course work performed in the traditional class setting. Other than for an easily quantifiable quiz, it is difficult to offer simple and objective evaluation criteria. What follows is a rubric that has proven to be a useful guide in evaluating your reflection and research papers. The instructor will be using the following grading scale:

1. Discussion entries and reflective papers which meet the demands of the assignment will be graded with a **B+ or B**. These assignments will include at least the following:

- Each entry is posted and/or paper is received **on time** (a hard copy is brought to class each week).
- Opinions, comments, and observations are offered **in depth** (avoid brief comments in telegraphic style; no "how r u, gr8" for how are you, great"). This does not mean that everything you write should be longggggg.
- Journal entries and reflection assertions on your research must relate clearly and directly to the readings (including **"direct quotes"** from the assigned readings to support your position).
- Your journal entries and research papers must indicate an **understanding** of the issues.
- Generally, your reflection journal should seek to **further** the discussion on key issues.

2. Journal entries and reflective papers which go beyond the demands of the assignment will be graded with an **A or A-**. These assignments will include all of the requirements for a B or B+ above. In addition, **A or A-** entries and papers will:

- Show deeper analytical or inferential thinking, demonstrating **insightful understandings**.
- Offer comments that are particularly **perceptive**, while they are also supported with direct quotes from the readings.
- Provide strong, precise, and thoughtfully selected **support** for assertions.
- **Synthesize and evaluate** experiences related to course topics and/or issues of importance as described in our course objectives.
- Propose changes and relate material to person experience demonstrating an ability to **apply** the material to propose solutions and/or advocate for unheard voices related to social inequities and justice issues.
- Pose **good questions** (i.e., questions that further discussion and reflection).
- **Link** to topics/issues from earlier readings [from this course and/or other courses] and current readings/web resources.

3. Journal entries and reflective papers which do **not** meet the demands of the assignment will be graded with a **B- C+, C, or D**. Although it is NOT expected that these types of assignments will be created, it is likely that they would:

- Arrive late or contain insufficient details, or
- Not be clear or understandable, or
- Not use direct quotes from the assigned readings or not relate to these readings or other Internet resources in an appropriate and/or thoughtful way [or misrepresent them], or
- Contain only detailed description of local experiences with no evidence of reflection or synthesis, or
- Contain only opinion, with no descriptive details or supporting quotes from theory or research.

Please note that it is important to check your work for spelling and grammatical correctness.

(Revised and adapted from J. Hauer by C. Phillips 3/7/04)

Overall Evaluation

Percentage-wise, each assignment will count as announced in the syllabus (e.g., 25% of the final grade). Each assignment, including the quiz, will be given a numerical grade (see below). At the end of the course, a letter grade will be given based on the total points for all the assignments.

Grading Scale

94% of available points = A
93% of available points = A-
90-92% of available points = B+
84-89% of available points =B
83% of available points = B-
80-82% of available points = C+
74-79% of available points = C
73% of available points = C-
70-72% of available points = D+
64-69% of available points = D
63 %of available points = D-
Below 63% of available points = F

Course Performance and Grading Criteria

In general, the end of course performance criteria or expectation for each letter grade can be defined as follows:

Grade	Requirements & Performance Criteria
A	**Students achieving this level will have demonstrated the following:**

	1. Accurate and sophisticated understanding of readings and issues with ability to do more than repeat what the text says or what was said in class, such as the ability to infer additional important information from sources.
	2. Critical stance toward opinions communicated in class or in the readings and the ability to express their own views articulately and defends them well.
	3. Originality of thought in expressing the critical stance, in drawing out additional implications from the readings and class discussions, and in finding personal meaning in the readings and issues discussed.
	4. Clear expression of ideas, with papers containing very few grammatical or stylistic weaknesses.
	5. All assignments completed and submitted within the time allowed.
B	**Students achieving this level will have demonstrated the following:**
	1. All of the “A” work, but with less accomplishment.
	2. Accurate understanding of readings and issues, with the ability to do more than repeat the text.
	3. A critical stance, with some effort, not always successful, to defend that stance.
	4. Some attempt to find personal meaning, with at least hints of

	originality and creativity of thought.
	5. Very clear expression of thoughts and ideas.
C	**Students achieving this level will have demonstrated the following:**
	1. A generally accurate grasp of the readings and issues, but with some inaccuracy; lack of sophistication understanding, such as the ability to infer from sources.
	2. Some attempt to take a critical stance, but with little effort or success in defending that stance.
	3. Some attempt to find personal meaning.
	4. Sufficient clarity of expression to communicate ideas, but with stylistic or grammatical weaknesses, which create difficulties.
D	**Students achieving this level will have demonstrated the following:**
	1. Genuine efforts to understand, with some demonstrated understanding of readings and issues, but with serious deficiencies.
	2. Generally lacking in critical stance or in a defense of that stance.
	3. Lack of understanding or an attempt to find personal meaning.
F	Simply an unsatisfactory effort in key respects, especially in

	understanding or clarity of expression.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attendance Policy
Classroom attendance is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, students are expected to attend all class sessions. If an absence is unavoidable, the student, prior to class, should advise the instructor. Arrangements should be made at that time for additional assignments if appropriate. It is also expected that students arrive on time and not leave until the class is dismissed. Tardiness will result in a reduced grade for the course. If you cannot attend every class session you should consider dropping the course.

IMPORTANT:

- **Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if the student earned a grade of "B" in the course, the final grade would be a "C").**
- ***Missing two or more class sessions will be cause for a failing grade.***

Incomplete grade
An incomplete may be given, at the discretion of the instructor, to those students who fail to complete assignments due the last day of your course. These would include absence from a final examination or inability to complete terminal assignments (papers, presentations) due to illness, employment conflicts, etc.

Incompletes will not be given to a student who fails to complete any assignment during the term. At the discretion of the instructor, these assignments could be completed no later than the last scheduled day of your class.

Drop Procedures
To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the following web page:

http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp

Starting Fall 2012

- Add and/or Drop a course after the start date.....$30.00 per transaction
- Drop prior to the start of classes.....100% Tuition Refund
- Drop prior to the second class session.....75% Tuition Refund
- Drop prior to the third class session.....50% Tuition Refund
- Drop after the third class session……..……....0% Tuition Refund

****Please note students will not be automatically dropped for missing the first class. Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade. If you have to miss the first class, or the first week of class for online classes, *you must contact your instructor* in writing before or after the first class/first week. However, a grade reduction will apply.**

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the Academic Calendar to see the fees for a drop and the impact on tuition. The Academic Calendar can be found at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp

Cell Phones
Cell phones must be turned off while in the classroom. A cell phone call is disruptive and disrespectful to the other students in the class.

Academic Dishonesty
We are committed to intellectual integrity in our academic pursuits; therefore, the IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

> Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory computer-programming course. He has co-workers who program in the same language as his final project. As the end of the term approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the project finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a disk with a complete program similar to the kind required for the course project. The student makes minor modifications to the program, and submits it under his own name.
>
> Case #2: A student enrolled in a religious studies course has never taken a humanities or history course, and is unsure about how to structure a research paper. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across a paper written by a student from another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and pastes the document into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called "research papers" without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one's own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

> Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet as well as in the library. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.
>
> Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn't have to use quotations or citations.

Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own classes; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site:
http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at: http://myub.bridgeport.edu/academics/academicrescenter/Pages/default.aspx The Center is located in the Wahlstrom Library, Room 506. Hours of operation are Mondays –Thursday 9am – 6pm and Fridays 9am – 1pm. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290. **Online Tutoring** is available at: www.etutoring.org. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

Obtaining a UBNet Account
Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access your grades, access library services, access online tutoring, access the computers in computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to: http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet - Click on "New UBNet Account" and follow the instructions.

The @bridgeport.edu email address is the official email the University uses to send information to you. You can have your Bridgeport.edu email forwarded to any other email account you use. Following the activation of your UBNet account (takes 24 hours), login at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/email and click on "forwards" at the top of the page. Follow the directions to forward email messages to your other account.

Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online
The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the end of a course. Information on WebAdvisor is password protected and requires you to use your UBNet username and password. To access WebAdvisor, go to: http://www.bridgeport.edu/webadvisor

1. Login in with your UBNet username and password.
2. Click on "Student Menu."
3. Click on "My Grades."

If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

Using the Library
You can access the library through the library's website: http://www.bridgeport.edu/library. Research tools available:

- Search for books held at the library.
- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

To access the online journals for research purposes, you will need a UBNet account (see above).

Using Computers
Open access computer labs are available at three campuses:

- Bridgeport – 1st floor of the Wahlstrom library. Check library hours of operation at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/library.
- Stamford – Room D; Check open hours at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford
- Waterbury – Computer Lab; Check open hours at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury

Course Cancellations/ Weather Policy

Any emergency necessitating the canceling of courses will be announced by the University through the Emergency Notification Telephone Line, (203) 576-4159. Please call this number for information on course cancellations. Also, information will be posted under "Latest News" on the UB home page, (www.bridgeport.edu). Canceled classes will be made up either the week

following the end of the course or in consultation between the instructor and the students as to day and time availability. Course cancellations are also announced on television and radio stations.
Please note each campus makes weather cancellations independently. You should always check with the specific campus staff. It is best to call the campus emergency phone.
Bridgeport – 203-576-4159
Waterbury - 203-573-8501
Stamford – 203-358-0700

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Contact	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport Campus Security		(203) 576-4911	ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu
Bursar	Robinson Hernandez	(203) 576-4692	bursar@bridgeport.edu
Cashier	Lana Mistry	(203) 576-4682	cashier@bridgeport.edu
Financial Aid		(203) 576-4568	sfs@bridgeport.eud
Registrar		(203) 576-4642	registrar@bridgeport.edu
Emergency Notification Phone		(203) 576-4159	
Distance Education Office		(203) 576-4853	ubonline@bridgeport.edu
IDEAL Office		(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus	Address	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport	126 Park Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
Stamford	5 Riverbend Drive Stamford, CT 06750	(203) 358-0700	ubstamford@bridgeport.edu
Waterbury	84 Progress Lane Waterbury, CT 06705	(203) 573-8501	ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu
Woodbridge	6 Lunar Drive Woodbridge, CT 06525	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
IDEAL Office		(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

Directions to IDEAL Campus locations	http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2260.asp

To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The school code for the University of Bridgeport is 001416.
Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243