

SYLLABUS  
PART I  
EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SOC 226S SOCIAL PROBLEMS  
3 CREDIT HOURS

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Examination of current social problems in the United States. Special attention is paid to the definition, extent, and solutions of each of the problems. Among the topics discussed are: poverty, race and gender inequality, environmental issues, family, alcohol and drug abuse, crime, violence.

**COURSE GOALS**

The student will:

Bloom's Level		Gen Ed Outcomes
4	1. Analyze the process through which social problems are identified, legitimized, and addressed.	1, 2, 4, 6
4	2. Explain how the major theoretical perspectives and the scientific method are used to evaluate and analyze social problems.	1, 2, 6
5	3. Create proposals for addressing social problems.	1, 2, 4, 6
4	4. Compare and contrast specific social problems in cross-cultural context.	2, 4, 6
2	5. Discuss the effects of social structure and culture on social policy.	1, 2, 4, 5
2	6. Explain the role of social policy in resolving, or exacerbating, social problems.	1, 2, 4, 5
2	7. Discuss the impact of social structure in generating social problems, such as structures of inequality, the political system, and the economy.	1, 2, 4, 5
4	8. Analyze the role of social movements in constructing and/or resolving social problems.	1, 2, 5

**CORE VALUES**

The Core Values are a set of principles that guide in creating educational programs and environments at Edison. They are communication, ethics, critical thinking, human diversity, inquiry and respect for learning, and interpersonal skills and teamwork. The goals, objectives, and activities in this course will introduce or reinforce those Core Values whenever possible.

**COURSE TOPICS**

1. Social Problems
2. Wealth and Poverty
3. Racial and Ethnic Inequality
4. Gender Inequality
5. Inequality Based on Age
6. Inequality Based on Sexual Orientation
7. Prostitution, Pornography, and the Sex Industry
8. Alcohol and Other Drugs
9. Crime and Criminal Justice
10. Health Care
11. Family

12. Education
13. Politics and the Global Economy
14. The Media
15. Population, Global Inequality, and the Environment
16. Urban Problems
17. War and Terrorism