

William Paterson University  
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice  
300 Pompton Road  
Wayne, NJ 07470  
Dr. H. Mark Ellis  
Email Address: ([ellism@wpunj.edu](mailto:ellism@wpunj.edu)) **NOT** ([ellish@wpunj.edu](mailto:ellish@wpunj.edu))

**Social Problems: (SOC 1020-080)**

**Welcome to our course!**

**Winter Session:**  
Three Week (1/3/2022 – 1/21/2022)

**Winter Session 2021-2022 Calendar:**  
<https://wpunj.edu/wintersession/>

**Blackboard Student Support:**  
[https://bb.wpunj.edu/webapps/portal/execute/tabs/tabAction?tab\\_tab\\_group\\_id= 15 1](https://bb.wpunj.edu/webapps/portal/execute/tabs/tabAction?tab_tab_group_id= 15 1)

Our course will be platformed and delivered through Blackboard learning management system.

Please remember to use Google Chrome as your web browser when accessing and doing this course. Other browsers are known to cut off documents, freeze scroll bars, and cause other problems.

**Who or what started social problems?**

***The Book of Genesis According to St. Miguelito:***  
<http://allpoetry.com/poem/8582915->  
The Book of Genesis According to St. Miguelito-by-Miguel Pinero

***We Didn't Start the Fire:***  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2a2SS0zqmzk&feature=related>

**Identify and analyze the following social problems and issues.**

**Gun Control (*Daddy's Gun*)**  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6uYZdpLF1U>

**Global Warming and the Environment (*I Need to Wake Up*)**  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pouYRrk-gyl>

**Terrorism (9-11)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEogeII0JzU>

**Child Abuse (*Precious*)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L26bnfsPb2A>

**Educational Inequality [Equity versus Equality] (*Trading Schools*)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpfMD9gWNf8>

**Sexuality and Family (*Pariah*)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNRdxsTmV1U>

**Structural and Historical Racism (*The Unequal Opportunity Race*)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBb5TgOXgNY>

**Depiction of Females in Advertisement (*Killing us Softly Part 4*)**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTImho\\_RovY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTImho_RovY)

**Your Ecological Footprint (*No Impact Man*)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z9Ctt7FGFBo>

**Social Movements (*Black Lives Matter*)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Vl4I0weXPU>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rd\\_0zSIX5XM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rd_0zSIX5XM)

We will explore the social problems outlined in the above video clips along with many other contemporary issues including crime, juvenile delinquency, bullying, family responsibilities, and how the human body is problematized in society. We will examine the complexity of social problems and analyze how they are interrelated and addressed in societal context.

---

**Course Description:**

This course presents fundamental sociological concepts and analyzes major problems of contemporary society including micro and macro social causes. We will examine the individual and structural components of society that contextualize behavior while exploring topics such as but not limited to: the social construction and dissemination of power; poverty; racism; ethnic conflict; gendered inequalities; the environment; suburban and urban life; drugs and crime; social deviance; health and body-related issues; the family; and educational inequality. In addition, we will examine “facts”, theories, and methods sociologists use in the study of social problems. Last, we will also consider how other nations address problems that are similar in the United States.

**Course Prerequisites (None):**

The full syllabus with due dates and all assignments will be uploaded and available on 1/3/2022, which is the first day of this short three-week Winter Session semester.

**Required Textbook:**

*Social Problems, 13th Edition* by Eitzen, Zinn and Eitzen-Smith

**Here is the ISBN for this book: 0205949185.**

Below is the link to the required course textbook.

*Please cut and paste into a web-browser.*

<https://www.pearson.com/us/higher-education/product/Eitzen-Social-Problems-13th-Edition/9780205881888.html>

All questions about the textbook should be addressed directly to the publisher or the WP bookstore. You do not need the “MyLabSociology” component of this textbook.

**Topical Outline and Course Content:**

**Unit 1 (Defining and Analyzing Social Problems, and Conflict Resolution)**

**Unit 2 (Social Inequality, Deviance, Drugs, and Crime)**

**Unit 3 (Race, Gender, Marriage and Family, and Education)**

**Method of Instruction and Student Learning Activities:**

This is a 100% online course, which means, all lessons/lectures, discussions, writing, group work, activities, etc. will be transmitted via the computer.

“See” you soon.

Kind regards,

Dr. H. Mark Ellis  
[ellism@wpunj.edu](mailto:ellism@wpunj.edu)

---