



North Central State College

MASTER SYLLABUS

2025-2026

- A. Academic Division: Liberal Arts
- B. Discipline: Human and Social Work Services
- C. Course Number and Title: HMSV2050 Social Problems
- D. Assistant Dean: Laura Irmer
- E. Credit Hours: 3
- F. Prerequisites: HMSV1020; HMSV 1170
- G. Last Course/Curriculum Revision Date: Fall 2023 Origin date: 01/27/2011
- H. Textbook(s) Title:
- Social Problems and the Quality of Life*
- Authors: Lauer and Lauer
 - Copyright Year: 2022
 - Edition: 15th
 - ISBN: 9781265781859 (Loose leaf option) or ISBN: 978126579653 (E-Book option)
- I. Workbook(s) and/or Lab Manual: None
- J. Course Description: This course will present an overview of generally recognized social problems by sociological measurement. Definitions of social problems and an understanding of their impact on the quality of life and the social work field will be implemented. Please note outcomes are written to ODHE standards using ODHE language. Ohio Articulation Number OSS025
- K. College-Wide Learning Outcomes:

College-Wide Learning Outcome	Assessments - - How it is met & When it is met
Communication – Written	
Communication – Speech	
Intercultural Knowledge and Competence	
Critical Thinking	
Information Literacy	Social Problems Topic Research Paper – Information Literacy VALUE Rubric as Assigned –
Quantitative Literacy	

L. Course Outcomes and Assessment Methods:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall:

Outcomes	Assessments – How it is met & When it is met
1. Identify the difference between personal problems and social problems and the consequences of each.	Class Discussion Activities- beginning, mid and end of term Chapter Discussion Question -mid term Mid and Final Exams
2. Identify theoretical explanations to social problems and compare and contrast specific social problems in a cross-culture context.	Class discussion posts – beginning and mid term Mid and Final Exams
3. Identify, legitimize and address social problems in our society.	Research Paper and Oral Presentation- end of term Mid and Final Exams
4. Identify causes and alternative social actions in resolving social problems.	Research Paper and Oral Presentation -end of term Mid and Final Exams
5. Identify the impact of social structure, such as inequality, social institutions and the economy in generating social problems.	Class discussion posts – beginning and mid term Mid and Final Exams

M. Recommended Grading Scale:

NUMERIC	GRADE	POINTS	DEFINITION
93–100	A	4.00	Superior
90–92	A-	3.67	Superior
87–89	B+	3.33	Above Average
83–86	B	3.00	Above Average
80–82	B-	2.67	Above Average
77–79	C+	2.33	Average
73–76	C	2.00	Average
70–72	C-	1.67	Below Average
67–69	D+	1.33	Below Average
63–66	D	1.00	Below Average
60–62	D-	0.67	Poor
00–59	F	0.00	Failure

N. College Procedures/Policies:

North Central State College believes that every student is a valued and equal member of the community.* Every student brings different experiences to the College, and all are important in enriching academic life and developing greater understanding and appreciation of one another. Therefore, NC State College creates an inclusive culture in which students feel comfortable sharing their experiences.

Discrimination and prejudice have no place on the campus, and the College takes any complaint in this regard seriously. Students encountering aspects of the instruction that result in barriers to their sense of being included and respected should contact the instructor, assistant dean, or dean without fear of reprisal.

* *Inclusive of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin (ancestry), military status (past, present or future), disability, age (40 years or older), status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a foster parent, genetic information, or sexual orientation*

Important information regarding College Procedures and Policies can be found on the syllabus supplement located at

<https://ncstatecollege.edu/documents/President/PoliciesProcedures/PolicyManual/Final%20PDFs/14-081b.pdf>



North Central State College
SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

Academic Division:	Liberal Arts	Discipline:	Human Services
Course Coordinator:	Amanda Smith		
Course Number:	HMSV 2050-920	Course Title:	Social Problems
Semester / Session:	Fall 2025 Session B	Start / End Date:	10/13/25-12/12/25

Instructor Information

Name:	Amanda Smith	Credentials:	Master's Degree in Social Work, LSW
Phone Number:	419-800-4390	E-Mail Address:	Asmith@ncstatecollege.edu
Office Location:	Online/ By appointment	Office Hours:	By appointment

I. Topical Timeline / Course Calendar (Subject to Change):

Weeks	Topics	Assignment	Due Date
1	Course Orientation, Ch 1&2 Understanding Social Problems Problems of Drugs and Alcohol	VIDEO Course Intros/ Know/ Want to knows (16) Ch 2 questions (16) Interview 19 Hooked on Drugs (16) Intro to Research paper19	10/16/25 10/19/25
2	Ch 3&4 Crime & Delinquency Violence	Ch. 3 Questions 22 Ch. 4 Questions 22 Violence in America DNA 26	10/22/25 10/26/25
3	Ch 5&6 Sexual Deviance Poverty	Ch. 5 Sex Trafficking Discussion 29 Ch. 6 Poverty and education discussion 29 Research Paper Outline 2	10/29/25 11/2/25
4	Ch 7 Gender and Sexual Orientation	Ch. 7 Questions 5 Draft Research Paper 9 Midterm 9	11/5/25 11/9/25
5	Ch 8&9 Government and Politics Race, Ethnic Groups, and Racism	Ch. 9 Questions 12 Ch.8 Questions 12	11/12/25 11/15/25
6	Ch 10&12 Work and Economy Education problems	Ch. 10 & 11 Questions 19 Revised Research Paper	11/19/25 11/23/25
7	Ch 12&13 Family Problems Health Care and Illness	Ch 12 &13 Family Problems 26 Holiday short week No Class (11/27&11/28)	11/26/25
8	Ch 14 & 15 War and Terrorism The Environment	Ch 14 War and Terrorism 3 Ch 15 The Environment 3 Study for the Exam Summary Research Paper Sharing Video 6	12/3/25 12/6/25

Weeks	Topics	Assignment	Due Date
9		*FINAL EXAM	12/12/25

II. Grading and Testing Guidelines:

Final Grade Calculation

Activity	Qty	Points	Percentage
Reflection	3	6	6%
Chapter Assignments	7	17	17%
Discussion Posts	8	16	16%
Research Paper & components	1	33	33%
Midterm and Final	2	26	26%
Extra credit class Evaluation	1	2	2%
Total		100	100%

III. Examination Policy:

- The reasons for which a student will be excused from taking an examination _____
 - Hospitalization (with documented verification)
 - Death in the immediate family (with documented verification)
 - Personal illness or illness in immediate family - (doctor's excuse required).
- A student who misses an examination for any reason is responsible for _____
 - Notifying Instructor immediately or as soon as possible.
 - Providing necessary documentation
 - Make up the exam as soon as possible.
- No makeup opportunity will be given for absences of unscheduled quizzes.

IV. Class Attendance and Homework Make-Up Policy:

- Class attendance is necessary to acquire the knowledge required to _____
 - Be an effective Human Services Profession.
 - If student misses three classes, the final grade will be dropped by one letter grade.
 - If more than four classes are missed, the student will receive an F.
 - If student has a documented and legitimate reason for missing class, please notify instructor as soon as possible.
- Students are responsible for _____
- Students are expected to stay current with the online reading material and assignments and be prepared to engage in discussions related to the readings. In addition, they are to be respectful of each other and treat one another fairly, both inside and outside of scheduled discussions.
- Students should participate (post/respond) in a timely manner to show respect to the instructor and other students, ensuring a collaborative learning environment.
- Respectful language is required in the classroom.
- All assignments are to be submitted in Canvas on the assigned due date. Failure to do so will result in 10% reduction in grade. No assignments will be accepted after 7 days.