

Sociology 210:
The Human Services System
Fall Term 2010 (T Th 1:10-2:20pm)

Instructor: Joseph E. Williams, LCSW, ACSW
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Text: Zastrow, *Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare*, 10th ed.

Course Objectives and Goals:

The purpose of this course is to provide a general perspective of the scope of human services and human service professions. The student will view social problems as they exist in our society and approaches human service professionals employ to address these problem areas. At the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of interventions used by professionals. They also will practice using some of the skills required by members of the various human service professions that have multiple applications. The students will develop the ability to be educated consumers should they ever be in need of services themselves.

Information and Requirements:

1. Office Hours: The instructor is available to students on an appointment basis or during regular office hours which are **Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 to 1pm**. Please call the office to arrange for help as needed. Help is better sought earlier in the semester than later.
2. Tests: There will be two midterms and one final examination. Dates of the midterms are **Tuesday, September 18, 2010** and **Tuesday, November 2, 2010**. The date of the final is **Friday, December 17, 2010 at 8:30am**. The final is not cumulative and is simply the last test. Makeup tests will not be given without documented need and may be of an alternative form such as an oral exam.
3. An optional term paper is a possibility to help improve the final grade. Guidelines for the paper are attached. The paper is due **Thursday, November 18, 2010**.
4. Class attendance and participation is essential to learning. Class participation that is both regular and quality will help to improve the final grade. Students who have more than two unexcused absences will drop one final grade level—for example, A B to a B-. Excused absences include illness, family emergency, job interview, jury duty, etc. Documentation of the excuse will be requested for verification.
5. Grading: The *final grade* will be based on the average score of the examinations and the paper if done. Class participation can alter the final grade by as much as three points based on regularity and quality. The instructor reviews class participation at midterm and at the end of classes, and assigns 0-3 points based on his evaluation of quality.
6. The Academic Honesty Policy outlined in the Student Handbook will be followed as per procedures stated in that document.
7. Test questions are generally of the objective type and are difficult. These test bank questions require understanding a concept clearly and not a test of rote memory. It is highly recommended that students form study groups to prepare for examinations. Each group should be small, with 4 to 6 members. Please contact the instructor if you need assistance getting into a student group.

Course Outline and Reading Guide:

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| 1. Social Welfare and History and Future | Chapter 1 |
| 2. Social Work and the Helping Professions | Chapter 2 |
| 3. Poverty-Welfare | Chapter 4 |
| 4. Race and Ethnic Issues | Chapter 12 |
| 5. Emotional Problems and Counseling | Chapters 3, 5 |
| 6. Family Issues | Chapter 6 |
| 7. Human Sexuality Issues | Chapter 7 |
| 8. Drug Abuse and Treatment | Chapter 8 |
| 9. Crime and Delinquency Issues | Chapter 9 |
| 10. Sexism and Women's Issues | Chapter 13 |
| 11. Overpopulation and Family Planning | Chapter 17 |
| 12. Education and School Issues | Chapter 10 |
| 13. Work-related Problems | Chapter 11 |
| 14. Aging and Related Issues | Chapter 14 |
| 15. Medical Social Services | Chapter 15 |
| 16. Disabilities and Rehabilitation | Chapter 16 |

Term Paper Guidelines:

Choose any major social problem and prepare a critique.

1. Who describes this as a social problem? Is it defined by legislation or pushed forth by an interest group? Document the definition of the problem and cite references of the above.
2. What methods are being employed in an attempt to deal with this problem? How are human service professionals involved in addressing this issue? What methods are being employed—casework, group work, community organization, etc.? Be sure to document these by references.
3. What about the future? What new methods on legislation are being developed to address this problem more effectively? What new roles will human service professionals be playing? What things do you think should be done that are not now being done?
4. The paper should be between 11 and 15 typed pages (double-spaced), with a minimum of nine references. You may use your textbook as one of the references. The paper must be spell and grammar checked.
5. You must include a bibliography and footnotes. The footnotes may be at the end of the paper. Consult any English handbook for information on setting up the bibliography.
6. The **paper** is due on **Thursday, November 18, 2010**. Your **topic** is to be handed in by **Tuesday, November 4**. Late paper will NOT be accepted. Papers will be returned on the last day of class.