SOC/SOAN 206Z Social Problems

The following provides a summary of the 2024 Recommendation Report for the CCN Sociology Subcommittee. Transfer Council recommends that due to changes in course information under OAR 715-025-0065 through 0115, colleges and universities should ensure students' academic progress is not disrupted. Courses completed before CCN changes should count toward graduation, even if requirements shift. Holding students harmless means honoring their efforts, supporting them through transitions, and keeping learning—not compliance—the central focus. CCN course information should be adopted as written. For more detailed information on what can be added to the course description and course learning outcomes, see the CCN Revised Framework and for more general information, see CCN Reports & Memos on the Educator Resources— Common Course Numbering webpage.

Approved CCN Course Information

Date Approved:
November 21, 2024

Catalog Dates:
Required to begin appearing in the 2025-26 catalog.

Review Timeline:
- First Annual Review: Spring 2027
- First Triennial Review: Fall 2029

Course Number and Prefix:
SOC or SOAN 206Z

Course Title:
Social Problems

Course Credits:
4

Course Description:
Applies the sociological perspective to the study of social problems, including their social construction, causes, and consequences. Explores the complexities surrounding their solutions, such as how solutions are socially constructed and policy proposals from sociologists and social movements. Topics may include poverty, discrimination, interpersonal violence, crime, addiction, ecological crises, war/global conflict, and health inequality.

Course Learning Outcomes:
1. Describe the ways in which social problems are defined and constructed.

2. Apply the sociological perspective to identify and analyze social problems.

3. Distinguish between individual and structural explanations of social problems.

4. Assess the effects of social problems using empirical evidence.

5. Examine the structural, institutional, and cultural roots of social problems.

6. Assess solutions to address social problems.

Review Cycle:

The subcommittee proposes that the annual review cycle of these courses serve a two-fold purpose:

1. to review the transfer effectiveness of the courses, and

2. to gather information about challenges, concerns, or changes needed from the 24 two- and four-year schools in the state.

We propose that the initial review takes place during Spring term 2027 under the assumption that the CCN approved outlines will go into effect no later than Fall 2025.

The subcommittee recommends a deeper review of the alignment of these courses takes place every three years, with the first such review beginning in Fall 2029. This is the only time that the subcommittee will consider a vote to modify the aligned content of the course, using the available data since the last three-year review was concluded. The three-year review process will culminate in a recommendation to either affirm the existing alignment decisions or to revise a particular aspect of the alignment, as deemed appropriate by the subcommittee.

The subcommittee recommends that as many members of the original subcommittee be invited to participate in these discussions as possible. Historical memory and original context will be useful in informing future decisions.