COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: ENG 090 and RED 090 or DRE 098, or satisfactory score on placement test
Corequisites: None

This course provides an in-depth study of current social problems. Emphasis is on causes, consequences, and possible solutions to problems associated with families, schools, workplaces, communities, and the environment. Upon completion, students should be able to recognize, define, analyze, and propose solutions to these problems. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement for the general education core requirement in social/behavioral sciences.* Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, the students will be able to:

a. Understand social problems.
b. Evaluate social problems using sociological theories
c. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between social problems and social institutions.
d. Explain how certain social problems and culture are related.
e. Organize the components of social problems situated in social structure.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

I. Introduction and foundations
   A. Understanding social problems
   B. Methods of sociological research

II. Problems of social institutions
   A. The world of work
   B. Education
   C. Marriage and the family

III. Problems of inequality
   A. Social stratification and social mobility
   B. Life course and ageism
   C. Men, women, and sexism
   D. Ethnicity and racism

IV. Problems of crime and social deviance
   A. What is social deviance?
   B. Sexual variance
   C. Substance abuse
   D. Physical and mental illness
   E. Crime and delinquency
   F. Violence in society
V. Global social problems
   A. War and terrorism
   B. Urbanism, environment, and population growth
   C. Technology and social changes

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS:

To be selected by instructor

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 919-536-7207, ext. 1413 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1209.