



KIIS Tanzania, Summer 2020

SOCL 240 Global Social Problems

Instructor: Dr. Noyongoyo

Email: noyongoyo@marshall.edu

Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description: Examines causes of and responses to critical contemporary social problems in different world regions, with a focus on the dimensions and impacts of globalization. Diverse social theories are applied to interpret problems such as environmental degradation, AIDS, family violence, racism, migration, international poverty, and crime.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS creates and offers high-quality education abroad programs for students from diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help transform students into global citizens who have personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizing headlines and outdated cultural clichés to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating in KIIS Study Abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Articulate the relationship between ideas, experiences, and place;
- 2) Develop tools to engage with diverse people in the local cultures; and,
- 3) Explore other peoples' values and clarify their own.

In the equivalent of one, single-spaced typed page, reflect on:

How has this experience made you think – or act – differently about the world around you? Please consider the 3 SLOs discussed. Please don't consider course content in your response; instead, think beyond it, and be as specific as possible.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

- To analyze the source of contemporary social problems.
- To apply existing sociological perspective to everyday problems.
- To understand the major sociological theoretical traditions and how they apply to the study of social problems

- To assess the impact of social positioning on various aspects of the lives of individuals.
- To analyze the strength and weaknesses of proposed solutions to social problems.

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

Why do we study social problems? Sociological Imagination How and when do social problems occur?

Education, Poverty, and Crime

Sex, Alcohol and Other Drugs

Work, Employment, Science and Technology

Race-Ethnicity

Health, Food, and Environment

Aging and Migration

War and Terrorism

Presentations

5. Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: This course may fulfill some General Education requirement on your campus. Be sure to explore this possibility with your advisor or KIS campus representative.

6. Required Readings and Materials:

The Tuskegee experiment

The Cosmopolitan Canopy, Elijah Anderson

Tristram Stuart: food waste movement

7. Graded Assignments:

Participation and in-class activities (20%)

This means being on my list of contributors by answering questions in class, leading discussions, and participating in in-class activities (including pop quizzes). At least 10 remarkable contributions are expected over the semester. Participation also means no phone ringing or vibrating and no use of any other technological gadget. Any violation will drop your participation by 1%.

If something is unclear, ask me during or after class, during my office hours, or email me. I will answer any e-mail within 24 hours. I encourage you to ask questions at any reasonable time of the day.

Class Projects (20%)

Group Project and Presentation (15%)

During week 2 a group presentation project will be outlined. This project will require collaboration with approximately 3-5 students to present an informative presentation on a social problem. Additional information on the presentation will be provided during the second week of class. Each group member will receive the same grade for the presentation.

Individual Reflection Paper (5%)

In addition to the presentation, each student will be required to complete a 2-3 double-spaced page reflection paper on the presentation topic as well as their group experience. More details will be provided in class.

Quizzes (20%)

There will be 2 quizzes given throughout the summer. The quizzes will be 20 questions, multiple choice, true-false, and short essays. You will have 50 minutes to complete them. The quizzes will be on the assigned reading for the week they are taken. No make-ups will be given. Exception will be granted in case of proven emergency.

Exams (40%)

The exams (2 in total) will cover material covered in the readings as well as material covered in lectures and any other ancillary sources (videos, websites, etc.). In short, if it is assigned, it is fair game. The exams will be a mix of multiple guess/true-false, and short essays and will be conducted in class. You will have 60 minutes to complete the exam. You will need paper and pen/pencils for any exam or quiz. There will not be a "study guide" distributed to you but the audio/video lectures, PowerPoint slides and, of course, your book will be available for you to study.

Calculating Your Grade:

160 points = Exams (2)
80 points = In-Class Activities and Participation
80 points = Quizzes (2)
80 points = Class Projects

400 Total Possible Points

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Exams (2)	40%
Class Participation and Attendance	20%
Quizzes (2)	20%
Group project	20%
Total	100%

8. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

9. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program. If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will contact your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter. In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

10. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/titleixbrochure.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.