**WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
PROPOSAL FOR GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM COURSES

**Department: SOCIOLOGY**  
**Course No.: SOC 216**  
**Prerequisites: NONE**

**GEP Goal Area(s):**

**CORE GOAL AREAS**
- [ ] Goal 1: Communication
- [ ] Goal 3: Natural Science
- [X] Goal 4: Mathematics/Logical Reasoning
- [X] Goal 5: History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences *(ALREADY APPROVED)*
- [ ] Goal 6: The Humanities and Fine Arts

**THEME GOAL AREAS**
- [X] Goal 7: Human Diversity
- [X] Goal 8: Global Perspective
- [X] Goal 9: Ethical and Civic Responsibility
- [ ] Goal 10: People and the Environment

*Courses may be submitted for up to two Goal Areas.*

**Additional Requirement Categories:**

- [ ] Intensive:
  - [1] Writing
  - [2] Oral Communication
  - [3a] Mathematics/Statistics
  - [3b] Critical Analysis

- [ ] Physical Development and Wellness

Provide information as specified in the previous directions.

Attach a *General Education Program Approval Form.*

Department Contact Person for this Proposal:

**Name (please print):** BRIAN ALDRICH  
**Phone:** 5421  
**e-mail address:** BALORICH@WINONA.EDU

[Revised 9-6-11]
3. This course fulfills Competencies under Goal 9. Students in this course demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of different ideas about the normative basis of society between groups in contemporary society; learn to analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding particular social problems; can describe and discuss the experience and contribution of the many groups that shape the proposing and working out of solutions to social problems in the society, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion; demonstrate the types of communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great normative diversity.

4. Specific topics within the course that meet the above described competencies include (1) the role of individuals and various social groups in the definition of, support for, and policy changes in regard to the social problems of the United States and the Global Society, (2) the recognition and articulation of the diversity of views of individuals and groups in regard to social problems, (3) the ways in which influential, neolocal, and international groups in the society, locally or globally, act for or against various social problems, and (4) learn to recognize, write and critique the various forms of the communication of social problems by experts, media, activists, government and other groups in the society, and (5) how to use these skills to become more effective professionals, citizens and community members by engaging in the exchange of ideas.

Learning activities include, (1) the sociological theories about social problems, their rise and demise, (2) the specific rhetorical and communication forms groups and individuals use to attract support for particular social problem solutions, (3) group written papers on a variety of topics covered in the course, (4) individual written work to identify the different ways individuals and groups present views and perspectives on social problems, (5) extensive use of computers to access different websites, government, United Nations and International Labor Organization programs in response to local, national and global social problems, (6) introduction to major national and international social surveys on social problems, (7) introduction to major foundation policy studies of various social issues, (8) examination of book-length analysis of social problems, and (9) use of major news media reports on social problems.

6. Students knowledge of the above topics and their ability to recognize and use various social problems communication techniques are assessed in individual analysis of written sources, in web searches and position papers on various social problems, group written papers, reading, discussing and reporting on social analysis of social problems, and written examinations.
WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM APPROVAL FORM

Routing form for General Education Program Course approval. Course _SOC 216: SOCIAL PROBLEMS_

Department Approval

[Signature] 2/4/12
Department Chair  

MNDRMAN@  
e-mail address

Dean's Recommendation

Yes  No*

[Signature] 2-13-12
Dean of College  

Date

*If the dean does not approve the proposal, a written rationale shall be provided to the General Education Program Subcommittee.

GEPS Recommendation

Approved  Disapproved

General Education Program Director  

Date

A2C2 Recommendation

Approved  Disapproved

Chair of A2C2  

Date

Faculty Senate Recommendation

Approved  Disapproved

President of Faculty Senate  

Date

Academic Vice President Recommendation

Approved  Disapproved

Academic Vice President  

Date

Decision of President

Approved  Disapproved

President  

Date

Please forward to Registrar.

Registrar  

Date entered  

Please notify department chair via e-mail that curricular change has been recorded.

[Revised 7-13-11]