

COURSE SYLLABUS

LAST REVIEW	Spring 2023
COURSE TITLE	Introduction to Labor Studies
COURSE NUMBER	ECON 0203
DIVISION	Social and Behavioral Sciences & Public Services
DEPARTMENT	Sociology
CIP CODE	24.0101
CREDIT HOURS	3
CONTACT HOURS/WEEK	Class: 3
PREREQUISITES	None
COURSE PLACEMENT	Students must meet the correct placement measure for this course. Information may be found at: https://www.kckcc.edu/admissions/information/mandatory-evaluation-placement.html

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an integrated approach to the study of labor and economics and builds on the premise that the labor process, or work in general, can be better understood if it is grounded in the economic system within which it occurs. This course will thoroughly examine the American economic system together with specific issues and problems faced daily by American workers.

General Education Learning Outcome

- Basic Skills for Communication
- Mathematics
- Humanities
- Natural and Physical Sciences
- Social and Behavioral Sciences

Institutional Learning Outcomes

- Communication
- Computation and Financial Literacy
- Critical Reasoning
- Technology and Information Literacy
- Community and Civic Responsibility
- Personal and Interpersonal Skills

TEXTBOOKS

<http://kckccbookstore.com/>

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on the content area. These include but are not limited to: lectures, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom. Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. Philosophical Foundations of Labor and Economy: Comparative analysis of Mainstream and critical political economy paradigms.
 - A. Understanding the role and position of labor in the United States.
- II. Ethical and Policy Implications of the Competing Paradigms: Class, race, gender, and power inequalities.
 - A. Connecting mainstream and critical political economy paradigms to related issues.
- III. Power, Ideology, Alienation, and Social Institutions.
 - A. Class, Race and Gender inequalities.
- IV. Global and Nation Reactions to Capitalist Contradictions.
 - A. Understand labor's position by studying labor projects.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

- A. CLO #1 Develop logical and critical thinking skills and apply them to the study of the role and position of labor in the United States.
 1. The student will be able to recall the philosophical foundations of the social sciences.
 2. The student will be able to define the role of theory and theorization in the social sciences.
 3. The student will be able to memorize and explain the components of the critical political economy paradigm.
 4. The student will be able to apply the critical political economy paradigm to various economic issues.
 5. The student will be able to memorize and explain the components of the mainstream paradigm.
 6. The student will be able to compare and contrast the two paradigms.
- B. CLO #2 Demonstrate an understanding of mainstream and critical political economy paradigms and issues related to these paradigms.
 7. The student will be able to discuss the inequality of class in the U.S.
 8. The student will be able to discuss the inequality of race and ethnicity in the U.S.

9. The student will be able to discuss the inequality of gender in the U.S.
10. The student will be able to discuss the Pluralist theory of the state.
11. The student will be able to discuss the Power Elite theory of the State.
12. The student will be able to discuss the Marxist theory of the State.
13. The student will be able to compare and contrast the three theories of the state.
14. The student will be able to discuss the social policies from the macroeconomic perspective.
15. The student will be able to discuss social policies from the critical political economy perspective.
16. The student will be able to discuss poverty, unemployment, and underemployment from the critical political economy perspective.
17. The student will be able to discuss will be able to discuss the distribution of income and wealth from mainstream perspective.
18. The student will be able to discuss the distribution of income and wealth from the critical political economy perspective.
19. The student will be able to discuss the Labor Theory of Value.
20. The student will be able to discuss the American core political and economic values from the perspective of the mainstream paradigm.
21. The student will be able to discuss the American core political and economic values from the perspective of the critical political economic paradigm.

C. CLO #3 Demonstrate an understanding of the structures of class, race, and gender inequalities as they pertain to the economies of labor.

22. The student will be able to discuss the nature of alienation in American society.
23. The student will be able to discuss the various types of alienation.
24. The student will be able to discuss the conditions under which alienation could be eliminated.
25. The student will be able to define and discuss the nature of ideology.
26. The student will be able to discuss the ideological dimension of the American family.
27. The student will be able to discuss the ideological dimension of the American education.
28. The student will be able to discuss the ideological dimension of the American economic institution.
29. The student will be able to discuss the ideological dimension of the American political institution.
30. The student will be able to discuss the nature and extent of class, race, and gender inequalities in the American economy.
31. The student will be able to discuss the nature and extent of the class, race, and gender inequalities in the American politics.
32. The student will be able to discuss the nature and extent of class, race, and gender inequalities in the American education.
33. The student will be able to discuss the role of class, race, and gender in the American family.

- D. CLO #4 Demonstrate an understanding of labor's position by analyzing labor projects.
34. The student will be able to discuss the nature of global capitalism.
 35. The student will be able to discuss the labor policies of the Western European societies.
 36. The student will be able to discuss the nature of global inequalities with regard to food.
 37. The student will be able to conduct a structured interview with American workers on their attitudes towards work in America and related issues.

ASSESSMENT OF COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES

Student progress is evaluated through both formative and summative assessment methods. Specific details may be found in the instructor's course information document.

COLLEGE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Student Handbook

<https://www.kckcc.edu/files/docs/student-resources/student-handbook-and-code-of-conduct.pdf>

College Catalog

<https://www.kckcc.edu/academics/catalog/index.html>

College Policies and Statements

<https://www.kckcc.edu/about/policies-statements/index.html>

Accessibility and Accommodations

<https://www.kckcc.edu/academics/resources/student-accessibility-support-services/index.html>.