

**Department** .: Sociology

**Course number** : Soci 249W

**Title** : Sociological Perspectives on Poverty

**Credits** : 3

**Contact Person** : Brad Wright

**Catalog Copy** : Soci 249. Sociological Perspectives on Poverty. Either Semester. Three credits . *Cazenave, Villemez* . Poverty in the U.S. and abroad, its roots, and strategies to deal with it.

Soci 249W. Sociological Perspectives on Poverty. Prerequisite: Engl 110 or 111 or 250.

**W Criteria** :

Students will be required to complete a term project of approximately 15 pages. The paper will be on a specific topic related to poverty of the student's choice, but will address an issue highly relevant to the course. It will be appropriate therefore to weight the term paper as approximately 40% of the student's grade. Students can only pass the class if they pass the writing portion of the class, and they will be informed of this in the course syllabus.

The writing assignment permits students to engage the topic of poverty in-depth by writing a research design or literature review paper. The paper will be based on independent research, which will focus on a particular aspect of poverty that they can then link to what they are learning in the classroom. This assignment will improve both their writing and research skills.

There will be two lectures on writing (covering fundamentals, such as tense, punctuation, referencing, etc.). After students submit their preliminary drafts, additional lectures will address the areas in which students appear to need the most assistance. There will also be individual conferences with students, as they wish or as instructor perceives need.

All students will be required to submit a first draft of the term paper. It will be "marked up" in detail, and returned to students. Those students who are so inclined may then submit a second draft (before the final due date), or simply submit a revised final draft.

**Role of Grad Students** : None