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SOCI 446.50: Prostitution and Human Trafficking

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SOCI 446: Prostitution and Human Trafficking Syllabus

(3 credits)

**University of Montana
Spring 2022**

Section 50/51, CRN: 34120/34468

Online: Asynchronous

Instructor: David W. Wahl, Ph.D.

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Office: Virtual (WebEx)

Phone: 612.618.9167

Virtual Office Hours: Monday-Friday by appointment

Note: This syllabus is your guide to the course and is also subject to change. All changes will be communicated on Moodle. Please check Moodle regularly for any changes, additions, etc.

UM COURSE DESCRIPTION

Exploration of prostitution and human trafficking, their incidence, causes, implications for individuals and society, and responses from non-governmental organizations and governments. Highlights various feminist and human rights approaches to these phenomena.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through online lecture and student-driven online discussions, based on their engagement with critical and cultural texts, this course will help students develop the necessary skills to:

- Understand the scope and magnitude of sex work and human trafficking, both domestically and internationally.
- Recognize the various forms of sex work and human trafficking that exist.
- Understand the dynamics of sex work and human trafficking from a sociological perspective.
- Identify various roles that play a part in sex work and human trafficking.
- Critically evaluate institutional responses to sex work and human trafficking.

TEXTBOOK AND READINGS

- “Human Trafficking (Second Edition)” by Mary C. Burke
- “Sex For Sale (Second Edition)” by Ronald Weitzer

GROUND RULES

Everyone brings a unique set of experiences and knowledge to the conversation. One of the premises of sociology is that “the personal is political,” thus, living and learning are inseparable. The ideas and issues we discuss will often have direct bearing on our day-to-day lives and personal histories. It is appropriate to share these connections, but all discussion must remain connected to our course readings. In this course, you are under no pressure to share personal experiences, and should share only those you are comfortable discussing with myself or your classmates. There is no reward or penalty for holding a particular set of beliefs in this class. It is however important to be clear about what we believe and why, and that we seek to understand alternative perspectives.

You are expected to treat myself and your classmates with courtesy and respect. Your comments to others should be factual, constructive, and free from harassing statements. You are encouraged to disagree with me and your classmates in the course, but such disagreements need to be based upon facts and documentation, rather than prejudices and personalities. One of my goals is to promote an atmosphere of mutual respect in all aspects of the course. Please contact me if you have suggestions for improving the online classroom environment.

Material for this course will contain some controversial topics, violence, profane language, as well as dealing with human sexuality. If these aspects are a problem for you, please reconsider taking this course. Due to the nature of some of the topics, some of our weekly material will deal explicitly with domestic, gender-based, and sexual violence. Prior victims or survivors of violence should be aware that some topics could invoke an emotional response known as a triggering event. Please see Dr. Wahl regarding ANY concerns about course material.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This section of SOCI 446 is delivered in an online environment. To stay caught up in the course, you will need to check your email and course page daily for updates, postings, etc.

As an educator, one of my responsibilities is to be prepared for class and to be available to you during office/student hours or by appointment to address concerns about course material. As a student, you are responsible for the information contained in the syllabus, all reading assignments, class work, and all other course content.

Because this is an online course, you can expect it to **require MORE time, work, and personal responsibility** on your part. In every way, this course will have all the demand and rigor of a traditional University of Montana course.

COMPUTERS/EMAIL/MOODLE

Throughout the semester, I will communicate with you via email. Since Moodle is used for this course, the information will be sent to your UM email address. You should also check Moodle on a regular basis for updates, assignment guidelines, or any other material related to the course. During virtual or in-person office/student hours, you are encouraged to email and/or visit with me concerning questions you have regarding any aspect of the course. If you send an email, please be sure the subject includes “SOCI446” and your section number. I will try and respond to all emails within 4 hours/ please allow 8 hours on weekends.

VIRTUAL OFFICE/STUDENT HOURS

I will be available for virtual office/student hours. These will be times for you to meet with me virtually to ask questions about the class itself, the assignments, the readings, etc. Send me an email and we will schedule a time. I will then send you an invitation to connect online. I look forward to talking with you during my virtual office/student hours!

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course consists of fifteen weekly modules (January 18, 2022-May 6, 2022). Final exams are from May 9-13, 2022. Each module contains the required readings and assignments. The course is entirely online and asynchronous.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Quizzes (10 points each): There will be ten reading quizzes for this course. The quizzes will focus on content from select weekly modules.

- Each quiz will be administered online most weeks.
- Quizzes will be worth 10 points, and will include multiple choice questions.
- Quizzes cannot be made-up without proof of extenuating circumstances (i.e. medical emergencies) and by negotiation with the instructor.

Exams (200 points each): There will be two exams in this course, a midterm exam and a final exam. Both exams will take place online. Each exam will consist of 40 multiple choice questions, each question worth five points each. The final exam is not cumulative. It will be composed only of material following the midterm exam, although core course concepts from the first half of the class will be essential for successful understanding of final exam questions.

Weekly Discussion Writings (30 points each):

Weekly topic analysis discussions are worth 30 points each. Your initial response to the discussion prompt is worth 20 points and is **due by 11:59pm on Thursdays**. Responses to two (2) other classmates' posts are worth 10 points (5 points for each response) and are **due by 11:59pm on Fridays**.

- Most weeks, a discussion question or prompt will be included in the weekly module. You will answer this question through a post to the Moodle discussion board which will be visible for the entire class to read and respond. Your posts to these questions must meet the following criteria:
 - Meet the required length of at least **400** words.

- Make 2-3 properly cited references to the course material or outside sources.
- Include your word count at the bottom of your post.
- Incorporate one (1) current event from 2020/2021 pertaining to the weekly topic, and properly cite the source where this information was obtained. This source can be from a national or local newspaper, its corresponding website, or a legitimate news website (CNN, MSNBC, Google News, Yahoo News, Fox News, etc.). Articles and information from **Wikipedia, personal web pages or any blogs WILL NOT** be accepted. These are usually opinion pieces and are not directly reporting on an event which has transpired somewhere in the world. Please do not simply add on mention of your current event article at the end of your post. You should discuss how the current event connects to concepts, readings, and discussions we are having in the course.

After all answers have been posted, you will respond to two (2) other classmates' posts. These responses must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a minimum of **50** words in length and advance the discussion.
- Include at least one (1) properly cited reference to the course material or outside sources.
- Include your word count at the bottom of your post.

Here are some guidelines to think about when submitting your initial post and responding to your classmates' posts:

- Your posts should be composed of complete and grammatically accurate sentences (no abbreviations please). Avoid writing in all caps (all caps = yelling).
- Avoid posts that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc. "I agree" type of answers crowd the discussion board and make it harder for everybody to navigate the discussion. If you agree or disagree with a post, then say why you agree/disagree by supporting your statement with concepts from the readings or by bringing in a related example or experience. Make each post count! Again, ask yourself whether your post brings value to the discussion.
- Look up any source you quote and make sure to cite these sources correctly.
- Address the questions/discussion prompt as much as possible and do not let the discussion stray.
- Connect to related prior knowledge (prior coursework, readings, etc.)
- You will not get credit for any posts such as "I agree with x" or "Great job, Y." You are expected to provide real contributions. Build on others' responses to create threads.
- Quote the readings, and discuss what you found intriguing, confusing, etc.
- Although it is perfectly fine, even recommended, to challenge your classmates' posts and defend your opinions, you are expected to do so in a respectful and polite manner.
- Express your ideas clearly to avoid misunderstanding and give people the benefit of the doubt.

Grading Rubric for Discussion Initial Post (20 points)

Grading Rubric for Reflection Writing (30 points) Description	Possible points
Mention 2-3 specific points from the course material or outside sources and properly cite them	6
Relation of new information to old information learned in the course to date	1
Incorporates 1 current event from 2020/2021 regarding the week's topic	4
Uses relevant course concepts to discuss and analyze the topic	5
Relation of information in course materials and/or current event to personal experiences	3
Discussion at a critical level and not just recitation of facts from the reading/current event; opinions without support from course readings do not constitute critical discussion	3
Length of posting meets 400-word minimum requirement and word count is included	3
Post includes introduction, body, and conclusion; free from spelling and grammar errors	5

Grading Rubric for Discussion Responses to Two (2) Other Classmates' Posts

(5 pts per post, 10 points total)

Description	Possible points
Respond directly to classmate's post, and not directly to the question prompt	1
Discuss one point you like/agree with and one point you dislike/disagree with, and why	2
Post refers to at least 1 course material idea or concept and be properly cited	1
Length of posting meets 50-word requirement and word count is included	1

Final Paper (200 points) The final paper will be a critical analysis of a chosen topic addressed in the framework of course material, detailing what you have learned in this course. A full description of the assignment can be found on Blackboard. The final paper is **due by Friday May 6, 2022**.

Final Paper Grading Rubric Description	Possible points
Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and gets the reader’s attention • Outlines the main points for the rest of the paper 	40
Learning outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides pertinent examples from reading for each outcome • Discusses terms and theories important for each outcome • Gives personal thoughts and insights on each outcome • Reflects application of critical thinking 	100
Conclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a summary of the main points and closure to the paper 	40
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper is at least 5 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font with 1-inch margins • Grammar, spelling, and composition are correct • Paper contains at least 4 sources from the textbook and/or outside sources • Follows APA, MLA, Chicago, or ASA format and style • In-text citations match reference page • Paper is organized with introduction, body, and conclusion • Transitions are clear from one paragraph or thought to the next 	20

GRADING DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE Assignment		Each	Total
Quizzes (10 points each)		10	100
Topic Analysis Questions (30 points each) • Initial response = 20 points • Responses to (2) classmates' postings = 10 points		10	300
Exams (Midterm and Final)		2	400
Final Reflection Paper		1	200
TOTAL POINTS		1000	

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A	93% and above	B-	80-82%	D+	67-69%
A-	90-92%	C+	77-79%	D	64-66%
B+	87-89%	C	74-76%	D-	60-63%
B	83-86%	C-	70-73%	F	59% and below

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. There is **no extra credit** for this course.
2. You are expected to submit all assignments by the given due date and specified time. Make-up work will be considered only upon presentation of an **excused absence**, and I should be informed prior to your absence or inability to submit a paper, unless there is no reasonable way for you to inform me immediately. Late/make-up assignments are accepted only in the event of an excused absence including the following: A personal illness/medical treatment as excused by a doctor's note; a personal emergency or a family emergency (including a death); an athletic, co-curricular, or academic affiliated trip with an excuse from a coach, group supervisor, or other UM instructor.
3. No incompletes will be given except for major emergencies (e.g., hospitalization) and only after you consult with me.

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

You must practice academic honesty in this course. Academic dishonesty tarnishes UM's reputation and discredits the accomplishments of students. The University of Montana is committed to providing students every possible opportunity to grow in mind and spirit. This commitment can only be fulfilled in an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. As a result, academic dishonesty is regarded as a serious offense by all members of the academic community. All faculty, staff, and students are expected to maintain the highest levels of academic integrity. In keeping with this ideal, this course will adhere to UM's Student

Academic Integrity Policy misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code, which is available for review online (<http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students/default.php>).

ACCESSIBILITY

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think that you may have a disability that adversely affects your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or (406) 243-2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

Affirming Names and Pronouns

The teaching team for this course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. We will gladly honor your request to address you by the name and gender pronoun that you prefer. If you go by a different name than the name on the class roster, please let me know early in the semester so that I can make appropriate changes to my records. For information about name changes at the University of Montana, please go here: <https://www.umt.edu/registrar/PDF/NameChangeforStudents.pdf>.

UM's Cultural Leave Policy

The teaching team for this course supports UM's new cultural and ceremonial leave policy that allows excused absences for cultural, religious, and ceremonial purposes. According to this policy, to receive an authorized absence for a cultural, religious, or ceremonial event, the student or their advisor must submit a formal written request to the instructor. The request must include a brief description (with inclusive dates) of the cultural event or ceremony, and a brief statement about the importance of the student's attendance or participation. Authorization for the absence is subject to approval by the instructor; students may appeal the instructor's decision to the Department Chair, Dean, or Provost. The excused absence or leave may not exceed five academic calendar days (not including weekends or holidays). Students who take excused leaves are responsible for completion or make-up of assignments, at the instructor's discretion.

OTHER INFORMATION

Basic Needs Statement

Any student who faces challenges securing food or housing, and believes that this could affect their performance in this course, is urged to contact any or all of the following campus resources:

Food Pantry Program

UM offers a food pantry that students can access for emergency food. The pantry is open on Tuesdays from 12 to 5, and on Fridays from 10-5. The pantry is located in UC 119 (in the former ASUM Childcare offices). Pantry staff operate several satellite food cupboards on campus (including one at Missoula College). For more information about this program, email umpantry@mso.umt.edu, visit the pantry's website <http://www.umt.edu/asum/agencies/food->

pantry/default.php) or contact the pantry on social media (@pantryUm on twitter, @UMPantry on Facebook, um_pantry on Instagram).

ASUM Renter Center

The Renter Center can connect UM students at risk of homelessness or food insecurity with resources. You can find the Renter Center here: <http://www.umt.edu/asum/agencies/renter-center/default.php> and here: <https://medium.com/griz-renter-blog>.

Students can schedule an appointment with Renter Center staff to discuss their situation and receive information, support, and referrals.

TRiO Student Support Services

TRiO serves UM students who are low-income, first-generation college students, or have documented disabilities. TRiO services include a textbook loan program, scholarships and financial aid help, academic advising, coaching, and tutoring.

Students can check their eligibility for TRiO services online here: <http://www.umt.edu/trioss/apply.php#Eligibility>.

If you are comfortable, please come see members of the teaching team. We will do our best to help connect you with additional resources.

Course Outline

All times are CST/CDT (Mountain Standard/ Daylight Savings Time)	Topic	Assignment
Week One January 17 - 21	Introductions Introduction to Human Trafficking	Reading: Chapter 1 (Burke) Introduction discussion DUE by Friday 1/21 at 11:59pm
Week Two January 24 - 28	Sociological Perspective and Underlying Causes of Human Trafficking	Reading: Chapter 3 (Burke) Discussion 1: Original Post DUE by Thursday 1/27 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 1/28 at 11:59pm Quiz 1 Due by 11:59 on Friday 1/28
Week Three January 31 - February 4	Labor Trafficking	Reading: Chapter 5 (Burke) Discussion 2: Original Post DUE by Thursday 2/3 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 2/4 at 11:59pm Quiz 2 Due by 11:59 on Friday 2/4
Week Four February 7 - 11	Sex Trafficking	Reading: Chapter 6 (Burke) Discussion 3: Original Post DUE by Thursday 2/10 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 2/11 at 11:59pm Quiz 3 Due by 11:59 on Friday 2/11
Week Five February 14 - 18	International Contributions to Human Trafficking	Reading: Chapter 10 (Burke) Discussion 4: Original Post DUE by Thursday 2/17 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 2/18 at 11:59pm
Week Six February 21 - 25	Law Enforcement and Human Trafficking	Reading: Chapter 12 (Burke) Discussion 5: Original Post DUE by Thursday 2/24 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 2/25 at 11:59pm Quiz 4 Due by 11:59 on Friday 2/25

Week Seven February 28 - March 4	Human Trafficking and PTSD	Reading: Chapter 14 (Burke) Discussion 6: Original Post DUE by Thursday 3/3 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 3/4 at 11:59pm Quiz 5 Due by 11:59 on Friday 3/4
Week Eight March 7 - 11	Community-Based Responses to Human Trafficking	Reading: Chapter 16 (Burke)
March 11	Midterm Examination	Online Due by 7pm
Week Nine March 14 - 18	Sex Work	Reading: Chapter 1 (Weitzer) Discussion 7: Original Post DUE by Thursday 3/17 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 3/18 at 11:59pm Quiz 6 Due by 11:59 on Friday 3/18
Week Ten March 21 - 25	Spring Break	No Assignments
Week Eleven March 28 - April 1	Prostitution	Reading: Chapters 7 and 8 (Weitzer) Discussion 8: Original Post DUE by Thursday 3/21 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 4/1 at 11:59pm Quiz 7 Due by 11:59 on Friday 4/1
Week Twelve April 4 - 8	Prostitution and Customers	Reading: Chapters 9 and 10 (Weitzer) Quiz 8 Due by 11:59 on Friday 4/8
Week Thirteen April 11 - 15	Nevada's Legal Brothels	Reading: Chapter 11 (Weitzer) Discussion 9: Original Post DUE by Thursday 4/14 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 4/15 at 11:59pm Quiz 9 Due by 11:59 on Friday 4/15

Week Fourteen April 18 - 22	Pornography and the Adult Film Industry	Reading: Chapter 2 (Weitzer) Discussion 10: Original Post DUE by Thursday 4/21 at 11:59pm Responses DUE by Friday 4/22 at 11:59pm Quiz 10 Due by 11:59 on Friday 4/22
Week Fifteen April 25 - 29	Commercial Sex: Strip Clubs and Telephone/Internet Sex	Reading: Chapters 5 and 6 (Weitzer)
Week Sixteen May 2 - 6	Sex Trafficking: Wrap Up	Reading: Chapter 14 (Weitzer)
May 6	Final Paper	Due by 11:59pm
May 9	Final Examination	Online Due by 5pm