Psychology 310: Psychology and Sociology of Diverse Populations
Texas A&M University-Commerce, Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Cyndi Matthews
Class Meeting: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10-10:50 a.m.
8/27/2012 through 1/14/2012
Office hours: TBA and by appointment
Office: Binnion
Office phone: (903) 886-
Email: Cynthia.Matthews@tamuc.edu (email is the best way to reach me)

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook Required:


Articles as assigned.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to examine the factors that determine group identity and cultural
identity in the context of the diversity that exists in the US population.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:
1. Understand how group identity is determined
2. Identify the factors that determine cultural identity such as:
   • Ethnicity and race
   • Class and socioeconomic status
   • Gender and sexual orientation
   • Exceptionality
   • Language
   • Religion
   • Age
   • Geography
   • Education
3. Appreciate the cultural diversity that exists in United States population
4. Recognize importance of including diversity within education process.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

This is a face-to-face course. Your full participation is required for successful course completion.

• You will be required to read the course text, view DVDs, participate in discussions, and complete exams, group projects, and research projects.
• All assignments must be completed within given time limits of the course.
• A course schedule is provided below, which is subject to change and you will be notified of any updates in class or by email.

Grading

1. EXAMS: There will be two (2) exams which will be comprised of multiple choice items and short answer questions.

   • Students must take the exams during the scheduled time unless they have an excused absence as described in the Student Handbook and/or have made other arrangements with instructor in advance.
   • There will be no make-up exams.
   • The exam questions will require not only your recognition of concepts, but will be designed to test your comprehension and application of those concepts.
   • Material for the exams will be drawn from the text and the lectures.
   • Each exam will be worth 100 points

2. REACTION PAPERS: Over the course of the semester all students are required to hand in twelve 1 to 2 page (double spaced) reaction papers.

   • The paper must be turned in on Monday morning following the week’s previous discussion. For example, if we discuss religion on the week of September 24th, the reaction paper will be due the following week on Monday, October 1st at 10:00 a.m.
   • The purpose of the reaction paper is to apply the concepts from the week’s topic to your own life (e.g., past experience, expectations, ideas of how the concepts can be applied in other areas of life, research ideas). There is no specific requirement for these papers except to show that you have thought about the concepts presented during class discussions and from class readings.
   • APA style is NOT required for these papers – they are to be your personal reflections integrated with theory
   • Each paper will be worth 10 points

3. PERSONAL/GROUP PROJECT: There will be a personal/group project (your choice) which you will complete on your own during the semester.

   • You will participate in activities with a group that you do not identify with (e.g., age, religion, sexual orientation, race, etc.) and report on your experience.
• More information will follow regarding this assignment during the semester.
• This assignment is geared to take you out of your comfort zone and help you learn
  about other groups you might not naturally/normally come in contact with.
• This assignment will be worth 100 points.

4. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Attendance is vital for success in this class.

• Missing more than three classes will result in the lowering of one full letter grade.
• Meaningful participation will also be essential in order for discussions and classroom
  activities to succeed.
• If it becomes evident that individuals have not read the materials or are willing to
  participate in classroom discussion, then classroom quizzes will be instated instead of
  discussion.

All course work will be due at the designated deadline dates. Except for a university
approved excuse, late work or missing an exam/assignment due date will result in a grade
of zero.

5. EXTRA CREDIT:

• You may participate in research studies associated with this university. For each (1)
  credit you receive (see handout) you will receive 5 bonus points. Up to a maximum of 3
  credits (15 bonus points). (see handout at end of syllabus for full explanation.
• Other extra credit assignments may be assigned to the class as a whole throughout
  semester at the discretion of the instructor.

PLEASE NOTE:

1. Cultural diversity reflects who we are and potentially who we may become. As such, the
topics of conversation will often be emotional and controversial.

• Please do not make racial, sexist, non-scholarly comments or derogatory statements or
  you will invoke disciplinary action. In extreme circumstances the matter will be referred
  to the Dean of Students.
• You are encouraged to offer your opinions in a manner that is respectful to your peers
  and instructor.

2. In order to maintain an environment of respect and trust, it is vital that no information that is
shared here be reproduced in ANY other forum.

• You can be certain that the information that you share here will only be used for class
  purposes, except where informed consent has been given for research purposes.
• Any reproduction of student submitted content, with or without credit to the responsible
  party, is both unethical and prohibited.
• Please see your Student Handbook for more details on consequences for violations of
  University policy.
Individual Assignments, Group Projects and Presentations, Research Participation

You will be required to work individually and in small groups to complete assignments, complete reflection papers, and research project. Detailed instructions and a grading rubric will be provided.

Grading

There are 470 points available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assigned Work</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>My Scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>#1</td>
</tr>
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<td>Reaction Papers (12)</td>
<td>120</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual/Group Project</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Points Max (15)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>470</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Score out of 470</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
<td>423 - 470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80% - 89%</td>
<td>376 - 422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70% - 79%</td>
<td>329 - 375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60% - 69%</td>
<td>282 - 328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
<td>Below 282</td>
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</tbody>
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Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library, Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Respect

More generally, if you have any problems or concerns regarding this course, please contact me as soon as possible. Your feedback (both positive and negative) is more than welcome. We should strive to respect and value the diversity that exists in TAMU-Commerce classrooms (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability, geographic backgrounds, political orientation, and sexual orientation). While we may sometimes disagree with each other on topics discussed in class, it’s important that we remember that appreciating diversity in perspectives is an important part of the learning process (and good life skill). If you ever feel that you are not being given the respect you deserve in class, please let me know.

Recording

Course materials prepared by the instructor, together with the content of all lectures and review sessions presented by the instructor are the property of the instructor. Video and audio recording of lectures and review sessions without the consent of the instructor is prohibited. On request, the instructor will usually grant permission for students to audio tape lectures, on the condition that these audio tapes are only used by the individual making the recording. Unless explicit permission is obtained from the instructor, recordings of lectures and review sessions may not be modified and must not be transferred or transmitted to any other person, whether or not that individual is enrolled in the course.

PLEASE DO NOT DISTRIBUTE THE VIDEO LECTURES.
THESE ARE JUST FOR YOU FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLASS.

Cheating

Warning: If I detect you engaging in academic misconduct you will automatically FAIL this course. Academic misconduct includes disruption of classes, giving or receiving unauthorized aid on examinations, knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work, or otherwise acting dishonestly. This includes both cheating on exams and plagiarism of any written work that you hand in for this course. Information on the academic misconduct policy of Texas A&M-Commerce can be found at http://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/en/report_custom.asp?clientid=20504
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic/Required Reading</th>
<th>Assigned Work</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug. 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Introduction/Course Overview Multicultural Identity/Diversity Chapter 1</td>
<td>Read text No reaction paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sept. 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; to 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Prejudice/Stereotypes/Discrimination Articles – will be handed out week before</td>
<td>Reaction paper due 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Fears/Anticipation reaction to course</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sept. 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Ethnicity and Race Chapter 2</td>
<td>Reaction paper due 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Prejudice/stereotypes</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept. 17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Class and Socioeconomic Status Chapter 3</td>
<td>Reaction paper due 17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Ethnicity and Race</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sept. 24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to 28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Gender Chapter 4</td>
<td>Reaction paper due 24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Class/Socioeconomic Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Oct. 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; to 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Sexual Orientation Chapter 5 Assigned articles</td>
<td>Reaction paper due 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Gender Exam 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; (chap 1-5; articles; discussion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct. 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Language Chapter 7</td>
<td>Reaction paper due 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Sexual Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct. 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Geography Chapter 9</td>
<td>Reaction paper due 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct. 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; to 26&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Religion Chapter 8</td>
<td>Reaction paper due 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Geography</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 10 | Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> | Age  
Chapter 10 | Reaction paper due 29<sup>th</sup>  
• Religion |
| 11 | Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> | Disabilities/Mental Health  
Chapter 6  
Articles | Reaction paper due 5<sup>th</sup>  
• Age |
| 12 | Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> | Youth/Multicultural Education  
Chapter 10 & 11 | Reaction paper due 12<sup>th</sup>  
• Disabilities and  
Mental health |
| 13 | Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> | Prepare for Presentations  
Thanksgiving!! | Reaction paper due 19<sup>th</sup>  
• Youth/Multicultural |
| 14 | Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> | Course Review and Presentations |
| 15 | Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> | Course Review and Presentations |
| 16 | Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> | **Final Exam – Chapters 1 – 11; articles; discussions** |


**Students’ Guide to Research Participation for Extra Credit**

Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education

Texas A&M University-Commerce

• **What is Research Participation?**

Exposure to research is essential to your gaining a better understanding of the scientific study of psychology/counseling. It is how we add new knowledge in psychology/counseling/social sciences. Being involved in research is a good way to experience first-hand and learn about the scientific enterprise.

We believe there are two key ways to experience research activity at this level:
1) read about related scientific investigations;
2) experience research as a volunteer participant;
or some combination of both.
The class in which you received this handout offers extra credit through one or both of these activities.

• **What if I am not yet 18 years old?**

In order to participate in research you must be at least 18 years old. If you are not yet 18 years old, please see your instructor, and ask him/her about alternative ways of earning extra credit.

• **In what type of research studies will I participate?**

All studies you will participate in have been reviewed and approved by the Texas A&M University-Commerce Institutional Review Board (IRB) and by the Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education. Studies vary widely. Many involve completing questionnaires or carrying out tasks on the computer. Some are even fun, and you’ll learn something from all of them.

• **What are my rights as a research participant?**

Your participation is voluntary and you may withdraw from any study at any time. Your data will be kept confidential. If you have any further questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the IRB head, Carmen Salazar (Carmen.Salazar@tamuc.edu). More information about your rights will be provided to you prior to each study for which you sign up.

• **How will my research participation credit be calculated?**

You will receive 1 credit for each hour of research participation. Studies lasting 15 minutes or less are worth 0.25 credit. For example, a 15 min. study = 0.25 research credits; 30 min. = 0.5 credits; 45 min. = 0.75 credits; 60min = 1 credit; 1½ hours = 1.5 credits... etc.

• **How many research credits may I complete?**

You are encouraged to participate in as much research as you wish, but your instructor will inform you of how many credits are offered for extra credit.
• **What if I do not wish to participate in research studies?**

Participation in research is voluntary. Your instructor is offering you the opportunity to earn extra credit by participating in research (and helping psychology).

• **How do I find and sign up for research participation opportunities?**

Throughout the semester, researchers in the Psychology Department will post their research studies in the Experiment Management System (EMS) online. It is up to you to check the EMS regularly to find and sign up for research studies that fit into your schedule. Detailed instructions for how to use the EMS are listed in the following pages of this handout.

• **What if I cannot go to a study I signed up for?**

If for whatever reason you cannot attend a study that you have signed up for you need to cancel your appointment before the start of the study. There are 2 ways to cancel an appointment. First, if you cancel 24 hours before a study you can do this online through the Experiment Management System (EMS) website. Second, if it is the same day of the study you can call or email the experimenter – their contact information will be available in the EMS.

**How do I use the Experiment Management System (EMS)?**

*(Create a new participant account unless you already have one and your login information works. If you do not remember your login information click on the “lost your password?” on the front page of the EMS website and follow the directions on the site, and if that does not work email curt.carlson@tamuc.edu. A list of courses will be presented, from which you must select the courses you are taking this semester for which you will receive credit for participation. If your course is not listed, see the instructor for that course.)*

**A. How to create a participant account on the EMS**


   a. Click on New Participant “request an account here” link on the left of the screen.

   b. This takes you to a screen on which you must enter your name, a unique User ID, your University ID number, and primary email address (reminders of studies you sign up for will be sent to that email address).

   c. You will also need to highlight the course(s) in which you are enrolled, and for which you will be earning credits. If more than one, highlight all that will be involving you in research participation.

   d. However, each study in which you participate will only provide you credit for ONE course. In other words, there is no “double-dipping” allowed.
e. BE CAREFUL TO SELECT THE CORRECT COURSE AND SECTION # – IF YOU
CHOOSE THE WRONG ONE, YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT BE INFORMED OF
YOUR CREDITS!

f. After you submit your information, you will be emailed your login information. (After
you have received your login information, I recommend that you login into EMS and go
to your “Profile” and change your password to something that you can remember.)

g. If you encounter any problems with creating your account (e.g., login information not
sent to you), contact the EMS administrator, curt.carlson@tamuc.edu with your full name
and a detailed description of the problem.

2. When you first log into the EMS at the beginning of the semester you will be asked to
take a prescreen survey. This is a short survey that researchers will use to decide if you meet the
specified requirements for some studies (e.g., as a researcher I may only allow participants who
are female. If you do not complete the prescreen you will not be eligible to participate in this
study). In other words, if you do not complete the prescreen you will have fewer studies that you
are eligible to participate in.

IF YOU COMPLETE THE PRESCREEN IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE
SEMESTER YOU WILL GET 0.5 CREDIT. Take it even if you have done it before – it has
probably changed, and you will still earn the 0.5 credit.

3. You are now ready to use the EMS to sign-up for research studies.

B. Sign-up for studies—login to the EMS with your User ID and password that was
emailed to you after creating your account

1. Click Study Sign-Up. A list of all available studies for which you qualify will appear.
You can sign-up by clicking on either the study name or Timeslots Available, and you will go to
a new screen showing more information about the study, with a link to View Time Slots for
This Study.

2. Click the Sign-Up button to schedule your time. You should then write down or print
out the study information (name of study, place, time, name and contact information of
experimenter, etc.) that appears in the final window. You will also receive an email reminder the
day before the study time you have selected.

C. Canceling a Sign-Up (MUST be done if you know you will not show up)

1. If you need to cancel a timeslot you have signed up for, you can do this from the My
Schedule and Credits page. Choose the My Schedule and Credits option from top toolbar.

2. You will see listed all of the studies for which you have signed up, as well as those you
have completed (see the Tracking Your Progress section below for more information).
3. Studies for which you have signed up that you are allowed to cancel will have a **Cancel** button next to them. If you cannot attend the study session you signed up for, you need to cancel it, either within the EMS system or by contacting the researcher directly prior to the start of the study. Keep in mind that there is a time limit before the study is to occur, when it is too late to cancel online. This restriction is listed at the bottom of the page (it can be 24 hours before your timeslot, or much less, such as just 2-4 hours). If you cannot cancel online please email or call the experimenter to cancel.

**IF YOU DO NOT CANCEL ONLINE, BY EMAIL, OR OVER THE PHONE BEFORE THE START OF THE STUDY YOU WILL BE COUNTED AS A “NO SHOW.”**

4. If you cancel the first part of a two-part study, the second part will also be cancelled. If you cancel the second part of a two-part study, the first part will **not** be cancelled, but you will need to ask the researcher to sign you up for the second part again, if you would like to participate in it at a later date. However, this is up to the researcher.

**D. Tracking Your Progress**

1. You may track your progress at any time by choosing the **My Schedule and Credits** option from the top toolbar.

2. When you view this page, you will see at the top a list of the number of credits you are required to earn, and how many you have earned so far. Below that, if you have signed up for any studies, those are listed as well. In the list of studies, you will see information about your credit status. If you have a no show for a study you will see that the status for that study is “failure to appear.”

**Note:** Your login session will expire after a certain period of inactivity, usually 20-60 minutes. This is done for security purposes. If this happens, you can always log in again. When you are finished using the system, it is better to explicitly log out, to prevent any problems that may arise if someone uses your computer before the session expires. This is especially important if you are using a public computer lab.

**E. Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **Immediately after I login, as soon as I click on any menu option, I am taken back to the login page and I see a message that my authentication has expired. What does this mean?**

Your web browser is not properly configured to accept cookies. You should turn on cookies in your web browser, use a different web browser (for example, try Firefox if you are currently using Internet Explorer), or try a different computer. Detailed instructions can be found if you go to the site and enter the URL “cookie_help.asp” in place of “default.asp” in the address bar of the browser, when you are on the front page of the site.

2. **I participated in a study, but I have yet to receive credit. How do I receive credit?**
The researcher must grant you credit. This is usually done within a few days after your participation. If it has been some time and you have still not received credit, contact the researcher (his or her contact information should be listed when you click on the study name within the system).

3. How do I change the email address where email notifications from the system are sent?

You can change the email address where notifications are sent by going to My Profile and editing the email address you see there.

4. I forgot where and when a study is that I signed up for. What do I do?

If you forget when or where your study is, check your e-mail for the EMS reminder, or logon to EMS and check your appointments.

5. Should I keep some sort of record of my participation and credits earned?

The system will keep track of the credits you earn and your instructor will have access at the end of the semester to a report of credits earned by students enrolled in the class. It is a good idea, however, to occasionally print a personal copy of your credits earned and hold on to that printout as a backup to the system.

6. I showed up for a study on time, and no one was there! What do I do?

First refer to your information about that study session, to make sure you are in the right place at the right time. If you are, then wait at least 10 minutes for the researcher. If they are still not there at that point, you can leave and must send them an email within 24 hours, stating that you were present at the correct place and time for the study (refer to the study name). It is up to the researcher to try to reschedule with you.