Psychology 310.02W
US Psychology and Sociology of Diverse Populations
Course Syllabus: Fall 2012

Instructor: Marion E Blake (Ms.)
Office Location: Henderson 221A
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 2.00 p.m. to 4 p.m.
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Office Fax:
University Email Address: Marion.Blake@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Class Time
This is an online class over the period August 27 to December 14, 2012.

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook Required:

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 an online course. Your full participation is required for successful course completion. You will be required to read the course text, view DVDs, participate in discussions, 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 by of any updates in class or by email.

Exams 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. 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 mark of zero.

Cultural diversity reflects who we are and potentially who we may become. As such, the topics of conversation will 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 classmates and instructor.

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 and research/review papers. You will also be invited to participate in a research project or complete an individual written assignment. Detailed instructions and a grading rubric will be provided.

Grading

There are 500 points available. You need 450 points (90%) or better for an ‘A’, 400 points (80%) or better for a ‘B’, 350 points (70%) or better for a ‘C’ and 300 points (60%) or better for a ‘D’. A total below 300 points (60%) will result in an ‘F.’ The items and grade points attached are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assigned Work</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project &amp; Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Papers</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Research/Review Paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions &amp; Debates</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Participation</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for class</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APA Format:

You are required to use APA format in your written work for all citation of sources and references, including those gathered from the internet. If you are unaware of how to use APA format, you may consult the APA Publication Manual, 6th edition. In addition, there are many free internet sources that can help you in this regard such as the Purdue Owl at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01. Ensure where you incorporate material that you have not created that you provide an internal citation within the body of the text and a full reference at the end of your document to give proper credit to the work of persons other than yourself.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students need to have regular access to a computer and Internet for preparation and submission of course assignments, checking of email regularly (e.g., daily), to receive course information, assignments, and to review your course grades and download course material and information.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

We will use the eCollege Learning Management System (LMS) from time to time in this course. You should complete first time/do refresher of the Student Orientation Tutorial which is available under the My Courses tab of the eCollege website. Support Services are provided for eCollege technical concerns. Please contact the eCollege Help Desk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by sending an email directly to helpdesk@online.tamuc.org. You may also reach the Help Desk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Students may make contact with instructor by email about course related matters. Please type Psy310 and your name in the subject line of all email submitted. Do not hesitate to make contact with questions or concerns that may arise concerning the course or related matters in connection with your participation in the course.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

University Specific Procedures:

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook). The following items are being emphasized for student attention and observance.

Code of Conduct – Extracted from Student Guide Book

a. Civility in the Academic Environment

Civility in the classroom or online course and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom/online course. Courteous behavior and responses are expected.

To create and preserve a learning environment that optimizes teaching and learning, all participants share a responsibility in creating a civil and non-disruptive forum. Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that does not disrupt teaching or learning.

Faculty have the authority to request students who exhibit inappropriate behavior to leave the class/online course and may refer serious offenses to the University Police Department and/or the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.
b. Breaches of Conduct

The University regards the following as illustrations of misconduct by individuals or groups which may result in review by the appropriate disciplinary agencies:

(1) Academic Cheating and Plagiarism.

(11) Disorderly conduct which inhibits or interferes with the educational responsibility of the University community or the University’s social-educational activities.

(16) Recurring incidents which are in violation of University policies and/or other such persistently irresponsible behavior that brings into question the student’s serious intent to pursue an education.

(17) Failure to respond to a summons by letter, telephone call, or personal messenger from a University administrative official or faculty member.

(28) Failure to comply with the directions of a university administrative official or faculty member.

(29) Complicity is condoning, supporting, or encouraging any violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Students who anticipate or observe any violation of the Code are expected to remove themselves from association or participation in any such inappropriate behavior.

ADA Statement

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

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The course schedule below provides general details as a guide to assist you in moving through the course. The schedule is subject to change due to various circumstances and such changes will be communicated in class and also by email.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic &amp; Required Reading</th>
<th>Assigned Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1 | Introduction and Course Overview Required Reading Course Text: Foundations of Multicultural Education – Chapter 1 | • Review course syllabus  
• Participate in class discussions  
• Complete required reading |
| Week 1 | Required Reading Course Text: Ethnicity and Race – Chapter 2 Individual Assignment - Reflection paper | • Complete required reading  
• Participate in class discussions  
• Review instructions and complete Individual Assignment |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic &amp; Required Reading</th>
<th>Assigned Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Required Reading Course Text:</td>
<td>• Complete required reading</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Class and Socioeconomic Status - Chapter 3</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Group Project</td>
<td>• Review instructions and participate in Group Project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Required Reading Course Text:</td>
<td>• Complete required reading</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Geography – Chapter 8</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Group Project</td>
<td>• Review instructions and participate in Course Project.</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>• <strong>Exam 1 – Chapters 1, 2, 3, 8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Required Reading Course Text:</td>
<td>• Complete required reading</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Gender and Sexual Orientation - Chapter 4</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Online Debate/Discussion</td>
<td>• Review instructions and complete Individual Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Required Reading Course Text:</td>
<td>• Complete required reading</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Exceptionality - Chapter 5</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Individual Assignment – Reflection paper</td>
<td>• Review instructions and complete Individual Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Required Reading Course Text:</td>
<td>• Complete required reading</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Language – Chapter 6</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Required Reading Course Text:</td>
<td>• Complete required reading</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Religion – Chapter 7</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Assignment of Group Presentations</td>
<td>• <strong>Exam 2 Chapters 4, 5, 6 &amp; 7</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>• Reflection Paper</td>
<td>• Complete required reading and reflection paper</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Online Debate/Discussion</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Required Reading Course Text:</td>
<td>• Complete required reading</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Age – Chapter 9</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Prepare for Group Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>• Group Presentations</td>
<td>• Participate in Group Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Required Reading Course Text:</td>
<td>• Complete required reading and reflection paper</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Chapter 10 – Education That Is Multicultural</td>
<td>• Participate in class discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reflection Paper</td>
<td>• Prepare for Group Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>• Group Presentations</td>
<td>• Participate in Group Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>• Group Presentations</td>
<td>• Participate in Group Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Research/Review Paper</td>
<td>• Complete and submit Research/Review Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>• Course Review</td>
<td>• Participate in Class Discussions and Debate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Online Debate/Discussion</td>
<td>• Complete and submit Research/Review Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>Final Exam &amp; End of Course Wrap-Up</td>
<td>• **Exam 3 – Chaps 8 &amp; 9, Group Presentations, and other Course Material</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATION CHECKLIST**

Please refer to website for university guidelines for completing your undergraduate program and graduating with your degree. [http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/registrar/pdfs/UndergradChecklist.pdf](http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/registrar/pdfs/UndergradChecklist.pdf)