Psychology of Diverse Populations (PSY 310)

Web Course
Fall 2013
3 credits

Instructor: Lauren Hensley Maloney, PhD
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Course description: Multicultural awareness is of critical importance in our society today, as our communities are becoming more pluralistic and as we experience increasing global interconnectedness through technology and travel. Understanding culture and its influence is a process which must be undertaken with great patience and care to understand the depth, complexity, and richness of working in diverse environments. This course will help you relate to, understand, and celebrate micro-cultures you may encounter in your future profession.

Textbooks/Readings:

Gollnick, D.M., & Chen, P.C. (2013). *Mulicultural Education in a Pluralistic Society* (9th ed.). Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc.

Requirements & Grading: Students are expected to complete all readings, exams, assignments, and discussions. All assignments must be typed. Course grades will be determined by performance in the following areas:

1. **Discussions** – Each week (except for exam weeks) there will be a discussion. You must post a minimum of three original sentences – original means that you cannot simply state that you agree with someone else's opinion, but must submit a unique contribution. You are encouraged to comment on posts made by your classmates, but must submit a post of your own each week (not only a reply to someone else's post). Each discussion will be graded out of 10 points. Make sure you answer all parts of the discussion question thoroughly to receive full credit. Your total discussion grade will count as 20% of your final grade.

2. **Homework activities** – There will be occasional homework assignments. It is your responsibility to notice when there is an assignment due and complete it on time. Homework assignments will be graded out of 10 points and your total homework grade is worth 35% of your final grade.

3. **Exams** – Exams will constitute a portion of the grade. Due to the online nature of the class, you will have access to your notes and book. The exam is drawn heavily from the textbook and powerpoint slides posted on ecollege, and many questions will be fairly detailed or require you to apply information (not only restate what the book says). <u>You should review and organize your materials before taking the exam.</u> There will be three exams. The final exam is not cumulative. Each exam is worth 15% of your final grade (so all three exams are worth 45% of your final grade).

<u>***ALL WORK FOR EACH WEEK (DISCUSSION AS WELL AS ANY ASSIGNMENT OR EXAM) IS DUE BY SUNDAY AT 11:59PM. LATE WORK WILL BE PENALIZED AT A RATE OF 10% POINT DEDUCTION PER DAY (AND 12:00AM ON MONDAY IS 1 DAY LATE!), UNLESS A UNIVERSITY APPROVED EXCUSE HAS BEEN SUBMITTED.***</u>

Evaluation:

Grades	A	=	90-100%
	B	=	80-89%
	C	=	70-79%
	D	=	60-69%
	F	=	< 60%

It is **very** important that you complete every assignment. You may submit late assignments to me with no penalty **if** you have a documented University excuse (death in the family, serious accident/injury, or medical emergency). If you do not have a documented University excuse however, points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late at the rate of 10% (one letter grade) per day.

Student Conduct and Absences: "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." Students are expected to follow the code of conduct in class described in the Student Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Code of Student Conduct). Violation of the code will lead to an initiation of the disciplinary processes described in the Handbook. Proper student conduct also includes maintaining a standard of academic honesty. This means that neither cheating nor plagiarism will be tolerated and students who engage in either will be subject to the disciplinary processes described in the Code of Student Conduct). Plagiarism essentially means that you cannot use the words and ideas of another person without giving them credit. Therefore, "quotation marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author you will need to credit the source in the text" (APA, 2001, p. 249). If you have any questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism please see me. *Students who plagiarize any material will earn a grade of F for the course.*

Students are expected to attend all classes unless they have excused absences as described in the Student's Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Academics). When students are absent from class they are responsible for making up the work covered in class and speaking with me about these arrangements. More than 1 absence during the term is considered excessive. "It is the prerogative of the faculty to drop students from courses in which they have obtained excessive absences as defined in the course syllabus. In such cases, faculty recommend through the department head to the appropriate college dean that a student be dropped from a class. The faculty member will make a reasonable effort to communicate with the student prior to recommending a drop. If approved, the college dean will forward the recommendation to the Records Office (Systems Policy 13.2)."

Students are responsible for following University procedures to drop a class. If you stop attending the class for any reason, you must initiate the process of dropping, or you will receive a failing grade. Plan to take care of this several days ahead of time, so that you will have the time required to get the forms signed, submitted, etc.

Accommodations: Students requesting accommodations for disabilities must go through the Academic Support Committee. Instructors must be notified in writing by the Director of Disability Resources & Services before accommodations will be made. For more information, please contact the Director of Disability Resources & Services, Halladay Student Services Bldg., Room 303D, (903) 886-5835.

StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

CLASS SCHEDULE

Mon Aug 26	Classes Begin
Sun Sep 1	Ch 1 Discussion and Assignment due by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 8	Ch 2 Discussion due by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 15	Ch 3 Discussion due by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 22	Ch 4 Discussion and Assignment due by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 29	Exam 1 due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 6	Ch 5 Discussion due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 13	Ch 6 Discussion and Assignment due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 20	Ch 7 Discussion due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 27	Exam 2 due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 3	Ch 8 Discussion and Assignment due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 10	Ch 9 Discussion and Assignment due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 17	Ch 10 Discussion due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 24	Ch 11 Discussion due by 11:59pm
Sun Dec 1	Nothing due (due to Thanksgiving)
Sun Dec 8	Exam 3 due by 11:59pm