



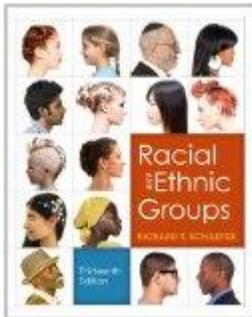
SOCIOLOGY 370.71W
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015

Instructor: Dr. Monica Castator, Adjunct Professor
Class Times: Online
Office Location: AB 211- Navarro College, Corsicana Campus
Office Hours: Tuesday 2pm-5pm; by appointment
Office Phone: (903) 875-7405; cell (903) 879-5454
University Email Address: Monica.castator@navarrocollege.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required: Schaffer, Richard T. (2012). *Racial and Ethnic Groups*. 13e. Pearson/Prentice Hall. (ISBN-13: 978-0205842339)



Additional materials will be provided for you online.

Course Description:

This is a general survey course on American minority groups with particular emphasis on racial and ethnic minorities. It includes examination of the interplay among and between these groups from a wide variety of perspectives including, but not limited to the social, cultural, economic, and political realms.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate mastery of basic concepts and empirical facts relevant to the minority groups in America;
2. Demonstrate understanding the origin and forms of types of racism and minority groups exclusions if any;
3. Demonstrate use of critical thinking skills in analysis of sociological theory explaining why inequality exists and its implications for individual and group stratification and social mobility;
4. Demonstrate conceptualized preventative measures for overcoming various forms of prejudice, discrimination, and harassment.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

1) Attendance/Engagement:

A course of this sort does not require attendance in terms of scheduled class meetings. However, it is very important that you complete the course objectives within the time allotted for each portion of the course. Students who fail to login to the online course for any two week period may be dropped from the course. These weeks may or may not be consecutive. Students who miss a major exam and fail to contact the professor within the allotted makeup period for excused absences may be dropped from the course. Note additional information below.

Excessive absences are defined as the equivalent of two weeks in a 16-week semester (or 1/8th of any shorter term) and may result in being dropped from the course. *Absence is defined as not completing an assigned activity within the time allotted.* If you miss a graded assignment OR a discussion assignment online, you will be counted absent for the entire time allotted for the assignment.

- ❖ Exams will be scheduled for approximately one week and may be taken at any time during the specified period.
- ❖ No discussion assignment will be posted for a period of less than three “class” days; login and check the discussion board at least every three days and you will not miss a topic. All other assignments are scheduled from the first day of class for specific dates. See the assignments link for details.
- ❖ “Class days” are defined as Monday-Friday. Students may participate in the course any day of the week. However, Saturdays and Sundays are not considered in the three-day assignment periods specified above. Thus, work on the weekend if you wish to but you are not required to complete any course assignments on the weekends.
- ❖ All other assignments are scheduled from the first day of class for specific dates. See the assignments link for details.

Students who fail to actively engage in the course may be dropped from the course. Inadequate engagement is determined at the discretion of the professor on the basis of the following: 1) Attendance/engagement, 2) Participation in class discussions/activities, 3) Completion of outside assignments including textbook assignments.

2) Grading Criteria: Grades on final grade report will be based on the total number of points accumulated. Students may accumulate points through the following activities:

The course grade will be composed of six grades earned from the following assignments:

- Three exams (100 points each to total 300 points)
- A Class Presentation based on book chosen by student from list provided (150 points)
- Three short reaction papers based on the work of other students (each student must turn in a total of three reaction papers worth 20 points each)
- Participation in assigned discussions (100 points)
- The following grade scale will be applicable:

Avg %	Grade
90%+	A

80%	B
70%	C
60%	D
<60%	F

As a supplement to the assigned textbook reading and discussion assignments, each student will read a book from the outside assignment list, write a reaction paper to the assigned book and present a written report to the class on the book. In addition, each student will write short response papers to three presentations made by other students. More information on this assignment will be forthcoming.

There will be no extra credit work and make-up exams are only given for excused absences. An alternate exam may be required of students who miss an exam.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following technology is required to be successful in this course.

- *Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)*
- *Word Processor (Microsoft Office Word)*
- *Access to University Library site*
- *Access to an University Email*

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

- *Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).*
- *Courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.*
- *It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.*

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Access and Log in Information

- This course will be utilizing eCollege to enhance the learning experience, eCollege is the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>.
- You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamucommerce.edu.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

The most effective way to communicate with me is by email. I answer email daily (Monday-Friday). I will also be in my office during posted office hours and by appointment. If you need to contact me for a more urgent reason, you may use the telephone numbers provided in this syllabus.

Interaction with the eCollege system:

- Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you experience issues while using any part of the eCollege system, feel free to contact the support desk.

Chat Support: Click on '*Live Support*' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.

Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Help: Click on the '*Help*' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...).

UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Requests for Special Accommodations

- Requests from students with disabilities for reasonable accommodations must go through the Academic Support Committee. An individual instructor cannot decide to make accommodations for you without that Committee's approval.

ADA Statement

- 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 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

STATEMENT ON STUDENT BEHAVIOR

As stated in the student handbook: "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct, for more information.)

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex,

national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Academic Integrity

- Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.
- Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment."
- These policies are stated in detail in the Student's Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of 0 on the examination or homework assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.
- Texas A&M University-Commerce further does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.
- If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. Visit the following website: <http://www.plagiarism.org/>

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Soc 370: Minority Groups			
Online Course Schedule - Subject to Change Dr. Monica M. Castator, PhD			
Begin Assignment	⇔	Last Chance...	Assignment
1/20/2015	⇔		Research books on list and choose one
			Call me if you experience difficulty (903-879-7405) - don't fall behind! Go to the first unit of the class. You will find details of the assignment there. Email me with your choice of outside books to read...You must do this during the first week of class.

			Make sure you find my notes in the website... great companion to your textbook reading...also be sure that you follow and respond to the discussion group activities every week.
	1/24/2015	Chapter 1: Exploring Race and Ethnicity	
1/26/2015 ⇔	1/31/2015	Chapter 2/3: Prejudice and Discrimination	
2/2/2015 ⇔	2/6/2015	Chapter 4: Immigration	
2/9/2015 ⇔	2/13/2015	Chapter 5: Ethnicity and Religion	
2/16/2015 ⇔	2/20/2015	Test 1	Finish this exam by midnight on 'last chance' date. It is timed and can only be taken once so study well before you begin.
2/23/2015 ⇔	2/27/2015	Chapter 6: Native Americans	
3/2/2015 ⇔	3/6/2015	Chapter 7: The Making of African-Americans and White America	
		Chapter 8: African-Americans Today	
3/9/2015 ⇔	3/13/2015	Chapter 9: Latinos: the Largest Majority	
3/9/2015	3/13/2015	Chapter 10: Mexican-Americans and Puerto Ricans	
3/9/2015 ⇔	3/21/2015	Test 2	
3/16/2015	3/22/2015	Spring break	
3/23/2015 ⇔	3/28/2015	Chapter 11: Muslim and Arab Americans	
3/30/2015	4/3/2015	Chapter 12: Asian Americans	
4/6/2015	4/10/2015	Chapter 13: Jewish Americans	

4/14/2015		Class Presentations are due today by midnight	Submit your class presentation to the dropbox no later than March 24 at midnight. Name the file with your lastname_firstname-booktitle. (e.g. Smith_Andy-The Joy Luck Club.doc)
4/13/2015	4/17/2015	Chapter 15: Women: the Oppressed Majority	
4/20/2015 ⇔	4/27/2015	Class Presentations	Your paper should be submitted now. Spend the remainder of the time allotted reading the papers of your classmates and choosing 3 to which you will write reaction papers. Reaction papers should be written using presentations from books other than the one you read.
		Reaction papers are due by midnight April 28	
5/4/2015 ⇔	5/10/2015	Summary discussions and review	
5/11/2015 ⇔	5/14/2015	Final Exam	Finish this exam by midnight on 'last chance' date. It is timed and can only be taken once so study well before you begin.

That's it... I hope you have a great experience in this course!

Dr. Castator