

Sociology 215: Race & Ethnic Relations in the U.S. (3 cr. hrs.)

Sections 4 & 5 Spring 2012

Section 4) MWF 12-12:50 Lawson 121

Section 5) MWF 2-2:50 Quigley 208

Instructor: Catherine Field

3386 Faner Hall 618/453-7698 field@siu.edu

Office Hours: Mon 10-11:50 Wed 10-11:50, Thu 1-3, Fri 1-1:50

COURSE FORMAT: Lectures, class discussion, audio-visual media, in-class exercises, and guest lectures.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Students will be able to: (a) demonstrate an understanding of such sociological concepts as race and ethnicity, as well as diversity, assimilation, pluralism, prejudice, and discrimination; (b) display basic knowledge of historical socioeconomic, and political forces and demographics shaping U.S. racial policies, politics and culture; (c) demonstrate critical thinking about different theories and perspectives pertaining to race, class, gender, and sexuality; and (d) apply sociological imagination and analysis of race and ethnicity to their own experience.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The United States is an increasingly diverse society, as witnessed by the changing demographics of race and ethnicity. To be effective citizens, students will find it helpful to be exposed to the sociology, history and culture of a variety of ethno-racial groups. Further, it is important for citizens in this globalizing world to understand how gender and class may shape people's experiences of race and ethnicity. Along with the academic content, the course will also focus on providing students with the concepts and vocabulary for effectively communicating about these topics.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS: 1) *Diversity and Society: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender, Third Edition*. Joseph F. Healey. Published in 2010 by Pine Forge Press. 2) *Racism Without Racists: Color-Blind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequality in America*. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva. Published in 2006 by Rowman & Littlefield.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

100 pts.	Exam 1
100 pts.	Exam 2
100 pts.	Paper
100 pts.	Final exam (Exam 3)
100 pts.	Attendance/Participation

500 pts.	Total

The grading scale will be as follows: A=450+, B=400+, C=350+, D=300+.

There will be three exams, of which any may be objective (multiple choice, for example) or subjective (essay) or both. Exams may include material from the textbook and the supplemental reading as well as from the lecture. There will be no makeup exams except at the discretion of the instructor, and any makeup must be completed within one calendar week of the test date. Additionally, there will be a paper due, about 1500 words, on a specific date, on a topic to be assigned. This paper will be submitted through Blackboard. Occasionally attendance at events on or near campus will be given up to 10 extra credit points. Such events will be announced in class.

It is expected that all work submitted by the student (whether papers, tests, or attendance sheets) will be her or his original work. Plagiarism of any sort will be dealt with in accordance with university policy.

Students using laptops or netbooks to take notes are asked to sit in the first two rows. Please turn off phones or other electronics in class. Please arrange your schedule to attend the entire class.

Emergency Procedures: Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus and is available on the BERT website at <http://www.bert.siu.edu/>, Department of Public Safety's website www.dps.siu.edu/ (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

1/18	Introduction
1/20	Chapter One: <i>Diversity in the United States</i>
1/23	
1/25	
1/27	
1/30	
2/1	Chapter Two: <i>Assimilation and Pluralism</i>
2/3	
2/6	
2/8	
2/10	Chapter Three: <i>The Development of Dominant-Minority Relations in the U.S.</i>
2/13	
2/15	
2/17	
2/20	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-3 + Racism Without Racists, pp 1-125.)
2/22	Chapter Four: <i>Industrialization and Dominant-Minority Relations: From Slavery to Segregation and the Coming of Postindustrial Society</i>
2/24	
2/27	
2/29	Chapter Five: <i>African Americans</i>
3/2	
3/5	
3/7	
3/9	
3/12-3/16	Spring break. NO CLASS.
3/19	Chapter Six: <i>American Indians</i>
3/21	
3/23	
3/26	
3/28	
3/30	Exam 2 (4-6 + Racism Without Racists pp 131-272)
4/2	Chapter Seven: <i>Hispanic Americans</i>
4/4	
4/6	
4/9	
4/11	
4/13	Chapter Eight: <i>Asian Americans</i>
4/16	Paper due. Submit by Blackboard.
4/18	
4/20	
4/23	Chapter Nine: <i>New Americans</i>
4/25	
4/27	
4/30	Chapter Ten: <i>Minority Groups and U.S. Society</i>
5/2	
5/4	

Final exam will follow the university's schedule. The instructor reserves the right to make changes in this syllabus if the need should arise. Any changes will be announced in class.