

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

Sections 2 & 3, Spring 2013

Section 2) TR 11-12:15, Quigley 208

Section 3) TR 2-3:15, Faner 1326

Instructor: **Catherine Field** 3386 Faner Hall 618/453-7698 field@siu.edu

Office Hours: **M 1-3, Tu 10-11, W 1-3, Th 1-2, Fri 10-12**

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 of race, and something of the history and culture of a variety of racial and ethnic groups. It also helps to understand how social phenomena like gender and class shape people's experiences of race and ethnicity. Along with presenting the history and context of race and racial change in the United States, the course provides students with the concepts and vocabulary for communicating about these important topics.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: *Diversity and Society: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender, Third Edition.* Joseph F. Healey. Published in 2010 by Pine Forge Press.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

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

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

500 pts.	Total

There will be three exams, of which any may be objective (multiple choice, for example) or subjective (essay or short answer) or both. Exams may include material from the textbook 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. Papers will be submitted through SIU Online. 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 will be original work done expressly for this class. 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.

- 1/15 Introduction
1/17 **Chapter One:** *Diversity in the United State: Questions and Concepts*
- 1/22
1/24
- 1/29 **Chapter Two:** *Assimilation and Pluralism: From Immigrants to White Ethnics to White Americans*
1/31
- 2/5
2/7 **Chapter Three:** *The Development of Dominant-Minority Relations in Preindustrial America: the Origins of Slavery*
- 2/12
2/14
- 2/19 **Exam 1 (Chapters 1-3)**
2/21 **Chapter Four:** *Industrialization and Dominant-Minority Relations: From Slavery to Segregation and the Coming of Postindustrial Society*
- 2/26
2/28 **Chapter Five:** *African Americans: From Segregation to Modern Institutional Discrimination and Modern Racism*
- 3/5
3/7
- 3/12 SPRING BREAK
3/14 SPRING BREAK
- 3/19 **Chapter Six:** *American Indians: From Conquest to Tribal Survival in a Postindustrial Society*
3/21
- 3/26
3/28 **Exam 2 (Chapters 4-6)**
- 4/2 **Chapter Seven:** *Hispanic Americans: Colonization, Immigration, and Ethnic Enclaves*
4/4 Paper due. **Submit through SIU ONLINE before midnight**
- 4/9
4/11 **Chapter Eight:** *Asian Americans: "Model Minorities"?*
- 4/16
4/18
- 4/23 **Chapter Nine:** *New Americans, Assimilation, and Old Challenges*
4/25
- 4/30 **Chapter Ten:** *Minority Groups and U.S. Society: Themes, Patterns and the Future*
5/2

Final exam will follow the university's schedule, which can be found at <http://registrar.siu.edu/pdf/examspring13.pdf>

The instructor reserves the right to make changes in this syllabus if the need should arise. Such changes will be announced in class.