Instructor: Emal Gerami
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Term: Fall 2012
Th 3:30pm - 6:40pm

Race and Ethnic Relations

Sociology 11

Course Description:

This course is a sociological exploration of the dynamics, dimensions, and realities of race/ethnic, class, and gender relations. Emphasis will be placed on the existing problems of inequality, prejudice, and discrimination and their root causes. The aim of this course is to familiarize students with a sociological level of analysis. We will uncover the intersections of the individual and his/her group and society as they pertain to race, class, and gender, and will search for possible solutions to the problems arising out of the interactions between these groups.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to understand and identify the following elements of social reality from the vantage point of sociology.

1. Student will be able to identify racial and ethnic differences, and the cultural, political, and historical impact they continue to have on individuals.
2. Student will be able to differentiate between types of racism that exist in society today or in the history of the US.
3. Student will assess the impact of oppression of specific groups due to social class, and solutions to improve the future of these groups.

Required Text and Book:

- *Race, Class, and Gender: An Anthology* (6th edition) by Margaret L. Andersen and Patricia Hill Collins
- Additional online readings

Class Format:

The course will primarily be based on lectures and discussions, which are meant to supplement, not substitute, the readings. Videos and films will/may be shown (Note: These are assigned based on instructor's discretion). There will also be in-class assignments to gauge students' understanding of the material. Some assignments may require time outside of the classroom.

Evaluation:

There will be 3 Exams and consisting of true/false and multiple-choice items. The exams will be drawn from class lectures, possible videos/films, and assigned readings

(textbook and online). Completion of 2 In-Class Assignments is required. Students also have the option of completing Extra-Credit Essay. (*Details for In-Class Assignments and Extra-Credit will be provided in class).* Evaluations will be based on letter grades: A, B, C, D, F

Make-Ups and Late Assignments:

Make-ups for exams and late assignments will be NOT be considered. As such, it is important that you attend examination and assignment dates.

Attendance/Drop Policy:

Regular attendance is expected of all students. Excessive absences will result in lowering of grade. Since the exam questions will also be drawn from class lectures and videos/films, your presence is highly encouraged. If a student is *consecutively* absent for 2 or more class sessions, he or she will be dropped from the class. However, it is primarily your responsibility to drop the class should you decide not to attend the class.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students are always encouraged to ask questions about concepts and/or theories they don't understand. They are also expected to express their knowledge in their own words when completing essays and/or assignments. Therefore, plagiarism and/or cheating will not be tolerated. The minimum penalty is a grade of "F" on the work in question. Further cheating and/or plagiarism will result in an "F" in the course, and possible college disciplinary action.

Class Participation and Conduct:

Class discussion is greatly encouraged and appreciated. The classroom environment is enhanced and enriched by your contributions. The exchange of ideas, opinions, agreements, and *respectful disagreements* are valuable elements of your educational experience. Each of you will get out of the course what you put into it. Interruptions in the form of cell phones, talking while others are talking are considered as disruptive behavior. If you do not follow the classroom policy of mutual respect, you will be kindly asked to leave.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to modification as deemed necessary by the instructor. It is your responsibility to be aware of any announced schedule changes.

Week	Readings/Exams/Assignments
1) Aug 30	Sociological Perspective: Race, Class, and Gender *The Sociological Imagination* by C. Wright Mills (www.lclark.edu/~goldman/socimagination.html)
2) Sept 6	Video: *Bowling for Columbine*
3) Sept 13	RACE & RACISM *Racism without "Racists"* by Eduardo Bonilla-Silva (pg. 91) *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack* by Peggy McIntosh (pg. 98)
4) Sept 20	CLASS & INEQUALITY *Growing Gulf between Rich and the Rest of Us* by Holly Sklar (pg. 116) *The Hidden Cost of being African American* by Thomas M. Shapiro (pg. 127)
5) Sept 27	GENDER & SEXISM *Sex and Gender through the Prism of Difference* by Zinn, Hondagneu-Sotelo, & Messner (pg. 147) *Ideological Racism and Cultural Resistance* by Yen Le Espiritu (pg. 156)

EXAM #1 (Thursday, October 4)

7) Oct 11	WORK *"Soft" Skills and Race* by Phillip Moss and Chris Tilly (pg. 294) *Domestica* by Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo (pg. 312)
8) Oct 18	FAMILY *Navigating Interracial Borders* by Erica Chito Childs (pg. 335) In-Class ASSIGNMENT #1 (October 18)
9) Oct 25	MEDIA & CULTURE *Racist Stereotyping in the English Language* by Robert B. Moore (pg. 365) *Media Magic: Making Class Invisible* by Gregory Mantsios (pg. 384)

EXAM #2 (Thursday, November 1)

11) Nov 8	SEXUALITY *"You Talkin' to Me?"* by Jean Kilbourne (pg. 228) *Where Has Gay Liberation Gone?* by Gluckman & Reed (pg. 234)
12) Nov 15	VIOLENCE *The First Americans* by C. Matthew Snipp (pg. 442) *How Safe is America?* by Desiree Taylor (pg. 475)
13) Nov 22	Thanksgiving Holiday!
14) Nov 29	*The Continuum Concept* by Jean Liedloff (http://www.continuum-concept.org/cc_defined.html) & (http://www.continuum-concept.org/reading/in-arms.html) In-Class ASSIGNMENT #2 (November 29)
15) Dec 6	*Neurosis* by Arthur Janov (http://www.continuum-concept.org/reading/neurosis.html)

Extra-Credit ESSAY and FINAL EXAM

(Thursday, December 13: 5:30pm-7:30pm)