

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An examination of American racial and ethnic diversity with an attempt to understand racial and ethnic relations. The examination is made emphasizing the sociological perspective while including material from the other social sciences.

Learning Outcomes: At the completion of the course, the student will

- Use a sociological perspective to analyze race and ethnic relations in the United States.
- Have the tools to combat racism.
- Understand why diversity matters.
- Explain the relationship between their individual behavior and the social groups to which they belong.

REQUIRED TEXT

Higginbotham, Elizabeth and Margaret L. Anderson. 2012. *Race and Ethnicity in Society*. 3rd edition.
Marger, Martin N. 2012. *Race & Ethnic Relations*. 9th edition.

ONLINE RESOURCES

1. Facebook (Learn Sociology) & Twitter: (@learnsociology): I manage a facebook and twitter account for all of my sociology courses and sociological work. I encourage you to follow one or both accounts. You are not required to follow either account, but I will post announcements, reminders, and interesting articles that relate to our course on both sites. When you get to the course schedule, you will see that each Week contains a twitter hashtag (#). I will tag my tweets with these hashtags and I ask that you do the same. This enables you to search for each week's tweets, which you could use to review for your exams.
2. I use BlackBoard as a repository for our course materials. You will find this syllabus and handouts stored there. I will post announcements to BlackBoard, too.

GRADING POLICY

1. Exams (2 @ 50 points each)

- a) Midterm exam is February 21 and covers all the readings, lectures, videos, handouts, etc. from the start of the semester to the midterm exam date.
- b) Final exam is May 10 (12:30-2:30) and covers all the readings, lectures, videos, handouts, etc. from the midterm exam to the final exam date.
- c) Both exams will be essay. You will be given the essay questions one week prior to the exam. On the day of the exam, I will randomly select two of the questions, which you will be required to answer.

2. Journal¹ (50 points, 10 @ 5 points each)

- a) Journal entries are due on Turnitin.com prior to class each Tuesday. They are designed to promote your engagement with the course material and open a line of communication between you and I. In your journal entries, respond to a reading by writing about what was interesting, infuriating, lame, wrong, exciting about it and why. Each entry is also an opportunity to trace

¹Adopted from Lisa Wade. 2011. "Welcome to Race and Ethnicity in American Society." Retrieved from <http://lisawadedotcom.files.wordpress.com/2011/02/sociology-250-spring-2011-syllabus.pdf>

your thoughts, feelings, and insights. If you have concerns about class material, tone, or climate, this is an excellent place to let me know.

- b) Journal entries should be 300-600 words and meet the mechanics of out-of-class written work. They are graded pass (5 points), partial pass (3 points), and no pass (0 points). A journal entry will receive full credit if it (1) explicitly addresses at least one reading, (2) is 300-600 words, and (3) shows a good effort to engage with the material. There are 14 Journal entry opportunities and your 10 highest grades will count towards your final grade (i.e., your 4 lowest scores will be dropped).
 - c) Each journal entry should be based on the readings that are scheduled the same day and the next class period that the journal entry is due. For example, Journal Entry #1 is based on M: p. 27-48 and M: p. 49-78. Journal Entry #2 is based on HA: p. 43-78 and M: p. 79-103.
3. **In-class writing (50 points, points per submission will be determined at the end of the semester)**
- a) You will be required to complete in-class writing. I will pose a question and you will provide a written response. You may miss two in-class writings without penalty. In-class writing can not be made up regardless of reason. In-class writing will be graded pass/fail. Point value per in-class writing will be determined at the end of the semester based on the number of in-class writing assigned during the semester.
4. **Research Paper (100 points)**
- a) You will select an issue related to race and ethnicity to research. Your topic could be about a problem such as racial inequality and the criminal justice system. Your topic could be about a race or ethnic issue abroad that is not on our course schedule such as Gypsies in Europe. Your topic could be about policies to address racial injustice such as Affirmative Action. These are just a few ideas.
 - b) You will turn in your topic on Turnitin.com for my approval on January 24. In 3-5 sentences, tell me what your paper is going to be about. Be as specific as possible. I will not grade your paper unless your topic has been approved by me. Any topic changes must be approved by me no less than one week before the paper's due date.
 - c) Your final paper should be 6-8 pages in length.
 - d) You should use at least four scholarly sources to support your arguments.
 - e) Your paper should have no more than two spelling or grammatical errors per page and be [APA-formatted](#). Your paper should include page numbers and be in an acceptable font.
 - f) Your research paper should be submitted through [Turn It In](#) and will not be accepted elsewhere.
 - g) For 5 extra credit points, you can turn your paper in as a draft on turnitin.com by April 10 for my review. I will review your paper after this date up to April 26, but you will not earn extra credit.
 - h) The final paper is due on turnitin.com on May 1.
5. **Extra Credit Assessment Survey** due Friday, May 4 at midnight. You need the password "extracredit" to access the survey. It is extremely important that you do not complete this survey until you have completed all of your work up until this point. If I suspect that you took this early in the semester and did not take the assessment seriously, you will not earn extra credit. You will earn 15 extra credit points just for completing this survey, regardless of how many answers you get correct. You will need your course section number.

The mechanics of all out-of-class written work:

- Must be typed, double-spaced, 12 point font, 1 or 1.5 inch margins.
- Please spell-check and read over your work before turning it in. No more than two spelling or grammatical errors per page.

- Place your name, the date, and the assignment title at the top of each entry. No title page is necessary.
- Keep a back-up copy of your work so you do not lose it.
- Include in-text citations and a reference page when appropriate (this means your reference page should have an APA formatted entry for the article, the textbook, and any other references you use). You should follow APA format. More information on APA format can be found at the [OWL @ Purdue](#).
- All written work is due on turnitin.com by the start of class on the day it is due. No late work will be accepted. [Turn It In: The Turn It In Student Manual](#) is available to review to learn how to submit papers. If you have never created an account, you can create your account [here](#). You will need the course id 4653779, and password race to create your account.

Grading Scale (point system, not an average):

A	300-270
B	269.9-240
C	239.9-210
D	209.9-180
F	179.9-0

GENERAL POLICIES

Email: You need to use your Lake Land email account to communicate with me. Your Lake Land email address uses the same prefix as your IRIS and BlackBoard login. I can not guarantee I will respond to emails from other addresses. Make sure that you include your course name and section number in the subject of your email. This way, I know the email is from a student and I will respond to you first. I will not discuss grades via email. I will discuss your grade in BlackBoard or in-person only. I will respond to your email between 24-48 hours M-F. I will not respond to emails sent on the weekend until Monday or Tuesday.

Attendance: I do not grade attendance. If you are absent, you are responsible for any information covered in class. It is your responsibility to complete all the requirements listed in the course schedule by their due date.

Policy on Academic Honest: Response to student cheating on coursework shall be per school policy with the following instructor options:

- No credit given for the plagiarized work
- Reduced credit in the form of a lower grade for plagiarized work
- Instructor notifies the Division’s Chair of the incident
- Cheating incidents of a serious nature may result in dropping the student from the course, which could result in failure in the course

If in doubt, ask. Ignorance is not an excuse. If quoting material, any repetition of three or more words should be included in quotations and citations should be used.

Lake Land College’s Student Handbook Conduct Code with more details can be found [here](#).

Withdrawals: A student may drop a course through April 30, 2012. A grade of “W” will be recorded for the dropped course.

Disabilities: Students with some special reason for modified testing procedures or not-taking procedures should contact me as soon as possible so appropriate arrangements can be made. See Jordan Hicks in Student Services Building #24 if you think you have learning, physical, or emotional issues.

Religious Holidays: If after reading the syllabus, you discover that I have assigned a test or assignment due date for a holy day of your faith, please let me know by the end of Week 2. Furthermore, if you will be missing any class because of holy days this semester, please inform me in writing by the end of Week 2.

Student Athletes: If your coach anticipates that you will need to miss class this semester due to athletic participation, you need to provide me with written documentation from your coach by the end of Week 2.

GROUND RULES:

1. Do not interrupt your fellow students or myself.
2. No personal conversations during lecture (this includes texting).
3. We will not accept any discrimination, intimidation, or harassment of fellow students.
4. Remember, just because something does not apply to you, does not make it any less true. Keep an open mind.
5. Electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, e-readers, laptops, tablets) are conditionally allowed in this classroom. It is assumed that your use of these devices is for educational or extreme emergency situations. Any other uses are prohibited. This technology should be set to silent. I reserve the right to disallow the use of electronic devices at any time for any reason.
6. I do not allow this class to be recorded (audio or visual) unless you have documentation requiring it to be recorded that you have cleared with me beforehand.
7. Consequences: you may be asked to leave class that day.

COURSE SCHEDULE

You should have read the assigned reading prior to the class meeting we are scheduled to discuss it.

Marger: M

Higginbotham and Anders: HA

Week 1	Introduction	10-Jan	Syllabus
		12-Jan	M: p. 1-26
Week 2	What is Race?	17-Jan	HA: p. 1-41
			Journal Entry #1 Due
	Ethnic Stratification	19-Jan	M: p. 27-48
Week 3	Prejudice and Discrimination	24-Jan	M: p. 49-78
			Paper Topic Due
			Journal Entry #2 Due
		26-Jan	HA: p. 43-78

Week 4	Assimilation and Plurlasm	31-Jan	M: p. 79-103
			Journal Entry #3 Due
		2-Feb	HA: p. 151-186
Week 5	Media Representation	7-Feb	HA: p. 79-122
			Journal Entry #4 Due
	Identity	9-Feb	HA: 123-150
Week 6	Race, Class, and Gender	14-Feb	HA: p. 213-244, 353-373
			Journal Entry #5 Due
	Segregation	16-Feb	HA: p. 301-348
Week 7		21-Feb	Midterm Exam
	No Class	23-Feb	No Class
Week 8	Immigration	28-Feb	M: 107-136
			Journal Entry #6 Due
		1-Mar	HA: p. 187-212, 401-407
Week 9	Native Americans	6-Mar	M: 137-162
			Journal Entry #7 Due
		8-Mar	No readings
Week 10	African Americans	13-Mar	M: p. 163-207
			Journal Entry #8 Due
		15-Mar	HA: p. 250-264, 290-294, 412-421
Week 11	Hispanic Americans	20-Mar	M: 209-244
			Journal Entry #9 Due
		22-Mar	HA: 265-276
Week 12	Asian Americans	27-Mar	M: 245-278
			Journal Entry #10 Due
		29-Mar	HA: 296-300
Spring Break		3-Apr	No Class
		5-Apr	
Week 13	White Ethnic Americans	10-Apr	M: 279-309
			Journal Entry #11 Due
			Research Paper Draft Extra Credit Due
		12-Apr	No readings
Week 14	Jewish Americans	17-Apr	M: 311-334
			Journal Entry #12 Due
	Muslim & Arab Americans	19-Apr	Guest Speaker
			Reading Handout
Week 15	Global: South Africa	24-Apr	M: p. 367-394
			Journal Entry #13 Due
	Global: Brazil	26-Apr	M: p. 395-423

Week 16	Global: Canada	1-May	M: 425-456
			Research Paper Due
	The Future	3-May	Journal Entry #14 Due
HA: 423-447			
Finals Week		10-May	Final Exam
		12:30- 2:30	

The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.