

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

1. Higginbotham, Elizabeth and Margaret L. Anderson. 2012. *Race and Ethnicity in Society*. 3rd edition.
2. 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. The hashtag for this course is #soc286. I will tag my tweets with this hashtag and I ask that you do the same. This enables you to search for this course's tweets, which you could use to review for your exams.
2. I use Instructure Canvas as a repository for our course materials. You will find this syllabus, the powerpoints, and handouts there. I will post announcements to Instructure Canvas. All written work will be turned in on Instructure Canvas.

GRADING POLICY

1. Exams (2 @ 50 points each)

- a) **Midterm exam** is due by midnight on March 17 and covers all the readings, lectures, videos, handouts, etc. from the topics "What is Race?" to "Immigration."
- b) **Final exam** is due by midnight on May 15 and covers all the readings, lectures, videos, handouts, etc. from the topics "Native Americans" to "The Future."
- c) Exam guidelines:
 - i) Each exam includes 30 multiple choice questions and 4 short answer questions. Any material we cover in class or is assigned is fair game for an exam.
 - ii) Each exam is open-book and open-note.
 - iii) Each exam is timed. You will have 120 minutes to complete each exam.
 - iv) Late exams will not be allowed.
 - v) Collaboration on the exams is not allowed and will result in a failing grade in the course. You should direct any questions about the exam to me, your instructor. You should not discuss the exam with any of your classmates until the exam due date has passed. You are to take the exam on your own without help from any other person.

- vi) All exams will be taken on Canvas (online).
2. **Polling Questions (50 points, 11 @ 5 points each, drop 1)**
 - a) On Canvas, you will find polling questions tied to the Higginbotham and Anderson (HA) book. These are due midnight before the class period when HA should be read. We will use the results in class discussion, but your answers will remain confidential. There are 11 polling question opportunities. They are worth 5 points each, but you can miss 1. You will earn all 5 points for completing the entire set of questions in each poll. There are no right or wrong answers and each poll should take just a few minutes to complete.
 3. **Short Papers (100 points, 2 @ 50 points each)**

Both papers will be 4-6 pages. You will be given detailed handouts at a later date.

 - a) Race in the Media (Due dates: January 31, February 12, and May 2)
 - b) Family History Paper (Due March 5)
 4. **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.
 5. **Extra Credit Assessment Survey (1 @ 7.5 points) due Friday, May 10 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 7.5 extra credit points just for completing this survey, regardless of how many answers you get correct. You will need your course section number (SOC 286-17313) to complete the survey.

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.
- 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 Instructure Canvas by the start of class on the day it is due. No late work will be accepted or accepted elsewhere.
- Double-check to make sure your work uploads correctly.

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 Instructure Canvas 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 Instructure Canvas 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 Honesty: 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 at <http://www.lakeland.cc.il.us/studenthandbook/detail.cfm?id=30>.

Withdrawals: A student may drop a course through Dec. 4, 2012. A grade of "W" will be recorded for the dropped course.

Disabilities: Students with some special reason for modified testing procedures or note-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 are expected to read the assigned reading prior to the class meeting we are scheduled to discuss it.

Marger: M

Higginbotham and Anders: HA

Week 1	Introduction	Jan. 15	Syllabus
	What is Race?	Jan. 17	M: p. 1-26 Polling Questions 1
Week 2	What is Race?	Jan. 22	HA: p. 1-41
	Ethnic Stratification	Jan. 24	M: p. 27-48
Week 3	Prejudice and Discrimination	Jan. 29	M: p. 49-78 Polling Questions 2
		Jan. 31	HA: p. 43-78 Race in the Media Plan Due
Week 4	Assimilation and Pluralism	Feb. 5	M: p. 79-103 Polling Questions 3
		Feb. 7	HA: p. 151-186
Week 5	Media Representation	Feb. 12	Polling Questions 4 Be prepared to discuss Race in the Media paper HA: p. 79-122
			Identity
Week 6	Race, Class, and Gender	Feb. 19	Polling Questions 6 HA: p. 213-244, 353-373
	Segregation	Feb. 21	Polling Questions 7 HA: p. 301-348
Week 7	Immigration	Feb. 26	Polling Questions 8 M: 107-136
		Feb. 28	HA: p. 187-212, 401-407
Week 8	Native Americans	Mar. 5	Family History Paper Due
		Mar. 7	M: 137-162

Spring Break		Mar. 12	No Class
		Mar. 14	No Class
		(Mar. 17)	Midterm Exam (Covers weeks 1-7)
Week 9	African Americans	Mar. 19	M: p. 163-207 Polling Questions 9
		Mar. 21	HA: p. 250-264, 290-294, 412-421
			Polling Questions 10
Week 10	Hispanic Americans	Mar. 26	M: p. 209-276 HA: 265-276
		Mar. 28	No Class
Week 11	Asian Americans	Apr. 2	M: 245-278 Polling Questions 11
		Apr. 4	HA: 296-300
Week 12	White Ethnic Americans	Apr. 9	M: 279-309
		Apr. 11	No Class
Week 13	White Ethnic Americans	Apr. 16	No Reading
	Jewish Americans	Apr. 18	M: 311-334
Week 14	Muslim & Arab Americans	Apr. 23	Guest Speaker Reading Handout
	Global: Brazil	Apr. 25	M: p. 395-423
Week 15	Global: Brazil	Apr. 30	
	Wrap-Up	2-May	Race in the Media Paper Due
Week 16		7-May	No Class
		9-May	No Class
Week 17	Finals Week	(May 15)	Final Exam (Covers weeks 8-15)

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