

SOC 2319: Introduction to Ethnic Studies (3 Credit Hours) Fall 2017

Location: Internet

Class Meeting Times: No Class Meetings – All Internet-Based

Instructor: Haitrieu Nguyen

Office Location: CHSS Building – room 270D

Instructor Contact Information: Phone: 936-294-4537 (office); 936- 294-1512 (dept.); 936-294-3573 (fax)

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Office Hours: - I can be reached via e-mail Monday – Friday from 9:00 – 6:00. I will respond to e-mails within 48 hours of receiving them or you can set up an appointment with me online.

Course Description: This course is designed as a philosophical analysis of the issues of race, gender, class, and culture. Unlike what my colleagues in ethnic studies or anthropology might examine related to these issues, as a philosopher I am concerned with the epistemological and normative concepts and principles that undergird them. We can get at these concepts and principles through two methods: first, through the analysis of empirical data and historical records; second, through conceptual reflection. We will use both methods in this course. This course is taught with the expectation that few if any of you will work as academics in the future. As such, my hope is that you gain the necessary skills and knowledge-base transferable to whatever it is you one day do as a vocation. Also, I hope the course provides depth to your thinking and self-reflection, and contributes to your personal interactions with others.

Course Objectives:

1. Introduce the histories and key concepts of the different racial and ethnic groups that constitute the melting pot of America.
2. Discuss how race and ethnicity can intersect with other differences such as gender, class, education, and wealth
3. Explain the social construct of these differences
4. Reflect, think critically, and discuss these important issues

Text: *Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Class* (7th edition) by Joseph F. Healey

Course Format: This is an Internet online course. All information as well as activities will be posted on blackboard for course number SOC 2319.

Course Requirements: Students are expected to complete assigned readings weekly in order to successfully complete weekly quizzes and discussions. In addition, I will post notes for each chapter as study tools for the tests. There will also be some supplemental videos posted as part of the discussion forum.

Reading Assignments: Quizzes and discussions will require that you have done the assigned reading prior to taking the quizzes or participating in the discussions. You will not be able to fully engage in the discussions otherwise.

Exams: There will be FOUR non-cumulative exams in the course. They will include all the readings, lectures, discussions, and films up to the point of the exam. They will be 50 multiple choice and true/false questions.

Test 1 Sun 9/24-Mon 9/25, Test 2 Sun 10/15-Mon 10/16, Test 3 Sun. 11/5 to Monday 11/6, Test 4 Thurs 11/30 to Sat. 12/2

These are not comprehensive exams. Scheduling of academic or non-academic activities during any of the exam periods will be considered an insufficient reason for granting a make-up exam.

You will have between 8:00 a.m. on the first day until 10:00 p.m. on the second day to take the exam. You will have only 90 minutes to complete each exam. The exams are open-note exams but you must complete the exam in 90 minutes or you will be penalized 2 points for each minute past 90 minutes.

You can only take each exam once so be sure to answer all of the exam questions before you submit the exam. Also be sure to have a secure Internet connection. Dial-up phone line connections are not secure and tend to kick you off the Internet. In the event that a student cannot take one of the exams at the regularly scheduled time, s/he must notify Mrs. Nguyen prior to the scheduled exam to make arrangements for a make-up exam. Students must provide verifiable documentation to justify their absence from the exam.

Quizzes: On a regular week that has no testing, there will be a quiz opened on Thursday at 8:00 and will close on Saturday at 10:00 PM. You would need to have done the assigned reading prior to taking the quiz. There are 10 multiple choice or True/False questions on a quiz and you will have 15 minutes to complete them.

Discussions: There will be five discussion forums. Each discussion is worth 10 points. The discussion weeks are posted below on the schedule. There will be a rubric provided to allow you know what will get you full credit for the discussion. If there is a discussion for the week, I will post it on Wednesday. An original post is expected by 10pm on the Saturday once a discussion is opened. A reply to a peer's discussion is also expected of you by 10pm on Monday. In order to participate fully in the discussion, students will need to be familiar with the readings/notes prior to participating. Below is grading criteria:

Rubric Detail			
Criteria	Levels of Achievement		
	Full Credit	Half Credit	No Credit
Original Post: Demonstrates Thoughtful Engagement with Course Content	2 Points Post is on-point, clear, logical and well-articulated	1 Points Post is somewhat ambiguous or not fully developed	0 Points Post is weak, unclear, irrelevant, or disrespectful
Original Post: Demonstrates Historical Understanding of Topic	2 Points Material strongly supports historical understanding and content is drawn from lecture/text and/or outside material	1 Points Material is somewhat ambiguous in supporting historical understanding or missing historical content	0 Points Material is inadequate in supporting historical understanding or missing historical content
Original Post: Spelling, Grammar, and Mechanics	2 Points Free from any spelling or grammatical errors	1 Points 1-2 spelling and/or grammatical errors	0 Points Multiple spelling and/or grammatical errors
Reply Posts: Demonstrates Thoughtful Engagement with Course Content	2 Points Reply posts are on-point, clear, logical and well-articulated	1 Points Reply posts are somewhat ambiguous or not fully developed	0 Points Reply posts are weak, unclear, irrelevant, or disrespectful
Original and Reply Posts: Completion of Reflections and Timeliness	2 Points Posts fully completed according to instructions and submitted on-time	1 Points Posts partially completed and/or submitted 1-3 days late	0 Points Posts virtually incomplete and/or submitted 4+ days late

Extra credits: There may be some extra credit opportunities when deemed necessary.

Grading Assessment: **4 Major Exams = 400 points (each exam is worth 100 points)**
 9 weekly quizzes= 90 points (Each worth 10 points)
 5 Discussions= 50 points (Each discussion is worth 10 points)
 1 Hurricane= 10 complimentary points (I am giving 10 points for the quiz missed during Harvey)

Total= 550 points possible

A: 495-550 points (90%-100%)

B: 440-494 points (80%-89%)

C: 385-439 points (70%-79%)

D: 330-384 points (60%-69%)

F: 0-329 points (below 60%)

You should get about 90% overall for an "A", 80% for a "B", 70% for a "C", and 60% for a "D". I reserve the right to change these cut-offs at the end of the semester if deemed necessary. You will need to consult the blackboard for the dates of major exams, grades, and other important announcements related to the course. To access the Blackboard, go to www.shsu.edu and select "Blackboard" at "University Fast Links"

Missed Exams: Makeup exams will not be given, except under emergency situations and you must contact me at least 2 hours before the exam is closed. In addition you will need to provide documentation of the emergency such as a doctor's note. A traffic ticket or your alarm failing to ring off does not count as an emergency.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Disabled Student Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Any student with a disability that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that

purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20

Classroom Rule of Conduct: Each student is expected to be fully acquainted and comply with all published policies, rules, and regulations of the Component and of The Texas State University System, copies of which shall be available to each student for review online and/or at various locations on each campus. Students are also expected to comply with all federal and state laws.

Conduct that is detrimental to the running of the course will result first in a warning, and then next in an automatic expulsion from the course. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, repeated outbursts in class unrelated to, or inappropriate for, the discussion; violent or threatening language toward one’s fellow classmates or the professor.

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Week	Dates (Weds-Tues)	Topic	Activities/ Assignments All Due Dates @ 10 PM CST
Week 1	Aug 23 - Aug 29	Chapter 1	Chapter 1 Quiz: Thursday, 8/24 opened- Closes Sat. 8/26
Week 2	Aug 30 - Sept 5	Hurricane	Harvey and Recovery
Week 3	Sep 6 – Sept 12	Chapter 2	Chapter 2 Quiz: Thurs 9/7- Sat. 9/9
Week 4	Sept 13 - Sept 19	Chapter 3	Chapter 3 Quiz: Thurs 9/14-Sat. 9/16 Discussion Forum 1: Initial Post Saturday, 9/16 Replies Monday, 9/18
Week 5	Sept 20 - Sept 26	Assessment 1	Test 1 Opens Sun 9/24 Closes Mon 9/25 (Exams Content Area)
Week 6	Sept 27 - Oct 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 4 Quiz: Thurs 9/28- Sat. 9/30
Week 7	Oct 4 - Oct 10	Chapter 6	Chapter 6 Quiz: Thurs. 10/5- Sat. 10/7 Discussion 2: Initial Post Saturday, 10/7 Replies Monday, 10/9
Week 8	Oct 11 - Oct 17	Assessment 2	Test 2 (Chapters 4& 6) opens 10/15 closes 10/16 (Exams Content Area)
Week 9	Oct 18 - Oct 24	Chapter 7	Chapter 7 Quiz: Thurs. 10/19 to Sat. 10/21 Discussion 3: Initial Post Saturday 10/21 Replies Monday 10/23

Week 10	Oct 25- Oct 31	Chapter 8	Chapter 8 Quiz: Thurs 10/26 to Sat 10/28
Week 11	Nov 1 - Nov 7	Assessment 3	Test 3 (Chapters 7&8) Opens Sun Nov. 5 – Nov. 6 (Exams Content Folder)
Week 12	Nov 8 - Nov 14	Chapter 9	Chapter 9 Quiz: Thurs. 11/9-Sat. 11/11 Discussion 4: Initial Post Saturday, 11/11 Replies Monday 11/13
Week 13	Nov 15 - Nov 21	Chapter 10	Chapter 10 Quiz: Thurs 11/16- Sat 11/18 Discussion 5: Initial Post Sat.11/18 Replies Monday 11/20
Week 14	Nov. 22-Nov 28	Thanksgiving Break	Happy Thanksgiving
Week 15	11/29-12/5	Assessment 4	Test 4 opens Thurs 11/30 to Sat 12/2 (Exams Content Area)

*Disclaimer: this syllabus is not a legal contract. The professor reserves the right to change this syllabus during the course.