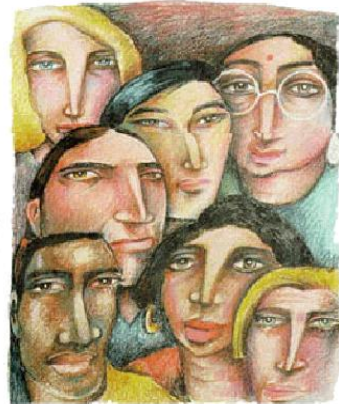


**Sociology 2319.15: Introduction to Ethnic Studies**  
(3 credit hours)

Spring 2018  
Online Class

Professor: Dr. Maki Hatanaka  
Office: CHSS 270R, (936)-294-4432  
Email: [maki.hatanaka@shsu.edu](mailto:maki.hatanaka@shsu.edu)

Office Hours: The best way to reach me is via email. I will try to respond to your emails within 24 hours of receiving them. I am teaching multiple courses this semester. When emailing me, please include *the course number* in the subject line so that I can identify who you are and which class you are in.



(Source: thenutgraph.com; rescuingprovidence.com; and cugh.wordpress.com.)

**Course Description:**

In this introductory class, we will examine a variety of social categories such as race, ethnicity, class, religious affiliation, class, and sexuality from a sociological perspective. Often these social categories are simply understood as ways to classify people. However, through a sociological lens, we see that such categories actually influence our lives and experiences in a more fundamental way—that is, they shape the structure of the society in ways that privilege (and marginalize) certain societal members in their everyday experiences. Using a sociological framework, this class explores a variety of social categories in both historical and contemporary US settings, as well as in some selected global settings. The hope is by taking this class students will learn to ask questions to often taken-for-granted societal norms and ideologies and start thinking critically. This course requires no prerequisite class.

This course is designed in an internet format. To enroll in this course students are required to have a SHSU student I.D. card and a SHSU email account. The course is designed using the Blackboard system. Blackboard is available at <https://shsu.blackboard.com>.

To log on Blackboard:

- Type your SHSU username and password.
- Once in Blackboard, click on SOCI 2319 and you will enter the menu environment.

Once you enter the menu environment, you need to click on the items you wish to see to get the necessary information. The navigation menu for this course is located on the left-hand side of your browser window. To move to particular place in the course, you need to click on the navigation links in the menu.

Please make sure to take the Student Orientation Tutorial to learn how to use the Blackboard system prior to beginning this course.

If you face any technical difficulty while taking this online course, please contact SHSU Online Helpdesk Support. The help is available from 7am to 12am Monday through Saturday.

Phone: 936-294-3780  
Email: delta@shsu.edu

**IMPORTANT: Please note that online courses require individual students' self-discipline to a significant degree. In many ways, taking online courses are more challenging than taking in-class courses!! You need to be organized, motivated, and ready to self-teach and work. Only those who can manage these can be successful in this course.**

**Required Text:**

Healey, Joseph F. and Eileen O'Brien. 2015. *Race, Ethnicity, Gender, & Class: The Sociology of Group Conflict and Change*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Los Angeles, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Acquire factual knowledge of minority groups (racial, ethnic, class, gender, sexuality, and religious), their lived experiences, and their relations with other minority groups as well as majority groups.
- Learn fundamental principles, generalizations, and theories that pertain to minority-majority relations, stratification, prejudice and discrimination.
- Develop "sociological imaginations" and apply sociological ideas and concepts to understand historical and contemporary US and global trends and phenomena.
- Gain intercultural competence through knowledge and understanding of diverse cultural groups in the U.S.

- Compare and contrast aesthetic expressions of culture associated with different cultural groups in the U.S.
- Understand how ideas, values and cultural beliefs generate distinctive aesthetic and intellectual creations

Toward the end of the semester, a multiple choice, anonymous, questionnaire will be distributed in class. Students in all SOCI 2319 courses will be asked to participate in the activity. This is a tool the Sociology Department will use to monitor progress on student learning objectives.

### **Skill Objectives:**

- **Think critically** about current events in an increasingly diverse U.S. society;
- Reflect on and express your own culture, values, ideas and **personal and social responsibilities** as a member of our multicultural society;
- **Communicate** intercultural competence, understanding, and interaction **orally and in writing**.

### **Study Tips:**

Please note that I assume that students read the assigned chapter prior to each class session. As not all the ideas and concepts can be covered in lectures, the focus is on those that are most sociologically important, and thus, crucial for the students to understand. Furthermore, lectures may include material that is not included in the chapter, but highly related to sociological understandings of the chapter topics. **Please note that you must use the “Notes Page” view to get all the information on the lecture slides.** If you have any questions regarding the chapter contents that are not covered in the lecture, it is your responsibility to communicate with me and clarify your questions.

Please be prepared and read ahead to keep up with the course pace. ***As stated in the course syllabus, online course requires individual student's discipline!!*** It is you who need to set the pace and keep up with the course requirements/assignments.

For each Chapter, I would recommend the following steps for the effective learning:

- Read chapters carefully prior to class.
- Make a list of questions that you did not quite understand from the chapters.
- Visit and go over the Chapter lecture slides using the “Notes Page” view.
- Visit and go over the Chapter lecture notes. These notes provide a detailed chapter outline and thus, serve as a good review of the Chapter.
- After studying both slides and notes, try to answer the list of questions you developed. If you cannot answer, go back and reread the chapter carefully.

Do not hesitate to ask questions to the professor. If you need clarification, please feel free to communicate with me at anytime. Please note that I enjoy communicating with students.

Please note that the SAM Center is also available for students with academic difficulty. If you fail the first test, I recommend that you contact the SAM Center at 294-4444 for assistance.

## **Course Requirements:**

### *1. Exams*

There will be three exams worth 100 points each during the semester. These exams will be a multiple-choice format and will test you on material from readings, lectures, video clips and discussion forums. You must take the exam between 6:00 AM on the first day and 11:59 PM (midnight) on the third day. The exams are open-book, but you must complete them in 90 minutes. You can take each exam only once. The three exams are scheduled to take on the following dates:

- Exam 1: Chapter 1-4 (2/18-2/20)
- Exam 2: Chapter 5-9 (4/1-4/3)
- Exam 3: Chapter 10-14 (5/6-5/8)

All students are required to take the exams during the scheduled time. If students cannot take one of the exams at the scheduled time, it is their responsibility to notify the professor **prior to the scheduled exam time.** Make-up exams will be allowed only in official cases. **Students are required to provide verifiable documentation to justify their absence from the exam.** Note that make-up exams may differ from the original exam and may include essays or other questions that require written answers. I will provide a study guide prior to each exam.

### *2. Quizzes*

There will be 6 quizzes throughout the semester. The 5 highest grades out of the 6 quizzes will contribute to your final grade. As students can drop one quiz, **there will be no make-ups for quizzes.** All quizzes are in a multiple-choice format and worth 10 points each. You are expected to take quizzes between 6:00 AM on the first day and 11:59 PM (midnight) on the third day. You are required to take quizzes on the following dates.

- Quiz 1 on Chapter 1 and 2: 2/4 – 2/6
- Quiz 2 on Chapter 3: 2/11 – 2/13
- Quiz 3 on Chapter 6: 3/4 – 3/6
- Quiz 4 on Chapter 8: 3/25 – 3/27
- Quiz 5 on Chapter 11: 4/15 – 4/17
- Quiz 6 on Chapter 12: 4/22 – 4/24

### 3. Discussion Forums

Students are required to participate in on-line discussions forums. Throughout the semester we will organize 6 discussions. Students are permitted to drop one discussion forum. Thus, 5 discussion scores will contribute to your final grade. If you participate in all 6 discussions, the 5 highest grades will be counted. All forums are worth 10 points respectively. **There will be no make-ups for missed discussion forums.**

In general, discussion forums will be open for a period of one week (i.e., 7 days—from 6:00 am on the first day until 11:59 pm midnight on the seventh day). This should provide students with busy schedules ample time to participate. To do well in discussion assignments, students will need to be familiar with the readings and notes prior to participating. See the following for the opening date of each discussion forum.

- Forum 1 that covers Chapter 1: 1/26
- Forum 2 that covers Chapter 2 or 3: 2/9
- Forum 3 that covers Chapter 5: 2/23
- Forum 4 that covers Chapter 6: 3/2
- Forum 5 that covers Chapter 11: 4/13
- Forum 6 that covers Chapter 12: 4/20

#### **Grading:**

Your final grade will be based on the following:

• Exam 1	100 points
• Exam 2	100 points
• Exam 3	100 points
• 5 Quizzes	50 points
• 5 Exercises/Discussions	50 points
Total	400 points

**\*Please note that due to the Blackboard default setting, all the quiz and exercise/discussion forum scores will appear in your gradebook. Thus, to calculate the accurate course points, you need to manually deduct the lowest quiz and exercise/discussion forum points at the end of the semester.**

Grading will be on the straight scale. The scale is:

360 – 400 points = A  
320 – 359 points = B  
280 – 319 points = C

240 – 279 points = D  
0 – 239 points = F

### **Classroom Policies:**

#### ***University Code of Conduct***

Please see: <https://netreg.shsu.edu/mirror/codeofconduct.html>

#### ***Students with Disabilities***

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. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with me so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed.

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, I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me immediately. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. Please note that no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

For more information on Sam Houston State's policy on students with disabilities, please see <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/9edd8433-cad5-40d1-b4bf-6a91b08f90e4.pdf>

#### ***Academic Dishonesty***

Students are expected to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Put differently, students are expected to maintain complete 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 plagiarism. Students who participate in academically dishonest activities should be aware that they will receive an F for the course *at the minimum*. For more information, please see <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/728eec25-f780-4dcf-932c-03d68cade002.pdf>

#### ***Religious Holidays***

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 holiday, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused

within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holiday(s) shall present to me a written statement concerning the religious holiday(s). I will, then, complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

For more information, please see

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/0953c7d0-7c04-4b29-a3fc-3bf0738e87d8.pdf>

*Visitors in the Classroom (Not applicable).*

### **Tentative Course Outline:**

**Changes in the schedule may occur and will be announced in class.** Students are responsible for keeping up with the modified schedule. Once again, the readings are unevenly assigned. Students are strongly recommended to read ahead to keep up with the course pace.

### **Date and Topic**

#### **Week 1 (1/17-1/19)**

Introduction to the course

#### **Week 2 (1/22-1/26)**

Chapter 1: Diversity in the United States: Questions and Concepts

**Discussion Forum 1 is scheduled on 1/26-2/1.**

#### **Week 3 (1/29-2/2)**

Chapter 2: Assimilation and Pluralism: From Immigrants to White Ethnics

#### **Week 4 (2/5-2/9)**

Chapter 3: Prejudice and Discrimination

**Quiz 1 is scheduled on 2/4-2/6**

**Discussion Forum 2 is scheduled on 2/9-2/15.**

#### **Week 5 (2/12-2/16)**

Chapter 4: The Development of Dominant–Minority Group Relations in Preindustrial America: The Origins of Slavery

**Quiz 2 is scheduled on 2/11-2/13.**

#### **Week 6 (2/19-2/23)**

Chapter 5: Industrialization and Dominant–Minority Relations: From Slavery to Segregation and the Coming of Postindustrial Society

**Exam 1 is scheduled on 2/18-2/20**  
**Discussion Forum 3 is scheduled on 2/23-3/1.**

**Week 7 (2/26-3/2)**  
Chapter 6: African Americans  
**Discussion Forum 4 is scheduled on 3/2-3/8.**

**Week 8 (3/5-3/9)**  
Chapter 7: Native Americans  
**Quiz 3 is scheduled on 3/4-3/6.**

**Week 9 (3/12-3/16)**  
**Spring Break (No Class)**

**Week 10 (3/19-3/23)**  
Chapter 8: Hispanic Americans

**Week 11 (3/26-3/30)**  
Chapter 9: Asian Americans  
**Quiz 4 is scheduled on 3/25-3/27.**

**Week 12 (4/2-4/6)**  
Chapter 10: New Americans, Immigration, Assimilation, and Old Challenges  
**Exam 2 is scheduled on 4/1-4/3.**

**Week 13 (4/9-4/13)**  
Chapter 11: Gender  
**Discussion Forum 5 is scheduled on 4/13-4/19.**

**Week 14 (4/16-4/20)**  
Chapter 12: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Americans  
**Quiz 5 is scheduled on 4/15-4/17.**  
**Discussion Forum 6 is scheduled on 4/20-4/26.**

**Week 15 (4/23-4/27)**  
Chapter 13: Dominant-Minority Relations in Cross-National Perspective  
**Quiz 6 is scheduled on 4/22-4/24.**

**Week 16 (4/30-5/4)**  
Chapter 14: Minority Groups and U.S. Society: Themes, Patterns, and the Future

**Week 17 (5/7-5/11)**  
Final week  
**Exam 3 is scheduled on 5/6-5/8.**