

Race Relations 01:920:306:01

Fall 2013

Monday & Thursday from 12:35 – 1:55 pm in Art History Hall Room 200

Instructor: Dr. Howard Wineberg

email: winebergh@hotmail.com

Office Hours: Monday & Thursday from 12:00 – 12:30 pm at the Douglass Campus Center

Course Syllabus

Learning Goals:

To raise students' awareness of racial and ethnic relations;
To better understand the causes and effects of racial and ethnic inequality;
To better appreciate that most racial issues are not black and white; rather, there may be 4 or 5 sides to a story;
To better understand the intricacies of discrimination and prejudice;
To gain more insight into how race relations affect everyday behavior;
To be better at public speaking;
To be better able to write a short research paper

Course Schedule and Weekly Assignments

Week of

September 2	Overview of Course
September 9	Basic Facts
September 16	Exploring Race and Ethnicity (Schaefer, chapter 1) Prejudice (chapter 2)
September 23	Chapter 2 continued Observation Paper Due on September 23 Discrimination (chapter 3)
September 30	Chapter 3 continued Immigration (chapter 4)
October 7	Chapter 4 continued Ethnicity and Religion (chapter 5) Second Short Paper Due – October 7
October 14	First Exam – October 14 Student Presentations

October 21	Student Presentations
October 28	Race in the 21 st Century Native Americans: The First Americans (chapter 6)
November 4	Student Presentations
November 11	African Americans Today (chapter 8) Latinos: The Largest Minority (chapter 9)
November 18	Student Presentations
November 25	Chapter 9 continued Critique of Student Presentations Due – November 25
December 2	Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans (chapter 10) Asian Americans: Growth and Diversity (chapter 12)
December 9	Chinese Americans and Japanese Americans (chapter 13)
Final Exam – To Be Determined	

Required Text

Richard T. Schaefer. Racial and Ethnic Groups. 13th edition, 2012. Pearson/Prentice Hall.

Other readings as assigned.

Course Information

The grading for the course is based on: participation – 5%; class attendance – 5%, short papers – 3%, Student Critique – 3 %, first exam – 33%, final exam – 33%, student presentation – 18%. Students not actively participating in class discussions will receive a grade of F for participation. This will lower your course grade by ½ letter grade. The exams will include material covered in the lectures and assigned readings. Student participation through informed opinions and facts is essential to a vibrant and intellectually worthwhile course. Students are expected to complete the readings before class, critically think about the material, and participate in class discussions. Students are expected to attend all classes. There will be two short papers and they will be graded pass/fail. If students do an adequate job on the paper, they will receive 6 points; otherwise they receive 0 points. Note that this is out of a final total of 400 points. Students will be critiquing student presentations. If students do an adequate job on their

critiques, then they will receive 12 points; otherwise, they receive 0 points. Late assignments will not be accepted. All assignments should be put in the Drop Box on Sakai (01:920:306:01 F13) by noon on the specified date. More detailed information on these assignments will be given in class.

If you expect to miss a class, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence; an email is automatically sent to me. Any emails sent to me should contain "sociology student" in the subject line. Emails with a blank subject line will not be opened. I will attempt to respond to all emails within 24 - 48 hours. All exams/assignments are to be completed on time.

Course Description

This course is intended to raise students' awareness of racial and ethnic relations using a variety of sociological perspectives. It will explore contemporary issues, such as interracial relationships and affirmative action, as well as the historical foundations of race and racial discourse. Throughout the course, we will examine the ways in which race is entwined with politics and power, nation, ideology, and the economy. The course will attempt to make clear the often ambiguous boundaries among race, class, and ethnicity. Current events will be discussed in the course as appropriate.

Demeanor

The Department of Sociology encourages the free exchange of ideas in a safe, supportive, and productive classroom environment. To facilitate such an environment, students and faculty must act with mutual respect and common courtesy. Thus, behavior that distracts students and faculty is not acceptable. Such behavior includes cell phone use, surfing the internet, checking email, text messaging, listening to music, reading newspapers, leaving and returning, leaving early without permission, discourteous remarks, and other behaviors specified by individual instructors. Two points will be deducted from the student's overall point total for each time s/he uses a cell phone (including text messaging) in class.

If a student engages in disruptive behavior, the instructor, following the University Code of Student Conduct, may direct the student to leave class for the remainder of the class period; other remedies may also be used. Serious verbal assaults, harassment, or defamation of the instructor or other students may lead to university disciplinary proceedings. The University Code of Student Conduct is at <http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~polcomp/judaff/ucsc.shtml>.

Academic Integrity Policy:

Do not cheat or plagiarize. When writing a paper, all information and ideas that you derive from other sources, whether written, spoken, or electronic, must be attributed to their original source. For more detailed information, visit the university's policy on Academic Integrity at:

http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_9_01_2011.pdf

The above information/schedule is subject to change.