



National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

2020 Winter Program

SOC 109 Race Relations in the U.S.

Course Outline

Course Code: SOC 109

Instructor: Dr. Job Chen

Home Institution: Clemson University

Office Hours: By appointment

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Credit: 4

Course Description: This course will provide an overview of the concepts of ethnicity and ethnic relations, explore the Anglo-Saxon core, the concept of ethnic antagonism and the future of ethnicity in America. It will also provide a thorough review of the variety of race and ethnic groups common in the United States including: White Ethnic Americans, African Americans, Native Americans, Latinos, Asian and Pacific Island Americans and Arab Americans.

In addition to learning about the common racial and ethnic groups in the U.S., the class will also be exposed to a variety of terms and concepts that will be applied and explored in a series of discussions. Particular attention will be paid to the concepts of social inequality, prejudice and discrimination, dominant ideologies, oppression and inequality, privilege and white supremacy and internalized oppression. The roles that education, media, residential segregation, economic and health inequality, the law, land and property, immigration and citizenship, and social development play in racial and ethnic tension and discrimination will be explored as well.

Course Objectives: By completion of the course, students should be able to

1. Understand the history of race relations in the United States.
2. Understand what we mean when we describe race as a “social construction.”
3. Understand the basic concepts needed to explore racial and ethnic characteristics



of the groups composing the U.S.

4. Understand the concepts of social inequality, prejudice and discrimination, dominant ideologies, oppression and inequality, privilege and white supremacy and internalized oppression and be able to explain causes, possible cures and provide examples for each.
5. Understand the roles that education, media, residential segregation, economic and health inequality, the law, land and property, immigration and citizenship, and social development play in racial and ethnic tension and discrimination.

Required Textbooks:

Adalberto, Jr. Aguirre and Jonathan H. Turner (2011). *American Ethnicity: The Dynamics and Consequences of Discrimination* (7th Edition)

Schaefer, R. T. (2019). *Racial and Ethnic Groups* (15th edition). Pearson.

Readings:

Students are responsible for reading the materials assigned for each lecture, prior to attending class, including those from the textbook and from outside sources.

Grading and Evaluation:

Grades will be distributed as 90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-79%=C, 60-69%=D; and below 60% = F.

Assignments and Essays (30%) – Use the theories (at least 4) learned from this class to explain your own ethnic, racial, cultural, or linguistic background. The paper has to be no less than 500 words, and APA formatted. Grades are given based on thoughtful analyses and application of the relevant theories (40%), evidence-based argument and critical thinking (40%), and overall writing and grammar (20%). The paper is due by 12am EST, 23 August, 2020 which is 12pm Beijing Time, 24 August, 2020.

Midterm exam (35%) – will be multiple choice questions given at the end of week 2 to cover all materials previously studied.

Final exam (35%) – will be multiple choice questions given at the end of week 4 to cover all materials previously studied.



Course Schedule:

Every week, students will watch 5 videos of lecture.

Week 1

Session 1: Ethnicity and Ethnic Relations

Session 2: Explaining Ethnic Relations

Session 3: The Anglo Saxon Core and Ethnic Antagonism

Session 4: White Ethnic Americans

Week 2

Session 1: African Americans I

Session 2: African Americans II

Session 3: Native Americans

Session 4: Latinos

Midterm

Week 3

Session 1: Asian Pacific Americans

Session 2: East Asian Americans

Session 3: Arabs and Muslim American

Session 4: Jewish Americans

Week 4

Session 1: Prejudice I

Session 2: Prejudice II

Session 3: Discrimination

Session 4: Social Inequalities

Final Exam