SYD 3700 Race and Ethnic Relations Fall 2014

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Class Hours: Monday 4:00 – 6:50 pm (LA 341)

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 8:00am – 12:00 pm and by appointment

Credits Hours: Three (3), this course can be used to meet the Social Inequality and/or Social Change requirement for the Sociology major.

# Course Description

The main purpose of this course is to introduce students to classic and contemporary research on racial and ethnic relations in the United States and other regions of the world. During the first weeks we will cover a variety of theories about race/ethnic relations and address issues of racial identities and the social construction of race and ethnicity in the U.S and Latin America. Then we will explore ethnic relations from a historical perspective, general patterns and opportunities from the minority stand point within social institutions. By the end of the semester students should be familiar with theoretical and empirical literature on racial/ethnic relations in this country and abroad.

**Course Objectives**

* Students will know the difference between race and ethnicity.
* Students will be able to discuss the concept of a minority group and the importance of power and numbers within the definition of a minority group.
* Students will be able to recount, from a sociological perspective, the experiences of most U.S. racial and ethnic groups.
* Student will be able to distinguish prejudice from discrimination and discuss ways in which they are related.
* Students will be able to identify, understand and analyze prospects for changes in racial stratification of the United States.
* Students will be able to place U.S. race/ethnic relations in a global perspective.

**Required Readings & Material**

* Healy, Joseph. Diversity and Society: Race, Ethnicity and Gender 4th Edition

SAGE Publications

* An I-clicker2 remote is required for in-class participation and voting in this course. You may purchase the remote through the bookstore. Instructions for using i-clicker2 are on the back of the remote. When purchasing your remote, be sure to tell the bookstore you are in my class and you are using i-clicker2—**NOT the original i-clicker**. The correct ISBN is: 1429280476.
* There will also be additional reading material available on Blackboard.

# Course Assessment and Evaluation

Students are required to attend and participate in class discussions, to take a mid-term exam, to complete a movie group activity and to write a term paper (team effort).

Attendance/Participation 10%

Mid-Term Exam 35%

Movie-Group Activity 25%

Term Paper 30%

Attendance and Participation:

Class attendance is important because lectures will include material not covered in the readings. Students should come to class having completed the assigned reading for that week and prepared to discuss the material. Students are expected to be on time for class and to turn off their personal computers and cell phones before they enter the classroom.

Please realize that we will be using I-clicker2 in every class and clicker points will make up the attendance and participation grade. I-clicker2 is a response system that allows you to respond to questions posted during class, and you will be graded on that feedback and/or your in-class participation. In order to receive this credit, you will need to register your I-clicker2 remote in Blackboard within the third week of class. Your student ID should be your FAU Net ID. The remote ID is the series of numbers and sometimes letters found on the bottom of the back of your I-clicker2 remote. It can also be found on the LCD screen upon powering on your I-clicker2 remote. I-clicker2 will be used every day in class, and you are responsible for bringing your remote daily. Please remember that it is your responsibility to come prepared to participate with a functioning remote every day.

If you need technical support for I-clicker2, please contact (866) 209-5698 or via email [support@iclicker.com](mailto:support@iclicker.com) from 9AM-11PM EST, M-F. The I-clicker2 website ([www.iclicker.com](http://www.iclicker.com)) also has support documentation, video tutorials, and FAQs for students.

This class follows standard FAU policy regarding student absence for sickness, religious observations, etc. I will only excuse students who are absent due to a medical professional-substantiated condition (you bring in a doctor’s note) or who are absent for religious observations and other activities condoned by FAU policy. *Note: missing three (3) (unexcused) classes will represent an automatic F for the course, however to attain the maximum attendance grade students should attend all the classes, be on time and attend all scheduled course activities.* Absence from class, for whatever reason, does not excuse a student from full responsibility for class work or assignments missed. Students must accept this responsibility.

You will get credit for class participation through attendance and by asking or answering questions or commenting on issues that are raised during class (as explained above through the use of the I-clicker2). An opportunity to earn extra-credit points is by bringing to class and presenting to the entire class an article from the newspaper or something you saw on TV or on the internet that relates to the topic of the course. Only one extra-credit presentation will be allowed per student. The specific topic of this extra-credit opportunity needs to be discussed and approved by the professor before class.

Mid-term Exam:

A mid-term exam will consist of short-essay and multiple choice questions. The exam will be based on lectures and course readings. Not all material covered in the exam is in the book, so taking notes in class is important. Make up exams will only be available for documented, excused absences.

Movie-Group Activity

We will explore ethnicity in the U.S. through films. By groups you will need to present to the entire class a review of an assigned movie as well as the answers to the complementary questions provided by the professor. More details about this activity will be given later in the semester.

Term Paper:

This is a team assignment. You and your partner will research and write a paper that will compare one of the specific topics of the class between the U.S. and another country or region. You will choose the topic and the comparing country/region and submit a 1 page summary of your statement of intent on the paper (the topic, the comparing country/region, why you want to write on that specific topic and country/region, and *potential sources of information*). This summary should be submitted on November 17th.

You will consult appropriate scholarly references for the paper. The final paper should be 10 - 12 typed pages, double space and should include in-text citations and a list of references with all the references you cite in the paper (your bibliography should be carefully done following the style used in the American Sociological Review - try to consult that journal before you start your paper). The term paper is due on the last day of class. More details about the paper will be given later in the semester.

**NOTE:** If you have trouble understanding the readings or the lecture material, please feel free to talk to the professor any time before class, after class, during office hours, or make a special appointment if none of these time suit your schedule.

Grading Scale

100-94 = A 82 – 80 = B- 69 – 67 = D+

93 – 90= A- 79 – 77 = C+ 66 – 63 = D

89 – 87 = B+ 76 – 73 = C 62 – 60 = D-

86 – 83 = B 72 – 70 = C- 59 and below = F

**STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**: Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see:

[http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001\_Code\_of\_Academic\_Integrity.pdf](https://exchange.fau.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=g6uhOUvT0U-YwYWK574PgUVyd78arM8IFmrk37YpbDZPnRJP4OgRBGkqSZi7fvmpfbcAiHeZhGE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.fau.edu%2fregulations%2fchapter4%2f4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf)

The FAU Code of Academic Integrity describes the expectations for students’ ethical academic conduct and the procedures for charging a student with a violation of the Code. It also outlines the procedures for students to appeal such charges.   
  
Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, the following:

CHEATING

* The unauthorized use of notes, books, electronic devices or other study aids while taking an examination or working on an assignment.
* Providing unauthorized assistance to or receiving assistance from another student during an examination or while working on an assignment.
* Having someone take an exam or complete an assignment in one’s place.
* Securing an exam, receiving an unauthorized copy of an exam or sharing a copy of an exam.

PLAGIARISM

* The presentation of words from any other source or another person as one’s own without proper quotation and citation.
* Putting someone else’s ideas or facts into your own words (paraphrasing) without proper citation.
* Turning in someone else’s work as one’s own, including the buying and selling of term papers or assignments.

OTHER FORMS OF DISHONESTY

* Falsifying or inventing information, data or citations.
* Failing to comply with examination regulations or failing to obey the instructions of an examination proctor.
* Submitting the same paper or assignment, or part thereof, in more than one class without the written consent of both instructors.
* Any other form of academic cheating, plagiarism or dishonesty.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie - LA 240 (954-236-1657), in Jupiter - SR 110 (561-799-8585) and follow all OSD procedures

**USE OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT:**Students **may not** use cell phones, personal computers, or any other type of electronic equipment in the classroom unless they are necessary by the OSD or in consultation with the professor.

**BLACKBOARD:** The Blackboard site can be accessed at: <http://blackboard.fau.edu>. Here are instructions for signing in to the course page.

The student username is their FAUNet ID.  If the student does not know their FAUNet ID they should go to <http://accounts.fau.edu> (they will need to enter their social security # and PIN in order to obtain their FAUNet ID).   The student's initial password for Blackboard is their PIN (PINs are by default set to 2 zeros followed by the 2-digit DAY and 2-digit YEAR of birth).  The student email address in Blackboard will be set as their FAU email address (to forward email to another account students should go to MyFAU email and select "auto forward" under “options”). If you are unable to log on Blackboard, contact the help desk immediately.

# Course Outline and Readings\*

In a typical week, you will need to read two or three book chapters and/or articles (totally about 60 pages) and take notes on your reading. To do this well, most students will need about six hours to devote to the assignments. See Blackboard “Course Documents” Module for all readings, assignments, etc. for each week.

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| Week 1 | 08/18/2014 | First day of class |
| Week 2 | 08/25/2014 | Basic concepts and Race as a social construction |
| Week 3 | 09/01/2014 | Labor Day – NO CLASS |
| Week 4 | 09/08/2014 | Biological Constructions of Race  *Brazil: A racial paradise?* |
| Week 5 | 09/15/2014 | Primordialist & Instrumentalist Constructions of Race  *Cuban: The next revolution* |
| Week 6 | 09/22/2014 | From Slavery to Segregation  *Haiti & the Dominican Republic: An island divided* |
| Week 7 | 09/29/2014 | Civil Rights Movement |
| Week 8 | 10/06/2014 | Mid-tem Exam |
| Week 9 | 10/13/2014 | Modern day slavery |
| Week 10 | 10/20/2014 | Immigration and Ethnic Relations  Patterns of Ethnic Integration and Resistance |
| Week 11 | 10/27/2014 | Immigration Historical Perspective  Student Presentations   * Irish * Italian * Japanese |
| Week 12 | 11/3/2014 | Immigration Current Perspective  Student Presentations   * Mexican * Indian * Middle Eastern |
| Week 13 | 11/10/2014 | New Americans, Assimilation and Old Challenges – Final Paper Introduced |
| Week 14 | 11/17/2014 | Class Activity – 1 page summary |
| Week 15 | 11/24/2014 | Final Paper Development and Progress Review  Team meetings with professor (all teams must be present) |
| Week 16 | 12/01/2014 | READING DAY – NO CLASS |
| Week 17 | 12/8/2014 | Extra Credit Presentations  Term paper due |

\*Syllabus Caveat: Please note that the instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus due to need and emergent circumstances. Students will be advised about any change made to the syllabus.