

SYLLABUS SOCIOLOGY 1021

FALL 2010

US RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS

Class hours: M/W/F 2-2:50PM, MUEN E0046

Instructor: Pavla Harris, M.A.

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Office hours: WED 3-5PM Ketchum 414 (4th floor from the West side) and by appointment

SOCY 1021 (3). United States Race and Ethnic Relations.

An examination of race and minority problems in U.S. society, including the psychological, social, and cultural sources of prejudice and discrimination.

Course objectives:

1. To understand basic concepts and theoretical perspectives sociology uses in examining the issues of racial and minority groups.
2. To demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics of major US racial and minority groups, their history and current status.
3. To evaluate the relations between US racial and minority groups, main sources of conflict, and patterns of dominance.

Textbook: Schaefer, Richard T. 2011. *Racial and Ethnic Groups*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education. Twelfth Edition with Census Update ISBN: 978-0-205-80051-3.

Class Schedule:

August 23 – September 10: SECTION I: Chapters 1-3, pages 2-83.

Exam 1

No class September 6: LABOR DAY

September 13 – October 1: SECTION II: Chapters 4-6, pages 84-171.

Exam 2

October 4 – October 22: SECTION III: Chapters 7-10, pages 172-259.

Exam 3

October 25 – November 12: SECTION IV: Chapters 11-13, pages 260-327.

Exam 4

November 15 – December 10: SECTION V: Chapters 14-17, pages 328-419.

Exam 5

NO CLASS November 22-26: Thanksgiving Break

December 10: TERM PAPER DUE!!! (last day of class for this semester)

FINALS WEEK: December 11 – December 16 (date and time of our final TBA)

Grading:

Exams:	75%	750 points
1 term paper:	15%	150 points
Final	10%	100 points
Total	100%	1000 points

Random Quizzes, Checks, and Short Papers

It is possible, but not guaranteed, that at some point throughout the semester you will get a short assignment either during the class or take-home. These will be graded or ungraded.

The grade of A in this course represents a special accomplishment, one that demonstrates unusually deep insight and understanding of the material. The grade of B represents better than average, but not exceptional performance, and the grade of C represents minimal understanding or average performance. Grades of D and F represent inadequate understanding of the material. Although the instructor might adjust the grading curve based on the difficulty of the tests and average performance, the grading in general uses the following standards: A 90-100%, B 80-89%, C 70-79%, D 60-69%, F 0-59%.

Exams

All exams are planned to be multiple choice and true/false, but the instructor reserves the right to change this depending on the way the class is going during the semester. The exact dates of the exams will be announced in class as there is limited availability of media materials (per Norlin), and the class schedule will have to be adjusted to that to a certain point. No make ups without a doctor's note or court papers. If you miss an exam for other reasons (e.g., travel arrangements), you will not be able to make it up.

Term Paper

The term paper is worth 15% of your grade and will be due on the last day of class. I am available to comment on your outlines, drafts, and answer any questions you might have before the paper is due, but not in the last two weeks before the end of the semester (I would not be able to devote enough time to each and every paper if all students asked for feedback at the same time). You are welcome to submit the paper early at any time, but it will not be graded till after the actual official submission date so that I can grade consistently and be fair. The detailed term paper assignment will be provided in class after the drop/add period.

LAPTOP POLICY:

Laptop use (and any other electronic devices' use) will NOT BE ALLOWED during lectures. The only exceptions will be students with documented disabilities and/or students who feel very strongly about taking notes on a computer. Those students have to check with the instructor during the first two weeks of class, be put on a separate list, and will be required to send the instructor their notes by e-mail AFTER EVERY LECTURE. If the notes do not sufficiently reflect the lectures/activities in the class, the laptop privileges will be rescinded.

Instructor's Notes and Other Materials

The instructor will not provide any notes or other materials to students who miss the lectures. ***It is the responsibility of each student to obtain information that was missed from their colleagues.*** Office hours will be used to discuss grades and progress in the class, and to answer specific questions and address students' concerns, not to repeat lectures or provide content of media materials to students. At present there are no plans to use/provide PowerPoint for this class or to post any notes online.

Official University Policies:

Disability Accommodations

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to the instructor a letter from Disability Services so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, or www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices.

Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled

exams, assignments, or required attendance. If you need to miss class for a religious holiday please submit a letter to the instructor before the end of September. For a copy of CU's policy regarding religious holidays, visit: http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html.

Class Behavior

Students and faculty each have the responsibility to maintain an appropriate learning environment. Students who do not adhere to behavioral expectations will be asked to leave the class. Severe or repeated infractions of behavioral expectations will be subject to further discipline. Instructors have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion, and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. See CU's behavioral policies at www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student.

Academic Integrity

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including, but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>.

Sexual Harassment Policy

The University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff, and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises that create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any combinations of members in the campus community: students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the OSH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at: <http://www.colorado.edu/sexualharassment/>.

The syllabus, including the grading scheme, schedule, and assignments, may be subject to changes as needed at any time. I am hoping for an educational and dynamic semester together!