

Instructor: Dr. Stephanie Hilwig

Course: Sociology 318, "Race," Class & Gender

Time: MTWTh 8:00 – 11:10

Room: MCD 316

Office Hours: Everyday
11:10 – 12:00
or by appointment

Office: MCD 382

Phone Number: 587-7845

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REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Race, Class and Gender in the United States. 8th Edition by Paula S. Rothenberg.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this course is to introduce students to the multi-faceted issues of "race," class, and gender in this nation and throughout the world. Surrounding race we will be discussing issues such as discrimination, stereotyping, segregation, consequences and causes of racism, as well as focusing on institutional racism. For class, we will focus on social stratification, the minimum wage, welfare, and poverty. Finally, for gender we will focus on sexism, images of women in the media, the role of women, women in the workforce, and finally the theoretical perspectives of feminism.

FORMAT OF THE COURSE

1. This course will include a great deal of interesting and thought-provoking, informative, and discussion provoking reading. There will also be a good deal of writing conducted both in and out of class in response to the readings.
2. The class format will include a mixture of lectures, activities, discussions, and films. The more active the class, the better experience everyone will one will have, and consequently the more we will learn.
3. Because the class will be filled with in-class writing assignments (or quizzes), discussions, and lectures, attending class is vital to your success in this class. If you must miss a class, it is your responsibility to get class notes and information from other students in the class. I suggest you get to know people your very first day. Get e-mails and phone numbers.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Participation: (10% of grade)

Each student will receive a grade based on their attendance and participation in class discussions and activities. If you come to class, but never or rarely speak out in class, you will receive a low grade for participation. A class like this only works if everybody participates fully in the course. Tardiness and absences will impact this portion of your grade. This course only meets 12 times; therefore, one absence is about the equivalent of missing about 1 1/2 weeks during the regular semester.

Quizzes: (45% of grade)

Blue Book quizzes will be given at the start of each class period over the readings and the material from the previous class session. The quizzes will be worth 45% of your final grade. All questions come from both lectures and your readings. You are required to bring one blue book from the book store to class each morning. The readings required will always be drawn from the readings associated

Make-Up Quizzes: In the event you miss a quiz due to an excused emergency, I will let you make it up, although it will be different from the quiz given to the rest of the class. You can make up only one quiz during the semester.

Essays: (45% of grade)

A good portion of what you will do in this class is designed to encourage you to make the most out of the material from the readings, lectures, and class discussions. A secondary, but just as important goal, is to help with your writing and communication abilities, a skill useful in any occupation. To help facilitate this process, you will each be required to write three papers in response to the readings, each worth 15% of your grade (45% combined). Each essay should be about 3-5 pages in length clearly analyzing a particular issue based on concepts, facts, and knowledge gained from class discussions, readings, and other courses.

Grading:

A	90 % and above
B	80 – 89 %
C	70 – 79 %
D	60 – 69 %
F	59 % and below

Persons with Disabilities:

If you have any sort of disability or personal problem which prevents the fullest expression of your abilities, please let me know as soon as possible during the semester - before it interferes with your work - so that I can make a reasonable accommodation to your needs.

A Note About Due Dates:

Due dates for this course are FIRM, and I expect you to turn in assignments and take the exams during the scheduled class period. Late papers will not be accepted. This policy

will be strictly enforced throughout the semester. Excuses for turning in late assignments or taking a make-up exams will be considered on an individual basis, and only when supported with the appropriate documentation. You bear the sole responsibility for turning your work in on time.

Academic Misconduct:

Students should abide by all student ethical conduct, especially those rules pertaining to cheating and plagiarism. Plagiarism, cheating, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course. Any student engaging in academic dishonesty in this course can expect a failing grade for the course and formal charges to be brought before the Department Chair. All students must be submitted to turnitin.com to receive full credit for each assignment.

COURSE OUTLINE: (Schedule is Tentative and likely to change)

Activities

Readings

Race

Monday July 2nd

“Race on Trial”

“Under Suspicion”

Three Models of Racism

“Guns, Germs and Steel”

Barnaga

Tuesday July 3rd

Racial Theories

Racism in Politics

“The Modern Racist Paradigm”

Quiz Readings

Racial Formations Pg 13

Constructing Race, Creating White Privilege Pg 32

How Jews Became White Folks Pg 38

Defining Racism: “Can We Talk? Pg 123

Is This a White Country, or What? Pg 226

Color-Blind Racism. Pg 131

Self-Fulfilling Stereotypes pg 571

Thursday July 5th

“A Day Without a Mexican”

Immigration

Segregation and Checkers

Institutional Racism

A New Century: Immigration and the US Pg 201

Where “English Only” Falls Short Pg 260

Tennessee Judge Tells Immigrant Mothers: Learn English or Else Pg 273

The Event of Becoming Pg 404

The Myth of the Latin Women: I Just Met a Girl named

Maria pg 392

Paper Due Monday July 9th : “Using all of your readings from this week, describe all of the hidden, invisible, or unrecognized forms of discrimination in our society. What is the full impact these masked forms of discrimination have on minorities in our society? How do they lead to or maintain inequalities?”

Activities

Readings

Class

Monday July 9th

Economic Policies

“People Like Us”

White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack Pg 172

The Problem: Discrimination pg 243

Closing Doors on Americans’ Housing Choices pg 281

Race and Family Income of Students Influence Guidance

Counselors’ Advice, Study Finds Pg 286

More Blacks Live with Pollution pg 294

Race and Extreme Inequality Pg 325
Still Separate, still Unequal: America's Educational
Apartheid pg 618

Tuesday July 10th

Stratification Theories

Class in America

“Waiting on the World to Change”

Imagine a Country – 2009 pg 307

“Savage Inequalities” Revisited Pg 357

Cause of Death: Inequality Pg 360

Magic: Making Class Invisible pg 610

Class in America – 2009 pg 177

Blaming the Victim Pg 648

Wednesday July 11th

Poverty

Budgeting

Welfare

Poverty Theories

How the Poor Pay More Activity

“Born Rich”

Wealth Often Win the Race for Merit-Based College Aid
pg 288

The Sons Also Rise pg 352

Billionaires R Us pg 321

Thursday July 12th

Reducing Inequality

International Programs

“Status Anxiety”

“Escape from Affluenza”

Deconstructing the Underclass pg 102

Shhh, Don't Say “Poverty” Pg 323

The Economic Reality of Being Latino/a in the U.S. pg 330

The Plutocratic Culture: Institutions, Values, and Ideologies
Pg 603

Paper Due Monday July 16th : “How are large income and wealth gaps between the wealth and poor maintained in the U.S.? What are some social advantages for decreasing the gap between the rich and poor? What social advantages to other industrialized nations see?”

Activities
Gender

Readings

Monday July 16th

Socialization

Nature vs. Nurture

Examples?

Children

“Different But Equal”

Refusal to fire Unattractive Saleswoman Led to Dismissal pg 258

Patriarchy pg 153

Tuesday July 17th

Subtle Discrimination

“The Fairer Sex”

Patriarchy

Women in the Media

Images of Women

“Killing Us Softly”

Activity

Before Spring Break, the Anorexic Challenge pg 459

Am I thin Enough Yet? Pg 587

Women Losing Ground pg 342

The Wage Gap and Its Costs pg 346

Wednesday July 18th

Women in Society

Affirmative Action

Clip from ***“The Breakup”***

The Equal Rights Amendment (Defeated) pg 555

Feminism: A Transformational Politic pg 670

Thursday July 19th

Gay, Queer, Transgender

“Born Again”

The Invention of Heterosexuality pg 68

Homophobia as a Weapon of Sexism pg 162

Gay Marriage is a Question of Love pg 446

From Criminals and Psychopaths to the Family Next Door

Pg 558

Paper due Monday July 23rd : **“What are the biggest challenges for women in society? How are women both invisible, yet very visible in society? What evidence is there that women are sent the message to be seen and not heard?”**