



**SOC 370.71W – Minority Groups
Fall 2014**

Instructor: Sarah Latham-White
Office Location: Halladay 100C
Office Hours: 12:00 – 2:00 pm TR
Office Phone: (903) 468-3024
Office Fax: (903) 886-5794
Email Address: sarah.white@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook:
Racial and Ethnic Groups, Richard T. Schaefer, 13th Edition, 2011
ISBN 978-0-205-74807-5

Course Description:
This course is designed to broaden our understanding of racial and ethnic minorities in the United States. We will study basic concepts and theories specifically related to our social institutions. We will explore the relationships between individual and group behavior and their relationship to society.

This is an online course and will be presented through myLeo and eCollege.

Course Objectives:
The objective of this course is to provide an understanding of racial and ethnic minorities and the relationship with society. Throughout the semester this course will provide opportunities for the student to expand their ability to think critically through a range of class interactions and writings.

- Student Learning Outcomes:**
1. Demonstrate an understanding of minority and ethnic groups using sociological concepts through weekly assignments and chapter exams.
 2. Demonstrate an understanding and application of sociological theories to discussion topics measured by writing assignments.
 3. Demonstrate the ability to think critically as measured by weekly writing assignments and topic exams.

Students are expected to consider each of these objectives, goals, and expectations when contributing to class discussions and in completing their written work. The understanding and application of the assigned readings and online discussion is a necessary part in earning a top grade in this course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grading:		The grading scale will be as follows:
Weekly Discussions	100	A 450 – 500
Weekly Quizzes	100	B 400 – 449
Writing Assignment	100	C 350 – 399
<u>Exam</u>	<u>200</u>	D 300 – 349
	500	F 299 or below

Students are expected to read the assigned chapters in the above listed text and participate in the weekly requirements through eCollege.

There will be two exams worth 100 point each. Each exam will consist of multiple choice questions covering material from the assigned readings and class discussions.

Late assignments will not be accepted. Each week is formatted the same way, you will have seven days to complete each weekly set of assignments.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

This is an online course, you will need:

- Internet access/connection – high speed recommended
- Word Processor (i.e. MS Word)

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer.

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu.

SUPPORT

eCollege Student Technical Support:

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Chat Support:** Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- **Help:** Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...)

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Class participation and attendance are expected. Weekly discussions and quizzes are vital to your success in this course.

Cheating will not be tolerated, and the student can expect to be held accountable according to the University policy should they engage in such behavior. Students are expected to produce original work in all assignments and appropriate credit will be given for the use of profession a research conducted by others and obtained from journals and other resource material. Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and students engaging in the behavior will be treated accordingly.

The student should review and observe all appropriate withdrawal dates. The instructor will be available to assist the student in the event that withdrawal for an unusual or unforeseen circumstance arises. Be sure to review the

appropriate university policies regarding withdrawal from class. Please make every effort to avoid requesting an incomplete for the course.

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1

August 25 – 31, 2014

- Class Introduction
- Chapter 1: Exploring Race and Ethnicity
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 2

September 1 – 7, 2014

- Chapter 2: Prejudice
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 3

September 8 – 14, 2014

- Chapter 3: Discrimination
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 4

September 15 – 21, 2014

- Chapter 4: Immigration
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 5

September 22 – 28, 2014

- Chapter 5: Ethnicity and Religion
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 6

September 29 – October 5, 2014

- Chapter 6: Native Americans: The First Americans
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 7

October 6 –12, 2014

- Chapter 7: The Making of African Americans in a White America
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 8

October 13 –19, 2014

- Chapter 8: African Americans Today
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment
- Mid-Term Exam

Week 9

October 20 –26, 2014

- Chapter 9: Latinos: The Largest Minority
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 10

October 27 – November 2, 2014

- Chapter 10: Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 11

November 3 – 9, 2014

- Chapter 11: Muslim and Arab Americans: Diverse Minorities
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 12

November 10 – 16, 2014

- Chapter 12: Asian Americans: Growth and Diversity
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 13

November 17 – 23, 2014

- Chapter 13: Chinese Americans and Japanese Americans
- Discussion
- Weekly Assignment

Week 14*

November 24 – December 2, 2014

- Chapter 14: Jewish Americans: Quest to Maintain Identity
- Weekly Assignment
- Writing Assignment Due

Week 15*

December 3 – 6, 2014

- Chapter 15: Women: The Oppressed Majority
- Weekly Assignment

Week 16*

December 7 – 12, 2014

- Final Exam

Please note the date differences during weeks 14, 15, and 16. Week 14 is extended due to the Thanksgiving Holiday; Weeks 15 and 16 are altered to accommodate finals.