

PSY 310.02W Psychology/Sociology of Diverse Populations  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2015

Professor: Mrs. Lindsey Pierce  
Class Location: Online  
Office Location: Online  
Office Hours: M and W 9:00AM to 11:00PM, and by appointment  
Office Phone: 903-886-5594  
Email Address: eCollege (*email is the best way to reach me*)

### COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Description:** The course is not going to be a typical cross-cultural psychology course in which we are going to compare and contrast, looking for universals and differences, in psychological functioning among various cultures. Instead, we will concentrate major theories in psychology and how they relate to diversity.

A main theme—diversity in psychological functioning—considers whether results from typical psychological studies are observed in more varied settings. Most studies in psychology are based on a limited range of world's people: predominantly young, middle-class, European-American, college students. But what will happen if the same studies are conducted with more diverse populations, such as people outside the USA, older adults, or people residing in rural areas in Texas?

The landscape covered will include topics: social psychological theory applicable to ethnic/racial relations, diversity in the workplace and educational settings, stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination.

On eCollege you will find video lectures. The videos are (1) embedded in each week and (2) available for download as either .mov or .mp4 in the doc sharing section. All of the readings are also available in doc sharing section.

**Student Learning Outcome:** One overall goal of this course is to prepare students for an interconnected world. In this class students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge of interconnectedness of global dynamics (e.g., issues, processes, trends, and systems). To demonstrate knowledge of interconnectedness of global dynamics students will be asked to write a final paper that connects concepts presented in class to global issues.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### Grading:

**1. Reaction Papers:** Over the course of the semester all students are required to post online (in the discussion section for that week) **THIRTEEN** ½ page (single spaced) reaction papers. The papers are due Sunday by midnight for that week (see below for topics we are discussing). For example, if we discuss social identity theory the week of February 2 to February 8<sup>th</sup>, you need to

post your reaction by Sunday (February 8<sup>th</sup>) at midnight. The purpose of the reaction paper is to **apply the concepts in a given lecture/article to your own life** (e.g., past experience, expectations, ideas of how the concepts can be applied in other areas of life, research ideas). There is no specific requirement for these papers except to show that you have thought about the concepts presented in lecture and article. You can write the paper about just the lecture, just the article, or both.

**Within each paper please write one multiple choice question on that topic.** I highly recommend that you work ahead (e.g., post reactions a couple days in advance of when they are due) to avoid a last minute rush to post your reaction. Late reaction papers will be accepted, however points will be docked. Each paper is worth 10 points.

**2. Exams:** There will be two online exams. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions, and are worth 50 points each. You will have 5 hours to complete each exam. Please allow yourself at least a full hour on the computer for each exam (you cannot start and stop the exam time).

Exam 1 is due by Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> by 11:59PM

Exam 2 is due by Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> by 11:59PM

**3. Movie Analysis:** The movie analysis will consist of a 2-page paper (double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, left/right margins 1", top/bottom margins 0.8", saved as .docx .doc or .rtf). You will have the choice to watch the movie *Crash* or *Remember the Titans* and then write a reaction paper. Further details will be provided in eCollege later in the semester.

**4. Final Paper:** The final paper will consist of a 2-page paper (double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, left/right margins 1", top/bottom margins 0.8", saved as .docx .doc or .rtf). In this paper you will (1) define a concept or multiple concepts that you learned in this class, (2) describe the concept(s), (3) describe an issue that affects people in multiple countries (e.g., social injustice, environmental issue, political issue), (4) describe how the concept(s) you learned in this class apply to understanding the global issue (or how to mitigate possible negative outcomes of the issue). Please use APA format and be sure to cite any outside sources (e.g., newspapers, websites, journal articles).

**Assessment:**

Reaction papers: 130 points

Exams: 100 points

Movie Analysis: 35 points

Final Paper: 35 points

A = 270-300

B = 240-269

C = 210-239

D = 180-209

F = 179 and below

**EXTRA CREDIT**

There is a small amount of extra credit available for this course. 20 points are available for posting comments, thoughts, and reactions to other students' work online. These points are determined at the discretion of the instructor. In addition, I will offer another 10 points of extra credit for participation in online research studies. I will offer 2 points for each 0.5 credits of research (max 10 raw points or 2.5 experiment credits). You can find a guide to participating in research at the bottom of the syllabus. Also, in doc sharing I have a pictorial guide to get you started. If you would like an alternative assignment for extra credit instead of participating in research contact me. Additionally, the first time you log into SONA (the web system the psychology department uses to schedule participation) you will be asked to complete a prescreen survey. Completion of the prescreen is worth 0.5 experiment credits if done in the first two weeks of the semester.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

You will need access to a computer with internet to access eCollege. You may also need quicktime and firefox in order to view the videos for this class.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q:** I am having problems viewing the video lectures.

**A:** There are multiple reasons why the video lectures will not play. You can watch the video lectures online in eCollege. You can also download the videos from the doc sharing section of eCollege (in .mov or .mp4 formats). If you are trying to watch the video online and it is not playing correctly, I suggest downloading the video from the doc sharing section. The .mov video is meant for quicktime player. The .mp4 format is more universal.

If you have having trouble watching the video **online**... (1) Install and update the latest version of firefox browser, (2) Install and update the latest version of quicktime player, (3) Check the settings for firefox. In firefox's preferences/options you need to change the defaults so that any quicktime files will be opened with quicktime plugin and not windows media. Here is a link to firefox's help page for this problem:

[http://kb.mozillazine.org/Quicktime#Quicktime\\_browser\\_settings](http://kb.mozillazine.org/Quicktime#Quicktime_browser_settings)

If you have download the .mp4 version of the video and cannot open it... (1) try opening with a different media player. I recommend VLC (<http://www.videolan.org/vlc/index.html>). If you are still having trouble viewing the video file it may be corrupted. Delete the file and download it again.

You may have a slow internet connection. If you have a slow internet connection you may need to wait a few minutes for the video to load in the browser. In other words, click on the lecture link and wait a few minutes for the video to load. If this is the case you should find a fast internet connection (i.e., library) and download the videos from the doc sharing section. Then you can play the videos from your computer's hard drive rather than relying on the internet connection to buffer the videos.

**Q:** What is the best way to study for the test?

**A:** Print out and read over the articles. Also, look over the lecture slides one more time (they are in the doc sharing section of eCollege). The questions on the test will be based on the questions students post in the reaction papers. Thus, it is a good idea to study those questions.

**Q:** I forgot to post my reaction paper can I still post it?

**A:** Yes, I will take late papers. However, I will take a couple points off for being late. The one exception to this is that all work in the class must be completed by 11:59PM of the Friday before finals week. I will not accept any late work after that time.

**Q:** Why were points taken off my reaction paper?

**A:** In eCollege there is a way to see any comments I may give. If points are taken off the paper I will put a comment. The two most common reasons for deducting points are (1) the paper is too short (i.e., less than ½ page single-spaced) and (2) the response is missing the multiple-choice question.

**Q:** Do I need to understand the statistics in the articles?

**A:** No, the purpose of the articles is to expose you to actual research and theory. I do not expect you to understand everything in the article (however, you may have to google some of the terms to gain a fuller understanding of the article).

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### **Interaction with Instructor:**

Please feel welcome to contact me by email. All email should receive a response within 48 hours. If you have not received a response then assume your email did not go through and please try again to make contact. All email should include student's last name, first name, course name, and brief description of the reason for contact.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Student Behavior:**

My expectations in this area should be very simple to fulfill. (1) Immaturity will NOT be tolerated! If a student's behavior is disrupting the class, he/she will be asked to stop. (2) Respect: Given the nature of this course, we may discuss issues that some of you may find embarrassing, uncomfortable, and/or even "inappropriate." To remain in this class, you must be respectful of others and maintain a mature and professional manner at all times. Failure to do so will result in your expulsion from the course. (3) The Student's Guidebook addresses the issues of academic cheating and plagiarism. These are a breach of conduct, and students are subject to disciplinary actions. It's simple. Do NOT cheat (to cheat is to act dishonestly or unfairly in order to gain an advantage) or plagiarize (to plagiarize is to take the work or idea of someone else and pass it off as one's own)!

### **Recording:**

Course materials prepared by the instructor, together with the content of all lectures and review sessions presented by the instructor are the property of the instructor. Video and audio recording of lectures and review sessions without the consent of the instructor is prohibited. On request, the

instructor will usually grant permission for students to audio tape lectures, on the condition that these audio tapes are only used by the individual making the recording. Unless explicit permission is obtained from the instructor, recordings of lectures and review sessions may not be modified and must not be transferred or transmitted to any other person, whether or not that individual is enrolled in the course. PLEASE DO NOT DISTRIBUTE THE VIDEO LECTURES. THESE ARE JUST FOR YOU FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLASS.

**Changes to Class:**

Minor changes may be made to this schedule; modifications will be announced on eCollege.

**Students with Disabilities:**

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-Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

**COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

**WEEK 1**

**Lecture 1:** Introduction and Syllabus

[NOTE: NO REACTION PAPERS FOR THIS WEEK]

**WEEK 2**

**Lecture 2:** Robbers Cave Study

**WEEK 3**

**Lecture 3:** Identity

**Article:** Tajfel, H., & Turner, J. C. (1979). An integrative theory of intergroup behaviour. In S. Worchel & W. G. Austin (Eds.), *The social psychology of intergroup relations* (pp. 33-47). Monterey, CA: Brooks-Cole.

**WEEK 4**

**Lecture 4:** Culture

**Article:** Adams, G., & Markus, H. R. (2004). Toward a conception of culture suitable for a social psychology of culture. In M. Schaller & C. S. Crandall (Eds.), *The psychological foundations of culture* (pp. 335-360). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

**WEEK 5**

**Video:** Merchants of Cool (Frontline video, watch the whole video (not the individual parts))

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/cool/>

Then click on "Watch the Full Program Online"

(Something to think about... how does this video relate to the previous lecture?)

## **WEEK 6**

### **Lecture 5: Stereotypes**

**Article:** Jussim, L., & Harber, K. D. (2005). Teacher expectations and self-fulfilling prophecies: Knowns and unknowns, resolved and unresolved controversies. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 9, 131-155.

## **WEEK 7**

### **Lecture 6: Prejudice**

**Article:** Leyens, J.-P., Paladino, P. M., Rodriguez-Torres, R., Vaes, J., Demoulin, S., Rodriguez-Perez, A., & Gaunt, R. (2000). The emotional side of prejudice: The attribution of secondary emotions to ingroups and outgroups. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 4, 186-197.

## **WEEK 8**

### **Lecture 7: Discrimination**

**Article:** Hebl, M. R., King, E. B., Glick, P., Singletary, S. L., & Kazama, S. (2007). Hostile and benevolent reactions toward pregnant women: Complementary interpersonal punishments and rewards that maintain traditional roles. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 92, 1499-1511.

## **WEEK 9**

### **Movie Analysis**

[NOTE: NO REACTION PAPERS FOR THIS WEEK]

## **WEEK 10**

### **Lecture 8: Reducing Prejudice**

**Article:** Park, B., & Judd, C. M. (2005). Rethinking the link between categorization and prejudice within the social cognition perspective. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 9, 108-130.

**EXAM ONE THIS WEEK (Covers Weeks 2 to 10; this includes the reducing prejudice lecture & article)**

## **WEEK 11**

### **Lecture 9: Ageism**

**Article:** Kite, M. E., Stockdale, G. D., Whitley, B. E., Jr., & Johnson, B. T. (2005). Attitudes toward younger and older adults: An updated meta-analytic review. *Journal of Social Issues*, 61, -266.

## **WEEK 12**

### **Lecture 10: Gender**

**Article:** Swim, J. K., & Hyers, L. L. (1999). Excuse me—What did you just say?!: Women's public and private responses to sexist remarks. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 35, 68-88.

### **WEEK 13**

**Lecture 11:** Sexual Orientation

**Article:** Herek, G. M. (2000). The psychology of sexual prejudice. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 9, 19-21.

### **WEEK 14**

**Lecture 12:** Diversity at School

**Article:** Steele, C. M. (1997). A threat in the air: How stereotypes shape intellectual identity and performance. *American Psychologist*, 52, 613-629.

### **WEEK 15**

**Lecture 13:** Diversity at Work

**Article:** Adams, G., Biernat, M., Branscombe, N. R., Crandall, C. S., & Wrightsman, L. S. (2008). Beyond prejudice: Toward a sociocultural psychology of racism and oppression. In G. Adams, M. Biernat, N. R. Branscombe, C. S. Crandall, & L. S. Wrightsman (Eds.), *Commemorating Brown: The social psychology of racism and discrimination* (pp. 215-246). Washington, DC: APA Books.

### **WEEK 16**

**EXAM TWO THIS WEEK (covers weeks 11 to 15)**

**Final Papers Due Monday**

**Students' Guide to Research Participation for Extra Credit**  
**Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education**  
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

- **What is Research Participation?**

Exposure to research is essential to your gaining a better understanding of the scientific study of psychology. It is how we add new knowledge in psychology. Being involved in research is a good way to experience first-hand and learn about the scientific enterprise. We believe there are two key ways to experience research activity at this level: 1) read about related scientific investigations; 2) experience research as a volunteer participant; or some combination of both. The class in which you received this handout offers extra credit through one or both of these activities.

- **What if I am not yet 18 years old?**

In order to participate in research you must be at least 18 years old. If you are not yet 18 years old, please see your instructor, and ask him/her about alternative ways of earning extra credit.

- **In what type of research studies will I participate?**

All studies you will participate in have been reviewed and approved by the Texas A&M University-Commerce Institutional Review Board (IRB) and by the Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education. Studies vary widely. Many involve completing questionnaires or carrying out tasks on the computer. Some are even fun, and you'll learn something from all of them.

- **What are my rights as a research participant?**

Your participation is voluntary and you may withdraw from any study at any time. Your data will be kept confidential. If you have any further questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the IRB head, Dr. Tara Tietjen-Smith ([irb@tamuc.edu](mailto:irb@tamuc.edu)). More information about your rights will be provided to you prior to each study for which you sign up.

- **How will my research participation credit be calculated?**

You will receive 1 credit for each hour of research participation. Studies lasting 15 minutes or less are worth 0.25 credit. For example, a 15 min. study = 0.25 research credits; 30 min. = 0.5 credits; 45 min. = 0.75 credits; 60min = 1 credit; 1½ hours = 1.5 credits... etc.

- **How many research credits may I complete?**

You are encouraged to participate in as much research as you wish, but your instructor will inform you of how many credits are offered for extra credit.

- **What if I do not wish to participate in research studies?**

Participation in research is voluntary. Your instructor is offering you the opportunity to earn extra credit by participating in research (and helping psychology).

- **How do I find and sign up for research participation opportunities?**

Throughout the semester, researchers in the Psychology Department will post their research studies in the Experiment Management System (EMS) online. It is up to you to check the EMS regularly to find and sign up for research studies that fit into your schedule. Detailed instructions for how to use the EMS are listed in the following pages of this handout.



- **What if I cannot go to a study I signed up for?**

If for whatever reason you cannot attend a study that you have signed up for you need to cancel your appointment before the start of the study. There are 2 ways to cancel an appointment. First, if you cancel 24 hours before a study you can do this online through the Experiment Management System (EMS) website. Second, if it is the same day of the study you can call or email the experimenter – their contact information will be available in the EMS.

## How do I use the Experiment Management System (EMS)?

(Create a new participant account unless you already have one and your login information works. If you do not remember your login information click on the “lost your password?” on the front page of the EMS website and follow the directions on the site, and if that does not work email [curt.carlson@tamuc.edu](mailto:curt.carlson@tamuc.edu). A list of courses will be presented, from which you must select the courses you are taking this semester for which you will receive credit for participation. If your course is not listed, see the instructor for that course.)

### A. How to create a participant account on the EMS

1. Go to <http://tamuc-commerce.sona-systems.com/>
  - a. Click on New Participant “request an account here” link on the left of the screen.
  - b. This takes you to a screen on which you must enter your name, a unique User ID, your University ID number, and primary email address (reminders of studies you sign up for will be sent to that email address). You will also need to highlight the course(s) in which you are enrolled, and for which you will be earning credits. If more than one, highlight all that will be involving you in research participation. However, each study in which you participate will only provide you credit for ONE course. In other words, there is no “double-dipping” allowed. **BE CAREFUL TO SELECT THE CORRECT COURSE AND SECTION # – IF YOU CHOOSE THE WRONG ONE, YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT BE INFORMED OF YOUR CREDITS!** After you submit your information, you will be emailed your login information. (After you have received your login information, I recommend that you login into EMS and go to your “Profile” and change your password to something that you can remember.)

If you encounter any problems with creating your account (e.g., login information not sent to you), contact the EMS administrator, [curt.carlson@tamuc.edu](mailto:curt.carlson@tamuc.edu) with your full name and a detailed description of the problem.

2. When you first log into the EMS at the beginning of the semester you will be asked to take a prescreen survey. This is a short survey that researchers will use to decide if you meet the specified requirements for some studies (e.g., as a researcher I may only allow participants who are female. If you do not complete the prescreen you will not be eligible to participate in this study). In other words, if you do not complete the prescreen you will have fewer studies that you are eligible to participate in. **IF YOU COMPLETE THE PRESCREEN IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER YOU WILL GET 0.5 CREDIT.** Take it even if

you have done it before – it has probably changed, and you will still earn the 0.5 credit.

3. You are now ready to use the EMS to sign-up for research studies.

### **B. Sign-up for studies—login to the EMS with your User ID and password that was emailed to you after creating your account**

1. Click **Study Sign-Up**. A list of all available studies for which you qualify will appear. You can sign-up by clicking on either the study name or **Timeslots Available**, and you will go to a new screen showing more information about the study, with a link to **View Time Slots for This Study**.
2. Click the **Sign-Up** button to schedule your time. You should then write down or print out the study information (name of study, place, time, name and contact information of experimenter, etc.) that appears in the final window. You will also receive an email reminder the day before the study time you have selected.

### **C. Canceling a Sign-Up (MUST be done if you know you will not show up)**

1. If you need to cancel a timeslot you have signed up for, you can do this from the **My Schedule and Credits** page. Choose the **My Schedule and Credits** option from top toolbar.
2. You will see listed all of the studies for which you have signed up, as well as those you have completed (see the Tracking Your Progress section below for more information).
3. Studies for which you have signed up that you are allowed to cancel will have a **Cancel** button next to them. If you cannot attend the study session you signed up for, you need to cancel it, either within the EMS system or by contacting the researcher directly prior to the start of the study. Keep in mind that there is a time limit before the study is to occur, when it is too late to cancel online. This restriction is listed at the bottom of the page (it can be 24 hours before your timeslot, or much less, such as just 2-4 hours). If you cannot cancel online please email or call the experimenter to cancel. **IF YOU DO NOT CANCEL ONLINE, BY EMAIL, OR OVER THE PHONE BEFORE THE START OF THE STUDY YOU WILL BE COUNTED AS A “NO SHOW.”**
4. If you cancel the first part of a two-part study, the second part will also be cancelled. If you cancel the second part of a two-part study, the first part will *not* be cancelled, but you will need to ask the researcher to sign you up for the second part again, if you would like to participate in it at a later date. However, this is up to the researcher.

## D. Tracking Your Progress

1. You may track your progress at any time by choosing the **My Schedule and Credits** option from the top toolbar.
3. When you view this page, you will see at the top a list of the number of credits you are required to earn, and how many you have earned so far. Below that, if you have signed up for any studies, those are listed as well. In the list of studies, you will see information about your credit status. If you have a no show for a study you will see that the status for that study is “failure to appear.”

Note: Your login session will expire after a certain period of inactivity, usually 20-60 minutes. This is done for security purposes. If this happens, you can always log in again. When you are finished using the system, it is better to explicitly log out, to prevent any problems that may arise if someone uses your computer before the session expires. This is especially important if you are using a public computer lab.

## E. Frequently Asked Questions

*1. Immediately after I login, as soon as I click on any menu option, I am taken back to the login page and I see a message that my authentication has expired. What does this mean?*

Your web browser is not properly configured to accept cookies. You should turn on cookies in your web browser, use a different web browser (for example, try Firefox if you are currently using Internet Explorer), or try a different computer. Detailed instructions can be found if you go to the site and enter the URL “cookie\_help.asp” in place of “default.asp” in the address bar of the browser, when you are on the front page of the site.

*2. I participated in a study, but I have yet to receive credit. How do I receive credit?*

The researcher must grant you credit. This is usually done within a few days after your participation. If it has been some time and you have still not received credit, contact the researcher (his or her contact information should be listed when you click on the study name within the system).

*3. How do I change the email address where email notifications from the system are sent?*

You can change the email address where notifications are sent by going to **My Profile** and editing the email address you see there.

*4. I forgot where and when a study is that I signed up for. What do I do?*

If you forget when or where your study is, check your e-mail for the **EMS reminder**, or logon to EMS and check your appointments.

*5. Should I keep some sort of record of my participation and credits earned?*

The system will keep track of the credits you earn and your instructor will have access at the end of the semester to a report of credits earned by students enrolled in the class. It is a good idea, however, to occasionally print a personal copy of your credits earned and hold on to that printout as a back up to the system.

*6. I showed up for a study on time, and no one was there! What do I do?*

First refer to your information about that study session, to make sure you are in the right place at the right time. If you are, then wait at least 10 minutes for the researcher. If they are still not there at that point, you can leave and must send them an email within 24 hours, stating that you were present at the correct place and time for the study (refer to the study name). It is up to the researcher to try to reschedule with you.