



PSY 211 Section 81910- Diversity
Spring 2016 – Online Course

Instructor: Beth Nikopoulos, Ph.D.

Email Address: mary.nikopoulos@tamuc.edu

Phone Number: (214)803-7894

Office Hours: Virtual on Thursdays from 6-8, and Fridays 6-8. Please see eCollege about how to correspond with me virtually

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

This course will examine diversity in psychological functioning and the relationship between diversity and the self. This course will include, but is not limited to, topics relating to culture, intergroup relations, and the influence of one's own and others' cultural diversity for understanding others, one's self, and the world.

Required Textbook

Kottak, C. P., & Kozaitis, K. A. (2012). *On Being Different: Diversity and Multiculturalism in the North American Mainstream*. 4th Ed. ISBN-13 9780078117015.

Student Learning Objectives

1. Students will be able to recognize their own position as being subjective, follow objectively the arguments of others, and interpret data. (Critical Thinking)
2. Student communication will follow conventions of grammar and syntax appropriate to the audience, purpose and message. (Communication)
3. Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues. (Social Responsibility)

Software Required: Assignments must be Word or Pages documents.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students must have working knowledge of the college learning management system, and Microsoft Word (or Pages).

Instructional Methods

This is an online course so students will learn by reading both the text book, videos, and assigned articles. Postings will be either formal discussion and response that will be graded based on how well directions are followed as well as grammar/spelling. Journal entries are also graded based

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on how well instructions were followed, but are not graded for grammar. Journal entries are meant to allow students to freely write thoughts and opinions. Hopefully, students will also learn from each other via discussion and response posts. There are two papers in this class. The Stereotype paper should help students learn to find and interpret research articles and to gain awareness on the topic covered. The Global Issues paper has been assigned to help students gain a better understanding of global issues. In both papers it is important to follow instructions including use of APA, and to use correct grammar/spelling.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Log in on a regular basis and make sure to read the text and other assigned readings, and complete assignments on time and per instructions. This should be an easy class with the free exchange of opinions. Students fail because they do not complete assignments or do the reading. It may also be impossible to pass if the assigned papers are not completed. Please read email you receive from me and respond in a timely matter. My hope is that you learn from each other and experience personal growth and awareness.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

If using a points-based system, then please include a list of the total points corresponding to the final letter grades.

If using a weights-based system, then please include a list or table showing the weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final course grade.

Assessments

Assessments

- Content exam (Mid Term and Final) – two content exams, each consisting of 50 multiple-choice questions, will be administered.
- **Global Issues Paper:**
 - Write 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).
 - The purpose of the paper is to identify and analyze a social or ethical challenge in the world, offer 2-3 resolutions to the challenge, and examine the challenge from two cultural perspectives. There are three parts to this assignment.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- First, decide on a current event that you find interesting (e.g. from politics, international events) and you consider to be a social and ethical challenge.
- Second, offer 2-3 possible resolutions to the challenge.
- Then find two media sources from two different cultural worlds that describe, comment, etc. on the event that you have chosen. I would recommend that you find sources from two different countries. One of the sources can be a U.S. source. You can use the Internet to find articles, but it will be useful if you use reputable sources (e.g. USA Today, CNN, Fox News, etc.). Many foreign countries have their news websites in English as well, so you will not be required to learn a foreign language.
- The third part of the assignment is to compare and contrast the two sources such as examining the language used, projected attitudes towards the event, perceptions of the event, etc. Thus, your paper should describe the social/ethical challenging event, describe how the two news sources cover the event, and include 2-3 possible resolutions to the challenge.
- Please use APA format and be sure to cite any outside sources (e.g., newspapers, websites, and journal articles). Include a Reference page with all of your resources per APA requirements. The paper is worth 35 points. The paper is due (to the dropbox on eCollege) **9/26 by 11:59 p.m.**
- **Addressing Stereotypes Paper:**
 - This is a two-page paper addressing a diversity-related stereotype. Students will introduce the stereotype, followed by a refutation of that stereotype through the inclusion of empirical research studies that counter the selected stereotype.
 - The paper student should include principles addressed in the empirical data, the ways that these principles were tested, and how the results contradict the stereotype.
 - The paper should also discuss the relevance of this knowledge to general society and how such knowledge might be used for bettering the human condition.
 - Students will be expected to follow proper principals of grammar and syntactic structure to demonstrate appropriate communication skills. The paper will be worth 100 points. The paper is due (to the dropbox on eCollege) **November 7th by 11:59 p.m.**
- Discussion Posts: Students will participate in online discussions via the Discussion Forum on eCollege. Because this is an online course, discussion posts are the best way for us all to connect, share ideas, and relate to each other's experiences. Specific instructions for each week's Discussion Forum will be posted for each week. *All discussion postings should be professionally written (i.e., proofread, grammatically correct, and formal tone) and provide textual evidence to back up claims.*
- Journal Entries: On weeks when there are no discussion posts, students will complete the Journal activity for that chapter. You'll find journal directions on a tab under the week it's due, and will then go to the Journal Tab at the top of the page to post.

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- To fully participate in online courses, you will need to use a current Flash enabled internet browser. For PC and Mac users the suggested browser is Mozilla Firefox.
- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Run a browser check through the Pearson LearningStudio Technical Requirements website. [Browser Check](http://help.college.com/LS_Tech_Req_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browset) http://help.college.com/LS_Tech_Req_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browset

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission,

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will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

- For additional information about system requirements, please see: [System Requirements for LearningStudio](https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical) <https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to [myLeo](#) and from the top menu ribbon select eCollege. Then on the upper left side of the screen click on the My Courses tab. <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx>

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: It is strongly recommended you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the My Courses tab, and then select the Browser Test link under Support Services.

Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support for the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24/7 (24 hours, 7 days a week).

If you experience LearningStudio (eCollege) technical problems, contact the LearningStudio helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511 (toll free) or visit [Pearson 24/7 Customer Support Site](http://247support.custhelp.com/) <http://247support.custhelp.com/>

The student help desk may be reached in the following ways:

- **Chat Support:** Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Accessing Help from within Your Course: Click on the 'Tech Support' icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. Then you will be able to get assistance via online chat or by phone.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511.
2. Students must file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and provide me with the helpdesk ticket number.
4. I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer and internet access problems are not a legitimate excuses for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. Only Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate reasons to contact the Help Desk.

You strongly are encouraged to check for your internet browser compatibility **BEFORE** the course begins and take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at [myLeo](https://leo.tamuc.edu). <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

Learner Support

The [One Stop Shop](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/) was created to serve you by providing as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>


The [Academic Success Center](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/) provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success. <http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

FREE Mobile APPS

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

The Courses apps for phones have been adapted to support the tasks students can easily complete on a smaller device. Due to the smaller screen size course content is not presented.

The Courses app is free of charge. The mobile Courses Apps are designed and adapted for different devices.

	App Title:	iPhone – Pearson LearningStudio Courses for iPhone Android – LearningStudio Courses - Phone
	Operating System:	iPhone - OS 6 and above Android – Jelly Bean, Kitkat, and Lollipop OS
	iPhone App URL:	https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pearson-learningstudio-courses/id977280011?mt=8
	Android App URL:	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pearson.lsphone

Once downloaded, search for Texas A&M University-Commerce, and it should appear on the list. Then you will need to sign into the myLeo Mobile portal.

The Courses App for Android and iPhone contain the following feature set:

- View titles/code/Instructor of all Courses enrolled in online
- View and respond to all discussions in individual Courses
- View Instructor Announcements in individual Courses
- View Graded items, Grades and comments in individual Courses
- Grade to Date
- View Events (assignments) and Calendar in individual Courses
- View Activity Feed for all courses
- View course filters on activities
- View link to Privacy Policy
- Ability to Sign out
- Send Feedback

LearningStudio Notifications

Students can be alerted to course activities via text on their mobile phones or up to two email addresses.

Based on their preferences, students can automatically receive a push notification with every new: course announcement, threaded discussion post, grade, and/or assignment without having to login to the course. Enrolled students will automatically receive email notifications for announcements and can opt out of this feature. To receive text notifications, students must opt in.

To begin setting up notifications, go into your course in LearningStudio and click on the bell-shaped Notifications icon on the main menu ribbon.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

By default the student's university email address will appear. This cannot be changed in LearningStudio. Additional email addresses may be added by clicking the Add button. After all of the other selections are completed be sure to click the Save and Finish button.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

The instructor's communication response time and feedback on assessments are stated clearly.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance/Lateness, Late Work, Missed Exams and Quizzes and Extra Credit

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

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
Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law

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enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Tentative Schedule (Subject to Change)

TOPIC SCHEDULE Week	Content
Week 1 (8/29-9/5)	Syllabus & Chapter 1. Introduction
Week 2 (9/6-9/12)	Chapter 2. Culture
Week 3 (9/13-9/19)	Chapter 3. Globalization and Identity
Week 4 (9/20-9/26)	Chapter 4. The Multicultural Society/ Global Issues Paper due 9/26 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 5 (9/27-10/3)	Chapter 5. Ethnicity
Week 6 (10/4-10/10)	Chapter 6. Religion
Week 7 (10/11-10/17)	Chapter 7. Its Biological Dimensions & 8. Race: Its Social Construction
Week 8 (10/18-10-24)	Midterm Exam (Due October 24th by 11:59 p.m.)
Week 9 (10/25-10/31)	Chapter 9. Gender & Chapter 10. Sexual Orientation
Week 10 (11/1-11/7)	Chapter 11. Age and Cohort/ Stereotypes Paper due by November 7th by 11:59 p.m.
Week 11 (11/8-11/14)	Chapter 13. Class
Week 12 (11/15-11/21)	Chapter 14. Places and Spaces
Week 13 (11/22-11/28)	Chapter 15. Linguistic Diversity
Week 14 (11/29-12/5)	Chapter 16. Families
Week 15 (12/6-12/12)	Final Exam

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