Sociology 370-71W: Minority Groups
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2018
Navarro Campus

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Vivian Dorsett, Ph.D

Class Time: Online
Class Location: Online

Office Location: SS 231
Office Hours: TBA, see online communication

Main Office Phone: 903.886.5332
Office Fax: 903.886.5330

University Email Address: Vivian.Dorsett@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: 24 hours M-F, weekend and holiday emails are accepted on next business day.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Required Textbook:
1) Schaffer, Richard T., 2015. *Racial and Ethnic Groups,* 14th edition. Pearson/Prentice Hall. ISBN-13:978-0-13-377099-5, or 14th edition, updates student responsibility.
2) Readings/articles submitted in class or via eCollege.

Software Required
No specific software for this course, see technology requirements for online myLeo and eCollege specifications.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Catalog Description:

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

A general survey course on American minority groups with particular emphasis on racial minorities and ethnic relations. The interplay of these groups in the social cultural, economic, and political development of the United States will be examined. Examples of racial-ethnic groups in other cultures will be compared.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes

      1] To become familiar with the ideas, concepts, theories, and issues commonly associated with discourse on racial and ethnic relations in the United States.

      2] To consider American minority groups in a comparative and global perspective by examining race and ethnicity in other nations.

      3) To understand how American economic and political systems and policies shaped and were shaped by racial and ethnic groups.

      4) To review the impact of racial and ethnic minorities on American culture and cultural institutions in areas such as education, religion, cultural values, family life, business and government.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Examples include: Using the learning management system, using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, using presentation and graphics programs, etc. I am not able to assist you with technical difficulties you will need to see syllabus for contact information to departments that can assist you. See technologies requirements within this syllabus.

Instructional Methods

Online class only. Weekly discussion questions. **Instructions and grading rubric for course project paper will be located in doc sharing, separate from syllabus.**

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Each student should engage in weekly discussions, more than one day. Discussion post and 2 responses to two fellow students. Utilize student lounge for student discussion to assist one another. The only ignorant question is one not asked. If I don't know the answer, I will research and find the answer and we will seek answers together. You should expect to study one physical hour for each course hour you take, minimal!

IMPORTANT NOTES:
1) Students must cite in-text using APA style, example in doc sharing. Cite and resources graded per example of APA style.
2) Late assignments receive a 10% deduction in points, and cannot be accepted beyond one week of the original due date.
3) Discussions cannot be re-done or re-graded.
4) All discussions and project papers are subject to Turnitin review. Students who plagiarize will receive a zero on the assignment in question. Second attempt to plagiarize, student will be submitted to the Deans office.

GRADING

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Grades will be based on two exams; Exam 1 is the midterm; Exam 2 is the final (100 points ea. =200pts); project paper (100pts.); 12 discussion questions (10 pts per question =100 total pts., drop two **lowest grades**); attendance/participation (6pts per class period =90pts, 10pts free).

Assignment Type	# of Assignments	Point Value	Total Points
Midterm Exam	1	100	100
Final Exam	1	100	100
Project/Paper	1	100	100
Discussion Question	10	20pts ea	200
		TOTAL	500

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale, and total points for this class is 500:

A = 90%-100%   (500-450 pts)
B = 80%-89%   (449-400 pts)
C = 70%-79%   (399-350 pts)
D = 60%-69%   (349-300 pts)
F = 59% or Below   (<299 pts)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: This is NOT an online course, the following technology, access and navigation are requirements listed on syllabus for your information and can assist you in accessing myLeo and eCollege.
- 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
- 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.ecollege.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.

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- 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/
  - Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  - Adobe Shockwave Player   https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  - Apple Quick Time   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, 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

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ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information

This course **discussion question** will be facilitated and new discussion available on Monday of each week, 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/

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.

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.

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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

Learner Support

The One Stop Shop 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 provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success.
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/

FREE MobilE APPS

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.

PEARSON COURSES	**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

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• 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 <u>opt out</u> 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.

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
Please communicate with me via email. Department phone number is at the beginning of this syllabus. Emails will be returned within 24 hours M-F. Weekend or holiday emails are accepted the next business day and will be returned within 24 hours.

I should be online every day M-F. Please advise me ahead of time in writing/via email on any foreseen absences, you may be allowed to turn in assignments early.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies
PARTICIPATION
Weekly discussion will open on Mondays and close on Sunday 11:59 PM. It is expected, and part of your discussion grade, to complete discussion and respond to two fellow class mates with well thought out responses. Discussion grading rubric will be located in doc sharing.

Exams/Discussion Question/Project Paper/Extra Credit
<u>Exams</u>; there are two exams; a midterm and final. Missed exams will only be eligible for make up if there is an eCollege failure to the system.

<u>Discussion Questions</u>; there are 10 weekly discussion questions worth 20 points each; totaling 200 points of your final grade. Due dates are located on the weekly calendar of assignments. READ the instructions in eCollege, you will answer the question and respond to

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"two" fellow students post (minimum) this is mandatory for the full 20 points, with correct citing and resources. Respect and professionalism is expected towards your fellow students. Online etiquette a must! No slander, no LARGE/BOLD type. See university policy for online etiquette. **Questions open one week only.**

Project Paper; instructions and grading rubric for the project paper will be detailed located in doc sharing and posted in eCollege.

Extra Credit; no extra credit for online classes

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

All persons who enter this classroom will be treated with dignity and respect regardless of age, race, sex, social class, religion, politics, sexual orientation , and/or lifestyle. There will be "Zero Tolerance" in this classroom for any form of ageism, racism, sexism, sexual harassment, or any other form of prejudice, discrimination, or bigotry. ***Because we will be dealing with controversial contemporary social issues, an open mind and a mature attitude are important requirements for this course. Students are expected to be polite and courteous at all times. Disruptive behavior of any kind will not be tolerated.***

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and 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

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

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week #: Class Date: Weekly Content Items /Activities:

Week 1
Jan 15th - 21st Syllabus / Project Paper Guidelines located in doc sharing
          20 point Discussion Question #1 Due Jan 21 by 11:59PM

Week 2
Jan 22nd - 28th Chapter 1: Exploring Race and Ethnicity
          20 point Discussion Question #2 Due Jan 28 by 11:59PM

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Week 3
Jan 29th –   Chapter 2: Prejudice
Feb 4th   Chapter 3: Discrimination
                20 point Discussion Question #3 Due Feb 4th by 11:59PM

Week 4
Feb 5th – 11th Chapter 4: Immigration (U.S. Census)
                Chapter 5: Ethnicity and Religion
                20 point Discussion Question #4 Due Feb 11th by 11:59PM

Week 5
Feb12th – 18th Chapter 6: Native Americans: The First Americans, #NODAPL
                No discussion due this week.
                20 point Discussion Question #5 Due Feb 18th by 11:59PM
                SUBMIT JOURNAL #1 in eCollege, see project guidelines, Interviewee Info Due

Week 6
Feb 19th – 25th Chapter 7: African Americans
                Chapter 8: African Americans Today
                20 point Discussion Question #6 Due Feb 25th by 11:59PM

Week 7
Feb 26th –   Midterm Exam
Mar 4th   No Discussion This Week

Week 8
Mar 5th – 11th Chapter 9: Latinos: The Largest Minority
                Chapter 10: Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans
                20 point Discussion Question #7 Due Mar 11th by 11:59PM

Week 9
Mar 12th – 18th Have A Great Spring Break

Week 10
Mar 19th – 25th Chapter 11: Muslim & Arab Americans: Diverse Minorities
                Chapter 12: Asian Americans: Growth & Diversity
                No Discussion This Week
                SUBMIT JOURNAL #2 in eCollege, see project guidelines, interview due.

Week 11
Mar 26th –   Chapter 13: Chinese Americans & Japanese Americans
                Chapter 14: Jewish Americans: Quest to Maintain Identity
April 1st   20 point Discussion Question #8 Due April 1st by 11:59PM

Week12
Apr 2nd – 8th   Chapter 15: Women?
                20 point Discussion Question #9 Due April 8th by 11:59PM

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Week 13
Apr 9th – 15th Chapter 16: Beyond the United States: The Comparative Perspective
                Chapter 17: Overcoming Exclusion
                20 point Discussion Question #10 Due Apr 15th by 11:59PM

Week 14
Apr 16th – 22nd **SUBMIT JOURNAL #3** in eCollege, see project guidelines, social action due.
                *Turn in final project paper this week too for extra 5 points on paper. *
Week 15
Apr 23rd – 29th Final Project Paper due Due: See project guidelines which has grading rubric.

Week 16
Apr 30th -   Final Exam
May 6th

                Have a Great Summer!

Every effort will be made to adhere to the course schedule as noted above. However, circumstances may require changes to the schedule. In that case, changes will be announced via university e-mail or in-class. The professor reserves the right to change the schedule if necessary, depending on the progress of the class, as well as, the availability of guest speakers. Videos and group work may accompany class discussion.

January 16   First Day of Class
February 5   Dropped for Non Payment
March 12-16   Spring Break
April 7   Las Day to Withdraw from Class
May 4   Last Day of Class
May 5-11   Finals Week
May 11   Graduate Commencement
May 12   Undergraduate Commencement

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