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**SOC 553.01W—RACE and ETHNIC DIVERSITY  
COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2023**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Damon J. Bullock, PhD

**Office Location:** Virtual Office

**Office Hours:** Virtual

**Office Phone:** 903-886-5322

**Office Fax:** 903-886-5330

**University Email Address:** Damon.Bullock@tamuc.edu

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email

**Communication Response Time:** e-mail responses within 24 hours. Please include your class number SOC 553 in the subject line in all e-mails.

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

**Required Textbook(s)**

Schaefer, R. (2018). Racial & Ethnic Groups. Ed. 15th, Isbn10: 0134732855 or Isbn13: 978-0134732855 (can buy used, e-book)

**Amazon:** [https://www.amazon.com/RACIAL-ETHNIC-GROUPS-Richard-Schaefer/dp/0134732855/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?crid=8DISSXSCUD9Q&keywords=Racial+%26+Ethnic+Groups&qid=1642178783&s=books&sprefix=racial+%26+ethnic+groups%2Cstripbooks-intl-ship%2C324&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.com/RACIAL-ETHNIC-GROUPS-Richard-Schaefer/dp/0134732855/ref=sr_1_2?crid=8DISSXSCUD9Q&keywords=Racial+%26+Ethnic+Groups&qid=1642178783&s=books&sprefix=racial+%26+ethnic+groups%2Cstripbooks-intl-ship%2C324&sr=1-2)

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Alexander, Michelle. (2012) *New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. ISBN-13: 978-1595586438 ISBN-10: 1595586431

**Amazon:** [https://www.amazon.com/New-Jim-Crow-Michelle-Alexander-ebook/dp/B0067NCQVU/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1502755703&sr=1-1&keywords=New+Jim+Crow%3A+Mass+Incarceration+in+the+Age+of+Colorblindness](https://www.amazon.com/New-Jim-Crow-Michelle-Alexander-ebook/dp/B0067NCQVU/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1502755703&sr=1-1&keywords=New+Jim+Crow%3A+Mass+Incarceration+in+the+Age+of+Colorblindness)

Additional materials will be posted on the course website.

## Course Description

Minority Groups. Three semester hours. A general survey of race, ethnic, and minority relations in the United States. Emphasis is placed on theories of prejudice/discrimination and institutional racism in education, politics, and economics.

**Student Learning Outcomes** (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

1. Develop a descriptive and analytical understanding of minority diversity in the United States.
2. Explore central concepts through which sociologists investigate the history, tensions, and social change around minority status dynamics.
3. Become familiar with key debates that animate contemporary research on minority status and discrimination.
4. Consider and critique social movements revolving around minority status.
5. Collaborate effectively, demonstrating an ability to: work with groups to complete projects within reasonable time-frames; manage conflicts appropriately and ethically.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Assume approximately **5-7 hours per week of active work** in the course.  
-- Complete the learning modules within a 1 week time-frame. -- Check the course site on d2l and your e-mail at least **4 days per week** to stay current with course work, as well as any changes or developments in the schedule. Remember, I will be able to monitor how many times you log on each week. Your active participation in discussion posts and group book report work will also be taken into consideration.

### Instructional Methods

This course will involve a combination of assigned readings, discussions, exams, class activities, and peer evaluation.

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## Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Students are expected to participate in class. Both the readings assigned via the textbook as well as other modes of information; videos, discussions and group project activities are important elements of learning in the course. Students are expected to actively engage in the course and demonstrate developing mastery of the materials by participating on a consistent basis, keeping up with deadlines, and being an active learner.

## GRADING

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

A = 90%-100%	414-460
B = 80%-89%	368-413
C = 70%-79%	322-367
D = 60%-69%	276-321
F = 59% or Below	275 or Below

### Assessments

5 Chapter Quizzes over New Jim Crow Text (10pts x 5)	50 points
Syllabus Acknowledgement Quiz (Extra Credit)	10 points
Introductory Post (Extra Credit)	10 points
Final Exam	100 points
Teaching Presentation	100 points
Discussion Board (10pts x 11)	110 points
Midterm Exam	100 points
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	460 points

Chapter Quizzes: Students are responsible for taking an online *timed* chapter review quiz over secondary reader (New Jim Crow). The quiz will consist of 10 objective questions. We will have 5 of these quizzes.

Final Exam: At the end of the semester students will take a *timed* comprehensive final exam. The Final Exam will be completed on eCollege and will be 100 multiple choice and true/false format questions worth 1 point each.

Discussion Board: Particular modules will have a discussion board assignment. Answers to Discussion Questions must be posted not later than Saturday at 11:59 p.m. Late Replies receive no credit (think of it as missing a traditional class, and therefore not being able to participate).

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Teaching Presentation: Students are required to conduct a book/literature review regarding one specific topic and make a PowerPoint presentation. Specific guidelines are attached to the syllabus.

Midterm Exam: Midway through the course you will take an exam to measure competency levels of understanding and knowledge of the course material.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

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](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**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.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

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## **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

# **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

## **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

### **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/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

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

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

### **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>

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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/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

## **Students with Disabilities-- 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- Room 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@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.

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## **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 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.

## **Counseling Center Services**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

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**\*SOC 553 Race and Ethnic Diversity  
Fall 2023 Course Outline:**

The course schedule is tentative and somewhat subject to change. Although this course will follow the schedule, it is possible that some adjustments will be made as we progress through the semester.

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings
1	Aug. 28-Sep. 2	Exploring Race and Ethnicity (Ch. 1) Prejudice (Ch. 2) Discrimination (Ch. 3) Syllabus Acknowledgement Quiz Introduction post.	Ch. 1-3
2	Sep. 4-9	Immigration (Ch. 4) Ethnicity and Religion (Ch. 5) Videos; Discussion post	Ch. 4-5
3	Sep. 11-16	Native Americans: The First Americans (Ch. 6) Video; Discussion post	Ch. 6
4	Sep. 18-23	The Making of African Americans in a White America (Ch. 7) Video; Discussion post	Ch. 7
5	Sep. 25-30	Latinos: The Largest Minority (Ch. 9) Quiz 1: The New Jim Crow; Videos; Discussion post	Ch. 9
6	Oct. 2-7	Mexicans and Puerto Ricans (Ch. 10) Video; Discussion post	Ch. 10
7	Oct. 9-14	Muslim and Arab Americans (Ch. 11) Quiz 2: The New Jim Crow; Videos; Discussion post	Ch. 11
8	Oct. 16-21	<b>*** Study for Mid-Term Exam***</b> 30 Days Feedback Video; Discussion post	Ch. 1-7, 9-10
9	Oct. 23-28	<b>*** Mid-Term Exam***</b>	Ch. 1-7, 9-10
10	Oct. 30-Nov. 4	Asian Americans: Growth and Diversity (Ch. 12) Quiz 3: The New Jim Crow; Video; Discussion post	Ch. 12
11	Nov. 6-11	Chinese and Japanese Americans (Ch. 13) Video; Discussion post	Ch. 13

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12	Nov. 13-18	Jewish Americans: Quest to Maintain Identity (Ch. 14) Quiz 4: The New Jim Crow; Video; Discussion post	Ch. 14
13	Nov. 20-25	Women: The Oppressed Majority (Ch. 15) Video; Discussion post	Ch. 15
14	Nov. 27-Dec. 2	Beyond the United States: A Comparative Perspective (Ch. 16) Concluding Chapter (Ch. 17) Quiz 5: The New Jim Crow <b>Teaching Presentation</b> Final Exam Review	Ch. 16-17
15	Dec. 4-9	<b>***Course Final Exam***</b> <b>(Last week of class)</b>	Ch. 1-7, 9-17
16	Dec. 9-15	<b>***Final Exam Week***</b>	

*Students will have from Monday at 8:00am until Saturday at 11:59pm to complete assignments, quizzes, and exams.*

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## CODE OF CIVILITY

In order to promote a positive, professional atmosphere among students, faculty and staff, the following Code of Civility has been developed:

### **Respect:**

Treat all students, faculty, staff and property with respect and in a courteous and professional manner. This includes all communications, whether verbal or written. Let your actions reflect pride in yourself, your university, and your profession.

### **Kindness:**

A kind word and gentle voice go a long way. Refrain from using profanity, insulting slang remarks, or making disparaging comments. Consider another person's feelings. Be nice.

### **Truth:**

Exhibit honesty and integrity in your dealings with fellow students, faculty and staff members. Don't lie, don't cheat, and don't steal.

### **Responsibility:**

Take responsibility for your actions. This includes gracefully accepting the consequences of your behavior.

### **Cooperation:**

Exhibit a cooperative manner when dealing with students, faculty and staff so we may all work towards our common goals and mission.

### **Acceptance:**

Accept differences in others, as they accept differences in you. This includes diversity in opinions, beliefs and ideas and everything else that makes us unique individuals.

### **Professionalism:**

Always conduct yourself in a manner that will bring pride to your profession, to Texas A&M University in Commerce, and, most importantly, to yourself.

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## Teaching Presentation

This assignment is based on the fact that if you really have learned something well, you should be able to teach it.

The steps:

1. Choose 3 from the following groups:

- Native American
- African American
- Latinos
- Mexican American
- Puerto Rican
- Muslim
- Arab American
- Asian American
- Chinese American
- Japanese American
- Jewish American
- Women

2. Carefully read the topic you choose in the textbook.

3. Do a Powerpoint presentation following the criteria

- a. At least 15 minutes. You must record yourself with the Powerpoint. If you for some reason cannot do it, then you must hand in your "script" in a word document, and it must be at least 1,500 words.
- b. References: Of course, you read the book and then present the topic, therefore your reference is the textbook. But if you do some more research and find some other journal articles (cannot be internet source or magazine; only valid sources such as peer-reviewed journals), you are more likely to get higher grade. Make sure you cite the journal(s) in the presentation, and list the reference(s) of the journal(s) at the last slide. *You are expected to have a minimum of 4 references on this assignment.*
- c. If you incorporate some other media sources to demonstrate your point (e.g., youtube clips, news reports), as long as they are properly making your point, it is great. They cannot be your main references though. For example, it is fine to show a youtube clip of someone helping others if your topic is helping, but you cannot conclude "so this is the proof that altruism exists." By the way, a youtube clip will NOT be counted into the required ten minutes.
- d. You must demonstrate your understanding of the topic and your effort to help others understand it.
- e. You are expected to discuss the following points for each group:
  - Political affiliation
  - Religious affiliation
  - Historical and current societal experiences (i.e. positive and negative)
  - Positive contributions to society
- f. Finally, I do not care about making the slides fancy. What is more important

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is your understanding and your effort to study it and make it easier to digest. Pretty background and pictures will not increase your chance of higher grade, unless they are helping the main purpose.

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