



HC 497: Social Justice and Intersectionality

Course Syllabus Spring 2024

Online Asynchronous

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Tana Yager, MS, LPC, NCC

Office Hours: By Appointment

University Email Address: tana.yager@tamuc.edu

Preferred Method of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Emails will typically be returned within 24 business hours, M-F

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Required Textbook

Is Everyone Really Equal?: An Introduction to Key Concepts in Social Justice Education
(Multicultural Education Series) 2nd Edition

ISBN 10: 0807758612

Required Technology:

The Learning Management System, D2L

An electronic device for study and assignments

Instructional Methods, Activities, and Assessments

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will develop working definitions related to social justice and intersectionality
- Students will identify examples of social justice efforts on personal and systemic levels
- Students will put their knowledge into practice by addressing a social justice issue
- Students will practice the skills of professionalism and civil discourse with instructor, peers, and community through discussion boards and activities

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

In this class, you will utilize the Learning Management System (LMS) entitled D2L for instructional and learning methods, submitting assignments, participating in online discussions, and completing quizzes as assigned. You will need to utilize other technologies such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Search Engines, etc. If you have issues with this system, it is your responsibility to contact the help desk immediately.

Instructional Methods

This class will be run online in an asynchronous format. It will involve various forms of activities, discussions, and critical thinking. It will not be a typical lecture course. The skills and concepts you learn in this course shouldn't be merely memorized – they should be put into practice in your daily lives. Those practices require us to discuss your experiences during implementation. This course will be online and all assignments and interactions will be submitted via D2L unless otherwise noted.

All assignments, schedules, and due dates are subject to change.

Assignments/Assessments

Participation/ Readings / Discussion Boards

Students will complete discussion boards throughout the term related to the weekly readings and activities. Due dates and prompts will be posted clearly in D2L.

Points: 120 total

Journal One:

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Students will complete a 1-2 page journal-style entry responding to the prompts:

1. What do I know about social justice and intersectionality going into this course?
2. What do I hope to learn from this course?
3. What else would you like the instructor to know going into this semester?

This short essay is your chance to share about the experience from your perspective. No citation is required. The response should be 12pt font and double-spaced. Please add a header and title. A minimum of one page of text should be written for full credit.

Points: 150

Social Justice Issue Project:

Students will address one area of social justice of their choice to educate themselves about and act on. This assignment will be graded based on the correlation to the student's chosen topic, their chosen activity, and their written response.

For the written response students should respond to the following prompts:

1. What area of social justice did you address? Who does this impact? Why does it matter?
2. What did you do to address this area of social justice? What was the actual action and how does it relate to this particular topic?
3. Lastly, how do you feel the activity went, and what impact did it have? Did this activity make things better, worse, or no difference? Do you think if you continued this activity or something similar, it would have an impact on your chosen topic?

Students' write-up should be 4-5 pages in length. Additional information about the assignment and/or the student's reactions can be included, but these three prompts must be responded to for each area of wellness. Students can choose to submit this project as a 5 page essay or a powerpoint presentation. If you choose to do a powerpoint presentation, make sure to include a comparable amount of information / text and to answer all the prompts fully.

Points: 500

Journal Two:

Students will complete a 1-2 page journal-style entry responding to the prompts:

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1. What do you know about social justice and intersectionality now after taking this course?
2. What did you like about the course? Dislike?
3. What else would you like the instructor to know about your experience this semester?

This short essay is your chance to share about the experience from your perspective. No citation is required. The response should be 12pt font and double-spaced. Please add a header and title. A minimum of one page of text should be written for full credit.

Points: 150

GRADING

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

90%-100%	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
60%-69%	D
< 59%	F

Grading

Journal One	150
Participation / Boards	200
Social Justice Project	500
Journal Two	150

A total of 1000 points is available this semester. Final grades are based on the total number of points earned during the term in accordance, generally, with the following levels of proficiency:

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- A = 900-1000
- B = 800-899
- C = 700-799
- D = 600-699
- F = 599 and below

Assignments are due on the day noted in the syllabus. Unless noted otherwise, all assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. Late assignments will have 10% deduction per day late from the final score.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A

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Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - o 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - o Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- **For YouSeeU Sync Meeting sessions *8 Mbps* is required.** Additional system requirements found here:
<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>
- You must have a:
 - o Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - o Speakers or headphones.

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- o *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.

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:
 - o [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - o [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\)](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - o [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - o [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, 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.

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.

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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COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support Need Help? Student Support

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

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “click here” to submit an issue via email.



System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Communication with your professors is key to your professional growth. I am here to support and guide you along your academic journey. With that being said, I cannot help you if you do not communicate with me. Please make an appointment if you have any concerns or questions. Because I teach in different locations, email is the best way to reach me. I will attempt to answer all emails within 24 hours, Monday-Friday, but at times will need up to 72 hours to do so. When emailing, please use your university email and address me with courtesy and respect.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Written assignments are due on the day noted in the syllabus. All papers are due at the beginning of the class period. Late papers will have 10% deduction per day late from the final score.

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.

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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>

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 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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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 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

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

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

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](tel:903-886-5145). For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

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 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](#)

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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 and calendar are available in D2L.