



PSY 211.01W Diversity

COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II 2024

Location: Online

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Shifang Tang, Ph.D.

Office Location: Henderson 201A

Office Hours: [Zoom office hours] T/TH: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

***In-person/Zoom meetings by appointment

Changes to office hours announced on D2L

Email Address: shifang.tang@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: 24-48 hours on weekdays

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

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Additional readings may be uploaded to D2L.

Required Readings:

Jones, J. M, Dovidio, J. F., & Vietze, D. L. (2014). The Psychology of Diversity: Beyond Prejudice and Racism 1st Edition. Wiley Blackwell. ISBN-13: 9781405162142

Kennedy, V. (2018). Beyond Race: Cultural Influences on Human Social Life. **(Click the link below for the free download):**

<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/beyond-race-cultural-influences-on-human-social-life>

American Psychological Association. (2017). Multicultural Guidelines: An Ecological Approach to Context, Identity, and Intersectionality.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Retrieved from: <http://www.apa.org/about/policy/multicultural-guidelines.pdf>

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. This course will introduce students to a sampling of theory and research regarding diversity issues in psychology.

In this course you will be challenged to critically evaluate the readings and to allow yourself to experience the range of emotional reactions that may emerge in response to thinking and reading about the issues discussed in this course. One theme of this course is awareness of cognitive and affective processes related to our attitudes and beliefs about ourselves and other people. Thus, I encourage you to:

- observe, as openly and non-judgmentally as possible, your and others' reactions
- note how those reactions change over time
- learn from those reactions.

As a student in this course you should adopt a professional attitude when reading and during discussions. Important for reading all literature in this course is learning to give yourself permission to have whatever emotional reactions you have (anger, guilt, frustration, boredom, relief, validation, etc.) and to manage those emotions (i.e., regarding them as information, not simply as something to vent). While all emotional reactions are valid, you should strive to not let your emotions interfere with your learning and understanding of the author's message. You will be expected to engage in a serious, scholarly analysis of this literature, even when it provokes strong personal reactions.

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

The student will be able to:

1. Understand and describe key concepts 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.

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2. Develop an understanding of and familiarity with the American Psychological Association's guidance relevant to issues of cultural diversity and competence.
3. Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze empirical and theoretical/conceptual literature and communicate the findings and perspectives in a meaningful context.
4. Practice research methods using available electronic databases to seek and access research-based information relating to cultural diversity.
5. Develop writing skills using APA writing style, including the correct usage and formatting of APA Style in text citations and references.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will need to use word processing programs and internet-based course management software to complete course successfully.

Instructional Methods

A variety of teaching strategies will be used to help students become familiar with diversity in psychological functioning and the relationship between diversity and the self. These strategies include:

1. Viewing presentations and video segments of people discussing diversity issues
2. Reviewing assigned readings
3. Completing assignments on-line

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. Complete the readings.
2. Complete assignments thoroughly and on time.
3. Actively participate in class discussions.
4. Keep lines of communication open with instructor. Ask for assistance when needed.

GRADING

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

Assessments

ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE BY THE DAY AND TIME INDICATED IN THE D2L

- 1. Papers (Total = 100 points)** All papers must be submitted by Sunday of the given week. Submit your work to the appropriate folder in D2L.

#1 Introspection on Diversity (50 Points)

During the first week of class students will write a 1–2-page paper on what diversity means to you. Explain if diversity is an issue we should focus on (why or why not). Does the type of diversity we focus on matter? What do you hope to get out of this class?

#2 Final Reflection Paper (50 Points)

After reviewing final week's content, please go back and read your week 1 reflection paper and then write a 1–2 page final reflection paper (2 pages max) on what diversity means to you now. Have your views about diversity changed since the start of this class? If so, how? If not, why do you think your views on diversity remain the same? Please feel free to add any additional thoughts you have about this course.

- 2. Weekly Quizzes (20 points per quiz; Total=200 points)**

Students will complete 10 quizzes. Quizzes will be proctored in D2L and must be completed alone (no assistance from classmates). Students can use book and weekly PowerPoint lessons to complete the quizzes. All quizzes must be submitted by the due date. Students can work ahead but **cannot** submit late work unless they have an excused absence. Submit your work to the appropriate folder in D2L.

- 3. Discussion (20 points per submission+5 points for replying to one of your classmates; Total=100 points)**

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Students will complete 4 discussion sessions. Students must write 1 paragraph (4-6 sentences) about the given topic of that module. All discussion points must be submitted by the due date. Students can work ahead but **cannot** submit late work unless they have an excused absence. Submit your work to the appropriate folder in D2L.

Students must write 2-3 sentences in response to one of their classmates' discussion points. Your response can be either supportive or one of a differing viewpoint of your classmate. Remember to maintain etiquette and have respect for all classmates. It's ok to have different viewpoints! That's how we learn and grow from one another. All responses must be submitted by the due date as well. Students can work ahead but **cannot** submit late work unless they have an excused absence. Submit your work to the appropriate folder in D2L.

Additional assignments may be given, which could alter the total number of possible points to be earned for this course. Students are encouraged to discuss the assignments through discussions in D2L. Assignments will be online and once assigned, students will have several days to complete them. All assignments will be completed in D2L. Students may discuss assignments with each other, but each student is responsible for her/his/their own responses. Each student is encouraged to consider the opinions of peers but arrive at one's own conclusions.

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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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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.

COMMUNICATION AND 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. 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.

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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:

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

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

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](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

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Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 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/>

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.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

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

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week	Starting Dates	Topic(s)	Reading/Media
Week 1	7/8/2024	Syllabus; Course Overview; The Psychology of Diversity: Challenges and Benefits; Central Concepts	Syllabus; See D2L Week 1 Module; Jones Chapter 1

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Week 2	7/15/2024	Central Concepts (cont'd); APA's Multicultural Guidelines; Historical Perspectives on Diversity in the United States	Jones Chapter 2; APA Guidelines pgs. 1-15; Jones Chapter 3
Week 3	7/22/2024	Social Identity, Roles, and Relations; Personality and Individual Differences; Social Cognition and Categorization	Jones Chapter 6; Kennedy Module 4 pgs. 36-62; Jones Chapter 4; Jones Chapter 5
Week 4	7/29/2024	Is Bias in the Brain?; Coping and Adapting to Stigma and Difference; Intergroup Interactions	Jones Chapter 7; Jones Chapter 8; Jones Chapter 9
Week 5	8/5/2024	Cultural Diversity: Preferences, Meaning, and Difference; Social Roles and Power in a Diverse Society; The Challenge of Diversity for Institutions; Final Reflection Paper	Jones Chapter 10; Kennedy, pgs. 1-12; Jones Chapter 11; Jones Chapter 12

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