

**HIED 670 Diversity in Higher Education  
Spring 2025**

**Professor's Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Leslie Ekpe, Ph.D., Professor
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Please make an appointment.
<b>University Email Address:</b>	Leslie.ekpe@tamuc.edu
<b>Preferred Form of Communication:</b>	email.
<b>Communication Response Time:</b>	24-48 hours during the weekdays. I may not be able to respond during the weekends.

**Course Information**

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

<b>Textbook(s) Requirement</b>	No textbook required.
<b>Software Required:</b>	None
<b>Optional Texts and/or Materials</b>	All supplemental reading or video materials are available online at no charge to students.

**Course Objective**

This course addresses diversity and inclusion issues and challenges, primarily from the constructs of race, gender, and social class viewed from a broader sociological context and then focused to the context of higher education. Other constructs will be examined as time permits.

**Course Contents**

This course has four learning components (with the term paper as its fifth unit), each with its own discussion forum and writing assignment.

- **Unit 1: Race, Part 1**
- **Unit 2: Race, Part 2**
- **Unit 3: Race, Part 3**
- **Unit 4: Gender, Part 4**
- **Unit 5: Overview of Diversity in Higher Education, Part 5**
- **Unit 6: Equity v. Equality, Part 6**
- **Unit 7: Epilogue, Due Date for Term Paper is May 4, 2025**

Your performances in Units 1 to 4 will constitute 80% of your grade. Your final term paper will constitute the remaining 20% of your final grade.

If you received an average weighted score of 79% or less, you will get a grade of "C." A score between 80% to 89% will earn you a grade of "B," and any score 90% or higher will earn you the highest grade of "A."

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

Email me at [Leslie.ekpe@tamuc.edu](mailto:Leslie.ekpe@tamuc.edu). I will reply to email messages within 48 hours, except on the weekends and holidays. Use your TAMUC email only with an appropriate message title when communicating with me.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

#### **Respect Differing Views**

As with all graduate-level classes, this course deals with common and differing ideas and opinions. Please always be scholarly, courteous, fair-minded, and respectful of each other's opinions, particularly in disagreement situations. Always be a good listener, attempting to understand other people's rationale, perspective, and beliefs. Any discourtesy and lack of respect will not be tolerated.

#### **Academic Honesty**

Academic integrity is of utmost importance in academia. Acts of academic misconduct and plagiarism are considered egregious matters that will severely jeopardize your career as a student. Plagiarism, depending on severity, will result in a failing grade for either that particular assignment or the entire course. Work produced, whether in part or in whole, from assignments for other courses will not be accepted for credit and will be considered a form of plagiarism. I expect all assignments for this course to be creative and honest representation of your scholarly work. If the evidence is clear that you have committed academic misconduct, including plagiarism, a formal charge will be filed against you following university policy. At my discretion as the course instructor, if the misconduct is not intentional, I can decide on whether a particular assignment may be rewritten and resubmitted for a maximum grade of 70% of the original total, along with other stipulations, including participation in an academic misconduct workshop.

Here are some useful resources about academic integrity:

- [Plagiarism Tutorial](#), Indiana State University, 2016, 26 mins.
- [Avoiding Plagiarism: Writing with Integrity](#), TAMU College Station, 2015, 35 mins.
- [Nine Things You Should Already Know About Plagiarism](#), University of Oklahoma, no date.
- [10 Types of Plagiarism, 2012, 4 mins](#)

## **Writing Center**

Students are encouraged to visit the A&M-Commerce Writing Center and other locations for writing assistance. Graduate students, especially at the doctoral level, are expected to have a high level of writing ability and skills. Also, as the instructor for this class, I will be providing helpful writing guidance and advice. You should also consult with your faculty advisor for any needed assistance.

## **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>

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>

## **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](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.

### **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.