



SOC 370.01W SOCIOLOGY OF RACE AND ETHNICITY

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2026

CRN: 82541

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Delia Wallace, Adjunct Faculty

Office Location: Virtual

Office Hours: By Appointment

University Email Address: Delia.Wallace@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**

Communication Response Time: **24-48 Hours**

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

COURSE INFORMATION

Web Based Course: 8/20 to 12/11, Fall 2026

Materials: Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings and Audiovisual Media

Textbook(s) Required: Racial and Ethnic Groups 15th Edition by Richard T. Schaefer

Books are required and available for purchase through the university bookstore, can be rented through subscription on the *Pearson* website, or purchased second hand from previous students/online vendors. Beyond the textbook readings, you will be assigned supplementary readings and other media that will be available for free.

Course Description

Credit Hours: 3

This undergraduate course invites students into a journey of exploring racial and ethnic identities through a sociological lens. Because these identity markers do not exist in a vacuum, students will critically examine how race and ethnicity intersect with gender, class, religion, appearance, and other social identities. The course encourages students to draw on their own identities, experiences, and understandings of the world while connecting them to classical and

contemporary sociological concepts.

Through the study of issues such as education, housing, healthcare, criminal justice, migration, and media representation, students will examine how race and ethnicity shape individual and collective experiences in the United States and globally. Emphasizing critical thinking and multiple perspectives, the course explores systems of inequality, privilege, and social change while equipping students to thoughtfully engage with the complexities of race and ethnicity in society.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain how sociologists understand race as a social construct rather than a biological fact
- Examine how historical, political, and economic contexts have shaped racial categories and racial and ethnic relations
- Analyze how racial and ethnic inequality is embedded within major social institutions, including education, housing, health care, the criminal legal system, and the economy
- Apply classical and contemporary sociological theories and perspectives to interpret issues related to race and ethnicity
- Engage in respectful, evidence-based discussions about race and ethnicity while demonstrating openness to diverse perspectives
- Apply the sociological imagination to connect personal experiences with broader patterns of inequality, power, and social change

Course Schedule

- Modules open: **Mondays at 12:01 AM**
- Assignments due: **Sundays at 11:59 PM**
- Expect to log in multiple times per week

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To be successful in the course you must be able to use D2L, and use Microsoft Word and PowerPoint or Google Docs and Slides. Active participation will be crucial to complete requirements.

Instructional Methods

This course will be delivered fully online. You must have access to D2L in order to complete the requirements for this course.

Student Responsibilities and Tips for Success in the Course

You must log into D2L multiple times a week in order to be successful in this course. All course communications and assignments will be completed through D2L. The syllabus and course schedule is subject to change. For this reason, it is important that you review the D2L portal and syllabus for any updates posted to it on a regular basis. All announcements posted on the home page of this course very carefully and follow all instructions about course objectives, grading procedures, etc. Ignorance about details given in the course syllabus and various announcements posted on the D2L website cannot be accepted as an excuse in any manner. I urge that you fully understand course requirements and grading procedures. That will be the key to doing well in the course.

If you have questions regarding access to D2L or technical requirements, information to reach out to Campus IT is provided below.

The class will be presented asynchronously, which means that you will be responsible for individually completing your readings and assignments based on the instructions and resources you are provided. Be sure to read the instructions given each week carefully.

When reaching out via email, please specify the following: your full name and the course # you are enrolled in. You can also get an appointment for office hours through an e-mail.

GRADING

Grade Policies

For incompletes, you must speak with me ahead of time and have completed most of the course work. **I do not round grades**, and I do not change grades after they have been submitted. Grades are available on D2L so you can track your up to date progress in the course. Any extra credit opportunities will be disclosed on D2L.

Late Work

Assignments may be submitted up to one week late (no questions asked) with a 10% penalty (excluding final assignment). Once the assignment submission window is closed, I will not reopen it unless proof of extenuating circumstances is provided.

Grading Scale

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

Grading Breakdown

10 Discussions - 25 points each - 250 total

3 Assignments - 50 points each - 150 total

2 Exams - 100 points each - 200 total

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

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@etamu.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 ETAMU 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

I am committed to fostering a respectful, inclusive, and supportive learning environment. As an adjunct instructor, I encourage students to communicate professionally and reach out with questions or concerns in a timely manner. Email is the best way to contact me, and I will respond as promptly as possible during the workweek. Thoughtful participation, mutual respect, and constructive dialogue are essential to creating a positive learning experience for everyone in the course.

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>

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<https://www.etamu.edu/attendance/>

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.06.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University 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:

[Student Academic Integrity](#)

[Student Academic Dishonesty](#)

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

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu

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

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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.

WebURL:

<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 East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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.etamu.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR

All assignments will be due the Sunday of that designated week at 11:59 pm.
(Unless specified otherwise)

Start Date:	Module/Assignment Description:	Due Date:
8/20	Intro Week	8/30
	- Review the <i>Course Syllabus</i> and <i>Course Schedule</i> in their entirety - Topics - Race, Ethnicity, and Culture	
	❖ Discussion 1 - Intro to Class	
8/24	Week 1	8/30

Start Date:	Module/Assignment Description:	Due Date:
	• Topics - Race, Ethnicity, and Culture Continued	
	❖ Readings: ➢ Class textbook: Chapter 1 (pp.1-30) ➢ Loveman, Mara. 1999. "Is 'Race' Essential?" ❖ Assignment 1	
8/31	Week 2	9/6
	• Topics - Prejudice	
	❖ Readings and other media: ➢ Class textbook: Chapter 2 (pp.31-54) ➢ Vedantam, Banaji, et. al. (2018) <i>The Mind Of The Village: Understanding Our Implicit Biases</i>. Hidden Brain Podcast. NPR. ❖ Discussion 2	
9/7	Week 3	9/13
	• Topics - Discrimination	
	❖ Readings and other media: ➢ Class textbook: Chapter 3 (pp.55-73) ➢ Vedantam, et. al. (2021) "Is It Better Now?" Hidden Brain Podcast. NPR. ❖ Discussion 3	
9/14	Week 4	9/20
	❖ Topics - Intersectionality	
	❖ Readings: ➢ Collins, P. H. (2019). <i>Intersectionality as critical social theory</i>. Duke University Press. ➢ ❖ Discussion 4	
9/21	Week 5	9/27
	❖ Topics - Immigration	
	❖ Readings: ➢ Class textbook: Chapter 4 (pp.78-100) ➢ Lee, J., & Bean, F. D. (2004). <i>America's Changing Color Lines: Immigration, Race/Ethnicity, and Multiracial Identification</i>. Annual Review of Sociology. ❖ Assignment 2	
9/28	Week 6	10/4
	❖ Topics: Religion	
	❖ Readings: ➢ Class textbook:	

Start Date:	Module/Assignment Description:	Due Date:
	■ Chapter 11 (pp. 244-250) ■ Chapter 14 (pp. 303; 312-319)	
	❖ Discussion 5	
10/5	Week 7	10/11
	❖ No readings	
	❖ MIDTERM EXAM	
10/12	Week 8	10/18
	❖ Topics - Healthcare	
	❖ Readings: ➢ Class textbook: Chapter 17 (pp. 370-374) ➢ Rodriguez, V. E., Enriquez, L. E., Ro, A., & Ayón, C. (2023). <i>Immigration-Related Discrimination and Mental Health among Latino Undocumented Students and U.S. Citizen Students with Undocumented Parents: A Mixed-Methods Investigation</i>. <i>Journal of Health and Social Behavior</i>.	
	❖ Discussion 6	
10/19	Week 9	10/25
	❖ Topics - Education	
	❖ Readings: ➢ Class textbook: Chapter 12 (pp. 264-265) ➢ Fordham, Signithia, and John U. Ogbu. (1986). <i>Black Students' School Success: Coping with the burden of Acting White</i>. <i>The Urban Review</i>.	
	❖ Discussion 7	
10/26	Week 10	11/1
	❖ Topics - Class	
	❖ Reading: ➢ Pager, D. (2003). <i>The Mark of a Criminal Record</i>. <i>The American Journal of Sociology</i>.	
	❖ Assignment 3	
11/2	Week 11	11/8
	❖ Topics -Identity formation, classification and racialization	
	❖ Reading and other media: ➢ Saldivar, E., Arenas, E., & Binmoeller, C. (2024). <i>Unpacking the “fluidity” of Mestizaje: how anti-indigenous and anti-black racism determine</i>	

Start Date:	Module/Assignment Description:	Due Date:
	<i>social relations and economic destinations of Mestizos. Ethnic and Racial Studies.</i> ➤ Youtube video: <i>Brief Political History of Race in Latin America</i> ❖ Discussion 8	
11/9	Week 12	11/15
	❖ Topics - Multiracial Marriages and Identities	
	❖ Reading: ➤ Kim-Breunig, H., & Vittrup, B. (2024). <i>Racial/Ethnic Socialization Practices of Biracial Asian Children in the United States</i>. Journal of Family Issues. ❖ Discussion 9	
11/16	Week 13 THANKSGIVING BREAK (2 DAYS)	11/22
	❖ Topics - No New Content	
	❖ Enjoy your holiday! ❖ Take advantage of the EXTRA CREDIT	
11/23	Week 14	11/29
	❖ Topics - Globalization of Race	
	❖ Reading: ➤ Brodtkin, K. (2000). <i>Global Capitalism: What's Race Got to Do With It?</i> American Ethnologist. ❖ Discussion 10	
11/30	Week 15	12/6
	❖ Final Exam Prep	
12/7	Week 16 - FINAL EXAM	12/11