

SOC 168.20 INTRODUCTION TO ETHNIC STUDIES

TTH: 2-3:20

Fall 2007

3 Credit Hours

Location: Lee Drain Building, Room 213

Instructor: Holly Lyke-Ho-Gland

Office: AB1 318A

Office Hours: T- Th 8-9:30 am, 11am -2pm

Phone: 294-3506

E-Mail: stdhml14@shsu.edu

Required Text: Vincent Parrillo, (2006) STRANGERS TO THESE SHORES, 8th Ed., Allyn Bacon/Longman.

Course Description: In this introductory course students will explore ethnicity, race, religious affiliation and gender using sociological concepts. The main theories used to understand minority studies will be introduced and students will examine the histories and current circumstances and general data of the principal minority groups in the U.S.

Course Objectives: By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Explain basic sociological principles, concepts and issues related to race/ethnic/gender studies
2. Be able to apply concepts like prejudice and discrimination to contemporary and historical events and trends as they reflect minority issues.
3. Apply course material in an examination of how your own reference groups fit in an increasingly diverse U.S. society.

Exams and Grading: The four exams will cover the assigned chapters in the textbook AND the material discussed in class. Although much of the class lectures will refer to the text, new material will also be introduced. You are expected to read and study the textbook independently. Information discussed in class, as well as that contained in the assigned readings, even if they are not reviewed in class, may appear on exams.

Make-up exams will be given only if arranged with the professor PRIOR to the day of the scheduled exam to be missed and ONLY if the reason for the absence is deemed valid by the professor.

There will be four equally weighted exams (25% each). These will consist of multiple-choice questions. On exam day, you must bring a Scantron. Each exam will be worth 100 points for a semester total of 400.

400-360 = A
359-320 = B
319-280 = C
279-240 = D
239-0 = F

Attendance: Attendance is factored into your grade. Attendance may be taken at every class. Students who arrive once class is underway, or leave early, may be counted absent unless the late arrival/early departure has been negotiated with the professor prior to the class meeting. **Attendance is just that – credit for attending class. Signing the roll sheet and then leaving does not constitute attendance.** Students who do this will be counted absent for the class.

Extra Credit: Will be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

Academic Dishonesty: Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Cheating on an exam, quiz and/or assignment is an act of dishonesty. Students who cheat will automatically receive the grade of zero (0) for the exam, quiz or assignment in question. Students who cheat more than once will receive an automatic F in the class. See Student Syllabus Guidelines <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Classroom Rules of Conduct: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. **Students are to turn off all cell phones** while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record or utilize computers for notes during lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process. See Student Syllabus Guidelines <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days: Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. See Student Syllabus Guidelines <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Students with Disabilities Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center and then meet with the instructor so that appropriate accommodations may be made. This

meeting should take place within the first two weeks of the semester. See Student Syllabus Guidelines <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Visitors in the Classroom : Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office. See Student Syllabus Guidelines <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Instructor Evaluations: Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form towards the end of the course.

TENATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

August 21 Course Introduction/Syllabus

Part 1: Sociological Framework

August 23, 28 The Study of Minorities (Chapter 1)

Aug 30, Sept 4 Cultures and Social Structure (Chapter 2)

September 6, 11 Prejudice and Discrimination (Chapter 3)

September 13, 18 Dominant-Minority Relations (Chapter 4)

September 20, 25 Exam 1 Week

September 25 **Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4)**

Part 2: European Americans

Sept 27, Oct 2 Northern and Western Europeans (Chapter 5)

October 4, 9 Southern, Central and Eastern Europeans (Chapter 6)

Part 3: People of Color

October 11, 16 Native Americans (Chapter 7)

October 18, 23 Exam 2 Week

October 23 **Exam 2 (Chapters 5-7)**

October 25, 30 East and Southeast Asian Americans/Other Asian (Chapter 8-9)

November 1, 6 Black American (Chapter 10)

November 8, 13 Exam 3 Week

November 13 **Exam 3 (Chapters 8, 9, 10)**

Thanksgiving Break November 14, 5, 16

Part 4 Other Minorities

November 20, 22 Hispanic Americans (Chapter 11)

November 27, 29 Religious Minorities (Chapter 12)

December 4, 6 Women (Chapter 13)

Final Exam Thursday December 13 from 2:00pm- 4:00 pm