

SOC 168.11: Introduction to Ethnic Studies
Spring, 2008
3 Credit Hours

Class Meeting Times: TU/TH 12:30pm - 1:50pm

Location of Class Meeting: SHB 206

Instructor: Dr. Jin Young Choi

Office: AB1, Room 311G

Office Hours: TU/TH 2:00pm to 3:30pm or by appointment

Phone: (936) 294- 3424 Dept. (936) 294-1512

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Required Text

Vincent N. Parrillo. 2006. Strangers to These Shores: Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States . (8th ed.). Pearson Education, Inc.

Course Description

This course will introduce students to the study of race and ethnic relations from a sociological perspective. Initially, students will be exposed to the basic concepts and theories of race and ethnicity and will examine the histories and current experiences of the principal minority groups in the U.S. The primary goal of this class is to extend the students' understanding about various minority groups and the social issues surrounding those groups in this diverse society. No prerequisite courses are required.

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate gaining of factual knowledge about histories and current racial and ethnic experiences in the U.S.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of fundamental concepts and theories of race and ethnicity.
3. Apply course materials to improve thinking and critically analyze the issues related to ethnic and race and gender relations within our society.

Exams and Grading Plan

The final grade for the course will be based on three exams and any extra credit points earned during the semester.

Exams

The **three exams** will consist of multiple-choice questions and true/false questions. The exams will cover assigned chapters in the textbook and the material discussed in class. **Each exam will be equally weighted (100 points)** and there will be **300 total points** for the final grade. **Make-up exams will only be given 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 considered valid by the instructor.** The make up exams will likely be more difficult than the regular scheduled exams.

Extra credit

Students will have several opportunities to earn extra credit points during the semester. First, a **5-point** extra credit opportunity will be made available during the semester. The extra credit will be to watch the **movie "Crash" and answer a short quiz on the movie**. A study guide will be provided. Second, a **5-point** extra credit opportunity of **ethnic recipe** will be available. In your recipe, you have to include: (a) name of the food, (b) ingredients, (c) details of how to cook, (d) country of origin and occasion of having the food, and (e) a brief description of history and meaning of the food. The ethnic recipe is due on **April 29, 2008. Late submissions will not be accepted**. Other opportunities to earn extra credit may be announced in class. Furthermore, **some extra credit opportunities will be provided as a part of class activities during the class. Those who miss those opportunities due to their absence will not be given another opportunity to earn the points**. I will discuss extra credit more as the semester progresses. Earning extra credit is recommended.

Grading Chart

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

300-270	=	A
269-240	=	B
239-210	=	C
209-180	=	D
179-0	=	F

Attendance Policy

SHSU policy is that attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend all classes and participate fully in class activities. Tardiness will be not accepted. Students who are not present 5 minutes after the start of class will be counted absent. **Students who attend all classes will receive 5 extra points towards their total accumulated points**. Students are expected to show an appropriate cause for both absences and tardiness and are also expected to initiate action to satisfy all missed class work. Documentation is required for an absence to be excused. **Students are responsible for obtaining class materials for the classes that they miss**. Failure to do so will affect students' grades.

Instructor Evaluations

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating will receive an F for that assignment with more severe sanctions as appropriate.

Americans with Disabilities Act

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 must register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located

in the Counseling Center and then arrange a conference with the instructor in order that accommodations can be made to assure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

Religious Holidays

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. "Religious Holy Day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20 of the Tax Code. Students should contact the instructor as soon as possible regarding any missed classes due to "Religious Holy Days".

Classroom Rules of Conduct

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students shall arrive to class on time and be respectful to their other students. If a student needs to arrive to class late or leave class early the student will make the professor aware of these needs prior to class time. All cell phones, iPods, and beepers must be turned off and stowed away while in the classroom. Students who disrupt the class will be contacted by the professor to adjust their behaviors. In extreme cases students who cannot comply with these requirements can be removed and resigned from the class. See the following link for details: <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>.

Visitors to the Classroom

Unannounced visitors to the class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor is allowed to remain in the classroom.

COURSE OUTLINE

Jan. 17	Introduction
Jan. 22-24	The Study of Minorities (CH1)
Jan. 29- 31	Culture and Social Structure (CH2)
Feb. 5- Feb.12	Prejudice and Discrimination (CH3)
Feb. 14-21	Dominant-Minority Relations (CH4)
Feb. 26	MIDTERM I (CH1-CH4)
Feb. 28-March 4	Application of Sociological concepts and Theories
March 6	European Americans
March 11-13	NO CLASS (Spring Break)
March 18-20	Northern and Western Europeans (CH5); Southern, Central, and Eastern Europeans (CH6)
March 25-27	The Native Americans (CH7)
April 1-3	East and Southeast Asian Americans (CH8); Other Asian and Middle Eastern Americans (CH9)
April 8	MIDTERM II (CH5-CH9)
April 10-17	Black Americans (CH10)
April 22-24	Hispanic Americans (CH11)
April 29- May 6	Religious Minorities (CH12); Women as Minority Group (CH13)
FINAL EXAM	The final exam date is determined by university schedule. (CH10-CH13)

Student/Professor Agreement (Due January 31, 2008)

SOCIOLOGY 168: INTRODUCTION TO ETHNIC STUDIES

Section 11

Instructor: Jin Young Choi

Class Meet Tuesday and Thursday 12:30pm to 1:50pm (SHB 206)

I _____ have read the preceding syllabus in its entirety and agree to abide
(print name)
by the conditions set forth in the said document. Failure to do so will result in the
aforementioned consequences.

X _____
(signature) (date)