

INTRODUCTION TO ETHNIC STUDIES

SOC 168
SPRING 2008
Internet Course
3 Credit Hours

Instructor: Dr. A. Bonanno

Office: AB 1, room 311a

Phone (936) 294-1488

E-MAIL: SOC_AAB@SHSU.EDU

Office Hours: In person T-W-Th by appointment. Available on line M. though F. 8:00 am 5:00 pm

Required Text: Parrillo, Vincent N. 2006. *Strangers to these Shores*. Eighth Edition. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide students with **facts and theories** about the topic of ethnic studies in sociology. At the outset of the semester, students will be exposed to the basic theoretical paradigms of the discipline. Subsequently, this knowledge will be employed to study ethnic and racial social relations, their interpretations, and pertinent debates in current scientific literature. The course will focus on most racial and ethnic groups, religious groups, and women in the United States. Students will become familiar with key concepts - such as culture, minority, ethnocentrism and stratification - and their analytic uses. This is a freshman level course. No Prerequisite courses necessary.

The Internet

This is an internet course. You are required to have an SHSU e-mail address in order to attend the class. The SHSU e-mail address is necessary to access *Blackboard* which is the software used for the course. It is available in the SHSU web page. To log on, you need to type your SHSU e-mail ID and your SHSU password. Once in Blackboard, click on SOC 168, and you will enter the menu environment. Click on the item that you would like to see to get the necessary information. For instance, if you click on *Course Information* you will see a copy of this class syllabus. If you click on *Assignments* you will read the topic assigned for the day. Take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the software. **Remember, all the necessary information concerning the assignments and tests is contained in the Syllabus.**

Classroom Meetings There will be no actual classroom meetings. This is a full internet course.

Evaluations:

There will be **two (2)** exams during the course of the semester. Each exam will be equal to one hundred (100) points or fifty percent (50%) of the final grade. These are fifty (50) question- multiple-choice exams that cover material assigned during the class period preceding each exam. These are **NOT** comprehensive examinations. Also, these exams are **open book exams**. Please note that if you log off before completing the exam, you cannot go back and re-start it. Accordingly, an advanced internet connection is recommended. **Students need to log on to Blackboard to take each of the two exams** (see course schedule for the exam dates). **Students will have fifty minutes to complete each of the two exams. Those who take more than the assigned time to complete the tests will be assessed a one point penalty for each additional minute used. Students are required to keep time when taking the tests and are responsible for it. No time warnings are provided**

Grades:

A total of 200 possible points will be available. Grades will be assigned according to the following chart:

200-180 - A
179-160 - B
159-140 - C
139-120 - D
119-0 - F

Extra Credit

2 (two) extra credit points will be given to students who will e-mail summaries of the assigned chapters to Dr. Bonanno. To be accepted, the summaries must have the following specifications.

- Summaries must be at least one single-spaced page long with one inch margin for the top, bottom, left and right sides of the page. Students must use a 12 Times New Roman font. Summaries can be longer than one page. Shorter-than-one-page summaries will be rejected. A full page of text is equal to that page that does not include line breaks between paragraphs and that has no more than one line used to write the student's name on the document. The student's name must appear on the summary.
- Summaries must be sent after the chapter has been assigned and before the assigned deadline. The deadline is the end of the day (12 midnight) specified by Dr. Bonanno. For instance the summary of chapter one "The Study of Minorities" must be sent to Dr. Bonanno by January 22 before the end of the day (12:00 midnight). The summary of chapter 2

“Culture and Social Structure” must be sent before the end of January 29 etc. (see class schedule for due deadlines). Summaries sent after the end of the due day will not be taken into account. Please note that summaries must be received before 12:00 midnight on the due date. The time recorded on your electronic transmission (e-mail) will be used to determine when the summary was sent. Be advised that there can be a discrepancy between the time shown by your computer and that used by the SHSU Computing Services. It is prudent to send you summaries at least 30 minutes before 12:00 midnight.

- Summaries should be e-mailed to Dr. Bonanno (soc_aab@shsu.edu). They can be e-mailed as attachments or pasted to the text of your e-mail. Please use a Word file if you send an attachment. If you do not have access to Word, paste your summary to your e-mail to Dr. Bonanno. Please note that attached file containing programs other than Word may not open under the SHSU computing system. Once a summary is received and reviewed, Dr. Bonanno will send back a short e-mail with the status of the summary (accepted/rejected). In the event that the summary is accepted, the two extra credit points will be posted on Blackboard. The updating of extra credit grades will occur once a week. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within 48 hours from the time you sent your e-mail, assume that your summary was not received. Also, if your extra credit grade has not been updated by the end of the week when you received the acknowledgement, contact Dr. Bonanno immediately.
- Summaries should contain an accurate representation of the assigned chapter. They should review well the items that Dr. Bonanno lists on his “study tips”, (see Tasks in Blackboard) and summarize the rest of the chapter. Though personal comments are allowed, they should not be use to substitute for the review of the content of the chapter.
- **A total of ten (10) summaries or twenty extra points are allowed.** This is a very generous extra credit program. But to take full advantage of it, you need to begin sending your summaries since the outset of the semester. Because you can submit only ten summaries for extra credit, there are a few chapter summaries that you cannot send to receive extra credit. You are allowed to decide which chapter summaries you send in for extra credit.

10 Extra Credit Points can be obtained by writing an essay on the following topic. This essay should be 1,000 words or greater. Essays of less than 1,000

words will not be taken into consideration. E-mail your essays to Dr. Bonanno by **MAY 8, 2008**.

TITLE OF ESSAY: “Films, music, literature, and philosophy are all cultural expressions that reflect human values and the social contexts within which they are created. For this essay, select a film, a musical piece, a work of literature or philosophy at your discretion and discuss its social and cultural dimensions. Additionally, stress how this work of the arts or humanities has enriched your personal intercultural experience and/or that of your community.”

Make up Exams: There will be **NO SCHEDULED MAKE UP EXAMS**. In the event that a student could not take the test during the scheduled time window, s/he must notify Dr. Bonanno prior to the exam. Dr. Bonanno reserves the right to deny a make up exam.

Academic Dishonesty

SHSU expects all students 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 the academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Cheating on an exam is an act of dishonesty. Students who cheat will automatically receive the grade of 0 (zero) in the exam or assignment in question. Students who cheat more than once will receive an automatic F in the class. This statement is in accordance with SHSU Policy Statement 810213.

Students with Disabilities: SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then you are encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with Dr. Bonanno about how you can be helped. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

Religious Holy Days: Students desiring to abstain from a scheduled assignment in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to Dr. Bonanno a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester.

Instructor Evaluation: Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation. While voluntary, it is recommended that students complete the evaluation form. It will be available on line toward the end of the semester.

Course Outline

January 15-22	The Study of Minorities (Chapter 1). Extra credit summaries are due January 22, before 12:00 midnight.
January 23-29	Culture and Social Structure (Chapter 2). Extra credit summaries are due January 29, before 12:00 midnight.
Jan. 30- Feb.5	Prejudice and Discrimination (Chapter 3). Extra credit summaries are due February 5, before 12:00 midnight.
February 6-12	Dominant-Minority Relations (Chapter 4). Extra credit summaries are due February 12 before 12:00 midnight.
February 13-19	Northern and Western Europeans (Chapter 5). Extra credit summaries are February 19 before 12:00 midnight.
February. 20-26	Southern, Central, and Eastern Europeans (Chapter 6). Extra credit summaries are due February 26 before 12:00 midnight.
Feb. 27- March 4	Native Americans (Chapter 7). Extra credit summaries are due March 4 before 12:00 midnight.
March 5-17	East and Southeast Asian Americans (Chapter 8). Extra credit summaries are due March 17 before 12:00 midnight.
March 10-14	Spring Break. Review first eight chapters in preparation for the mid-term exam.
March 18	Mid-Term Exam. You have from 1:00 am to 7:00 pm to access the exam on blackboard. You have fifty minutes, from the time you access the exam, to complete it. Once you access the exam, you must complete it as you are not allowed to log on a second time. A one point penalty per extra minute used will be assessed to those take more than the assigned time to complete the test. Students are required to keep time during the test. No time warnings will be provided. This is a fifty question, open-book multiple-choice exam. Therefore, you are allowed to consult the book and class notes. The test will cover the chapters 1 through 8.

- March 19-25 Other Asian and Middle Eastern Americans (Chapter 9); Extra credit summaries are due March 25 before 12:00 midnight.
- March 26- April 1 Black Americans (Chapter 10). Extra credit summaries are due April 1 before 12:00 midnight.
- April 2-8 Hispanic Americans (Chapter 11). Extra credit summaries are due April 8 before 12:00 midnight.
- April 9-15 Religious Minorities (Chapter 12). Extra credit summaries are due April 15 before 12:00 midnight.
- April 16-22 Women as a minority (Chapter 13) Extra credit summaries are due April 22 before 12:00 midnight.
- April 23-29 The Ever-Changing U.S. Mosaic (Chapter 14). Extra credit summaries are due April 29 before 12:00 midnight.
- April 30-May 8 Review chapters 9 through 14 in preparation for your final.
- May 12 **FINAL EXAM. You have from 1:00 am to 7:00 pm to access the exam on blackboard. You have fifty minutes, from the time you access the exam, to complete it. Once you access the exam, you must complete it as you are not allowed to log on a second time. A one point penalty per extra minute used will be assessed to those take more than the assigned time to complete the test. Students are required to keep time during the test. No time warnings will be provided. This is a fifty question, open-book multiple-choice exam. Therefore you are allowed to consult the book and class notes. This final exam will cover chapters 9 though 14.**