

**Soc 215 Section 201: Women and Men in Contemporary  
Society  
Summer 2008**

**Class Information**

Parkinson 221  
MTWRF: 11:00am-12:00 noon

**Instructor Information**

Nadia Amin  
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Office hours: T 12:15am-3:15pm  
W 12:15am-3:15pm

**Required Text**

Healy, Joseph. 2004. Diversity and Society: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender. Pine Forge Press.

Healy, Joseph. 2004. Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Selected Readings. Pine Forge Press.

**Course Objectives:** The objectives of this course are to:

Demonstrate an understanding of such sociological concepts as assimilation, pluralism, ascribed and achieved status, prejudice and discrimination, b)display basic knowledge of historical, socioeconomic, and political demographics of various racial/ethnic groups in the United States, c)demonstrate critical thinking and understanding about different theories and perspectives pertaining to race, class, gender, and sexuality, and d) apply sociological concepts for the analysis of race and ethnicity to personal and/or familial experiences.

**Course Description:** This course is designed to familiarize you with social and sociological theories and concepts regarding race and ethnic relations in United States. We will also examine intersection of race, ethnicity, and gender and their influence on major social institutions.

**Course Requirements**

**Attendance and participation:** Since lectures will incorporate material from the textbooks and other external resources, your attendance in this class is required. I will take random attendances throughout this semester. Students' participation in the class makes it more exciting not only for instructor but also for other fellow students. I would not want you to lose attendance and participation points either!

**Exams:** There will be three exams, consisting of multiple choice, and true/false questions. Exams may include material from the textbook as well as from the lecture. The exams will NOT be cumulative, although an understanding of certain key concepts will be required throughout the semester. There will be no makeup exams except at the discretion of the instructor, and any makeup must be completed within 3 days of the test date. **No make-up exams will be given for the final exam or unexcused absences on regular test days.**

**Quizzes:** Throughout the semester 5 quizzes covering both textbook and lecture material will be administered. These quizzes are designed to familiarize you with the format and material that will be covered on upcoming exams. The quizzes will also help you assess your grasp on relevant sociological concepts/terms for each exam.

**Discussion Assignment:** You have to lead discussion on ONE chapter in this course. See course schedule for information on chapters. Your job is to come up with 3 questions that you think should be talked about in class regarding that chapter. You are expected to lead discussion in class based on your questions. (I will act as a moderator). In addition, you are also required to write a paper in which you have to explain the relevance and significance of your questions to the chapter. Also, why you chose to talk about issue highlighted in your questions. The paper has to be 2-3 pages. The assignment is worth 20 points.

**Reflection Papers:** Your reader has chapters which correspond to your text. Choose TWO chapters that interest you. Next identify a relevant article for each chapter in your reader book. You have to write two papers in total. Each paper is worth 10 points. These should be 2-3 page typed papers. You have to summarize and explain the relevance of the article to the chapter covered in class. Also, highlight important terms from the chapter and the reader. Detailed instructions will be given in the class. The paper is due the first day we start that chapter. See course schedule for due dates.

I will deduct 3 points for late papers. However, once we have finished a chapter in class you can not turn in the reflection paper for that chapter.

NOTE: I will **NOT** grade any paper sent to me via email. If you have trouble turning in a hard copy please talk to me before hand.

**Grading Criteria:**

3 Exams	100 points each	300 points
Reflection papers	10 points each	20 points
Discussion assignment		20 points
Attendance & participation		20 points
5 Quizzes	10 points each	50 points

The grading scale will be as follows: A=90% and above, B=80% and above, C=70% and above D=69% and below

**Plagiarism:** You are not allowed to copy or use someone else's work without giving them credit for it. I will also discuss the proper citation style in class. Plagiarized work WILL result in a grade of -0- for the assignment. Please see SIUC student code of conduct for details. ([http://www.siu.edu/gradschl/catalog/Student\\_Conduct\\_Code.pdf](http://www.siu.edu/gradschl/catalog/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf))

**Class Discussion Rule:** Keep in mind that we will engage in discussions on some interesting but controversial topics in this course. Therefore respect to others and their opinion is expected. Any disruption, disregard and lack of concern for others' opinion will not be tolerated.

## **Course Schedule**

### Chapter 1

- Jun 9 Introduction and Distribution of syllabus  
Intro. to the study of Race and Ethnicity
- Jun 10 Minority groups
- Jun 11 Theories on stratification and inequality
- Jun 12 Dominant-Minority relations  
Readings: Chapter 1

### Chapter 2

- Jun 13 Prejudice and Discrimination
- Jun 16 Assimilation: Patterns and theories  
**Quiz 1**
- Jun 17 Pluralism: Types and theories  
Readings: Chapter 2
- Jun 18 Discussion

### Chapter 3

- Jun 19 Pre industrial U.S Dominant-Minority Relations
- Jun 20 Slavery
- Jun 21 Creation of minority status for Native and Mexican Americans  
Readings: Chapter 3
- Jun 22 **Exam 1**

### Chapter 4

- Jun 23 Post-industrial U.S Dominant-Minority relations  
Segregation, Jim Crow  
**Quiz 2**
- Jun 24 Reconstruction, Competition  
Readings: Chapter 4
- Jun 25 Post industrial world: Globalization, Labor market
- Jun 26 Discussion

### Chapter 5

- Jun 27 Contemporary U.S Dominant-Minority Relations  
African Americans
- Jun 30 Political and Social Movements
- July 1 class differentiation, reparations, de facto segregation  
Readings: Chapter 5
- July 2 Discussion

Chapter 6

- July 1 Native Americans  
July 3 Relocation, reservations, relations with the State  
Readings: Chapter 6  
**Quiz 3**  
July 7 Coercive acculturation, resistance, Red power movement  
July 8 Discussion

Chapter 7

- July 9 Hispanic American: Immigration history  
Readings: Chapter 7  
July 10 Colonization, Chicanismo, gender and protest movements  
July 11 Contemporary Hispanic American immigration trends  
July 14 Discussion  
**Quiz 4**  
July 15 **Exam 2**

Chapter 8

- July 16 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders  
Reading: Chapter 8  
July 17 labor market and enclaves  
July 18 examining Diaspora's diversity  
July 21 Discussion

Chapter 9

- July 22 White Ethnic groups  
Readings: Chapter 9  
July 23 assimilation, mobility  
**Quiz 5**  
July 24 symbolic ethnicity, ethnic revival  
Discussion  
July 25 Future of Race and Ethnicity in U.S.  
July 28 patterns, themes, diversity  
July 29 Wrap up and Exam Review

Final Exam Date to be announced

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes in this syllabus if the need should arise. These changes will be announced in lecture.

The following is the SIUC policy on emergencies:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety emergencies are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in building on campus, available on BERT's website at [www.bert.siu.edu](http://www.bert.siu.edu), the Department of Public Safety's website at [www.d~s.siu.edu](http://www.d~s.siu.edu), and in the Emergency Response Guidelines Pamphlet. Know how to respond in each emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting in your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.