

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Social Sciences [Sociology]

SYLLABUS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE ANYTIME

Race and Ethnic Relations - SOC 31-D04 57542 M/W 4:35-5:50P BA 305

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 315PM to 415PM, or by appointment

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Description of Course:

This course will reflect central issues in the study of ethnicity and race in America. We will focus on the old and new immigration which includes immigration from Eastern and Southern Europe, the Caribbean, Asia, the Middle East and Africa. We will consider the role of language, race and mode of entry as a way to understand modes of assimilation; as well as consider the structural nature of race and ethnic relations and challenge the cultural. We will address major theoretical frameworks in the field of ethnicity and race, as well as the socio-historical nature of race and ethnicity.

Recommended textbook: Parrillo, Vincent N. *Strangers to these Shores*. 11th Edition. Pearson, NY, 2014 (or any other edition however, you might need to reference a copy in the library at times if you choose another edition). You may purchase either a hard (used or new) or electronic copy of the textbook.

Alapo, R. 2016. **Generation X: The Role of Culture on the Leadership Styles of Women in Leadership Positions**. ASTA Publications. ISBN: 978 – 1 - 934947 – 95 – 1. Available on Amazon / Barnes and Noble - Book: \$19.99, ebook: \$9.99.

Grading Procedure:

Attendance / Participation	25
QUIZ	25



Short answer essay
(weeks 1 – 6 content)

MIDTERM 25

**Response / Research
paper 1** (weeks 7 – 11
content)

FINAL EXAM 25

**Response / Research
paper 2 and PPT
Presentation** (weeks 12
– 15 content)

Participation and Attendance (25% of Grade): Throughout the semester you will be required to participate and attend class on a regular basis in class discussions on specific topics pertaining to Race and Ethnic Relations.

QUIZ

Short answer essays: will be drawn from some of the questions at the back of each chapter including other journal articles, films, and other lectures. Questions will be posted on BB.

MIDTERM EXAM

Response / Research Papers 1: There will be 2 short response essays / research papers (750 – 1000 words double spaced 3 – 4 typed written pages excluding title and reference pages). The particular topic and due date will be discussed later on during the semester – see the back of this syllabus for possible research paper topics – Intro and preliminary findings of issues related to the topic (s) selected. You will add to this paper in the 2nd response / research paper for the final exam.

FINAL EXAM

Response / Research paper 2 and PPT presentation: The 1st response paper will be the midterm exam. The 2nd response paper and the powerpoint oral presentation will be the final



exam. All exams will cover assigned readings, class lectures, discussions, and films. **No makeup exams will be given unless documentation under the college guidelines is provided.**

NO INCOMPLETE GRADES GIVEN AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER – PLAN AHEAD.

*This syllabus is a rough outline of the course work we will be exploring this semester. It might change as we get inspired by a particular topic over another.

You can borrow a textbook, for a few hours, from the library (reserve library section). The first three chapters of the text will be placed on electronic reserve (you can access the chapters from the BCC website).

Class Participation and Attendance: The course format will be mixed lecture with class discussions. Course grades will also be influenced by class participation and improvement over the course of semester. Students are also required to participate in both classroom and blackboard discussions. **Civility** - tolerance for the viewpoints of others will be a norm in classroom discussion. All viewpoints will be respected without exception.

Class attendance and participation are significant components of the learning process and play a major role in determining overall student academic achievement. **Attendance is expected.** It is a departmental policy that attendance will be required and will be counted toward your final grade. Students are allowed two unexcused absences. In case of an unavoidable absence, students must provide evidence of reason for absence. Excessive unexcused absences will lead to a reduction in the overall final grade. Class will begin promptly. Arrival after the starting time will constitute as lateness as well as leaving class early. Two late two arrivals will count as an unexcused absence.

Attendance and Corresponding Grade Scale:

1 Unexcused Absence	2 Point Grade Reduction
2 Unexcused Absences	4 Point Grade Reduction
3 or more Unexcused Absences	5 Point Grade Reduction

Blackboard is an important component of this course. I will post lecture outlines, and important class-related announcements to the website. You are responsible for all material posted to Blackboard and should check it at least twice a week in order to keep current with the class. Students must obtain a CUNY portal account to have access to blackboard. **A copy of the BCC Academic calendar is posted on BB. It is your responsibility to take note of assignment due dates and holidays.**



Cell phones and laptops will be turned off during the class period.

Dates for lecture topics and assigned readings. **All Dates and topics are Tentative**

Required Readings and Exam dates:

PART I – SOCIOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Weeks 1: Chapter 1: The Study of Minorities

Week 2: Chapter 2: Culture and Social Structure

Weeks 3: Chapter 3: Prejudice and Discrimination

Week 4: Chapter 4: Inter Group Relations

PART II – EUROPEAN AMERICANS / VISIBLE MAJORITIES

Weeks 5: Chapters 5: North and West European Americans

Week 6: Chapter 6: South, Central, and East European Americans – **QUIZ: Short answer essays questions.**

PART III – VISIBLE MINORITIES

Week 7: American Indians

Week 8: Asian Americans

Week 9: Middle Eastern and North African Americans.

Week 10: Chapter 10: Black Americans

Week 11: Chapter 11: Hispanic Americans –**MIDTERM EXAM: Response/Research paper 1**

PART IV – OTHER MINORITIES

Week 12: Chapter 12: Religious Minorities



Week 13: Chapter 13: Women as a Minority Group

Week 14: Chapter 14: Gays, People with Disabilities, and the Elderly

PART V – CONTEMPORARY PATTERNS AND ISSUES

Week 15: Chapter 15: The ever changing U.S Mosaic:

FINAL EXAMS: Response / Research paper 2 and PPT presentations.

Policies

Academic Integrity:

The faculty and administration of Bronx Community College support an environment free from cheating and plagiarism. Each student is responsible for being aware of what constitutes cheating and plagiarism and for avoiding both. The complete text of the CUNY Academic Integrity Policy can be found at this site:

<http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/sa/policies/AcademicIntegrityPolicywithoutmemo.pdf>. If a faculty member suspects a violation of academic integrity and, upon investigation, confirms that violation, or if the student admits the violation, the faculty member **MUST** report the violation.

Plagiarism includes copying and pasting information from the book, readings, or online source without attribution, i.e. stating where that information comes from, in all assignments in this class including discussions, quizzes, and exams. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade on the assignment and may mean that you will fail the class and could potentially be expelled from the college.

Late Work:

Late work is not accepted under any circumstances except for family, health, or other documentable emergency. If you are unable to meet a deadline, please contact the instructor as early as possible, and **before** the deadline, so that steps can be taken to make sure that you are able to complete the assignment. Once a deadline passes, you will not be able to turn in any work



regardless of the reason. **Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are due at 11:30 pm EST on the date listed on the syllabus.**

Communication:

To do well in this course it is vital that you maintain communication with your instructor and with each other. Please make sure that the email associated with your Blackboard account is accurate and up to date and make sure to check that email address at least once each day. The best way to get in touch with Professor Alapo for general questions about the course is by posting in the Q&A section of Blackboard. For questions or concerns that are you unique to you, please email the instructor. Please remember that email is a form of professional correspondence so use proper grammar, language, spelling, and tone. You can expect a response to questions on the Discussion Board and via email within 24-48 hours. If you do not receive a response, please do follow up. My office hours are clearly listed on the first page of this syllabus and I encourage you to make use of them especially if you find it difficult to keep up with the work, or are having difficulty understanding the coursework. The final hour of the office hours are set aside for “virtual office hours.” I will create a Blackboard chat each week during that week where I can answer any questions in real time. I am also available by appointment at other times during the week if the office hours are not compatible with your schedule.

Office Hours:

If you would like to “meet” with the instructor but cannot during office hours, you must contact the instructor via email so that an alternate arrangement can be made. There will be limited opportunity throughout the semester to meet with the instructor in person so please plan accordingly. To access the office hours and speak to the instructor through BB, click on the “Virtual Office Hours” link in the Blackboard menu. Click on the “Join Room” button to enter the “course room” where office hours are held – please let me know ahead of time if you would like an appointment in person (face – to – face or by virtual online meeting on BB).

Schedule and Assignment Due Dates (Subject to change)

The following schedule is broken up into weeks and lists all of the due dates for reading assignments, discussion posts, and exams. Make sure that you look ahead and plan your semester effectively.

In addition to readings from the textbook, there may also be a list of supplemental or suggested readings or films required. All required readings that are marked with an asterisk (*) are located on Blackboard in the “Supplemental Reading” menu and in their corresponding weekly folder.



Sociology Response / Research Paper Topics as they relate to: RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS. PPT oral presentations to follow.

Collective Behavior and Social Movements

- Social Movements
- Social Change
- Mass Communications
- Dynamic Systems Theory
- Social Media

Social Theory and Methodology

- Ethnomethodology
- Critical Sociology
- Humanist Sociology
- Feminist Methodologies and Epistemology
- Feminist Theories
- Quality-of-Life Research
- Visual Sociology
- Sociology of Risk
- Sociology of the Self
- Sociology of Disability
- Sociology of the Body
- Sociology of Emotions
- Sociology of Femininity
- Sociology of Friendship
- Sociology of Men and Masculinity
- Sociology of the Life
- Sociology of Children and Youth
- Sociology of Aging
- Sociology of Death and Dying

Sociology of Behavior

- Sociology of Consumer Behavior
- Sociology of Entertainment
- Sociology of Food and Eating
- Sociology of Leisure and Recreation
- Sociology of Sport
- Popular Culture
- Production of Culture



Creative Behavior

- Sociology of Knowledge
- Sociology of Art
- Sociology of Music
- Sociology of the Performing Arts
- Sociology of Science and Technology

Macrosociology

- Sociology of Disaster
- Sociology of Mental Health
- Sociobiology
- Technology and the Environment
- Sociology of Terrorism
- Sociology of Violence
- Environmental Sociology

Applied Sociology

- Applied Sociology
- Clinical Sociology
- Evaluation Research
- Sociological Practice
- Teaching and Learning in Sociology

Inter disciplinary Studies

- African Studies
- Appalachian Studies
- Asian and Asian American Studies
- Criminal Justice Studies
- Gay, Lesbian, and Queer Studies
- Native American Studies
- Victimology

The Discipline of Sociology Research Paper Topics

- The Sociological Perspective
- The History of Sociology: The European Perspective
- The History of Sociology: The North American Perspective
- Sociological Theory in the 21st Century



Other Topics

- Gender and religious participation/affiliation
- Welfare policies/reform
- Teen pregnancy
- Self-esteem and teens
- Gender images in music (rap, country, pop, folk etc.)
- Laws and Policies
- Poverty
- Race, Gender, or Class and the legal system
- Women in the sciences, engineering, medicine, vet medicine
- Capitalism
- Sports
- Globalization
- Domestic violence
- Military (Socialization, Group Processes, Gender, Social Control)
- Health, illness, and health insurance
- Magazines and culture (sports, teen, women's, men's etc.)
- Gangs - male and/or female
- Medicalization
- School Violence
- Suicide
- Family Structures
- Same-sex marriage
- Race relations
- Black in America / Black and White in America
- Hispanics in the United States
- Jews and the Jewish community
- Being Asian in America
- Arab American / Muslim Americans
- What about the Alaskan / Native American?
- The state of White supremacy in America
- Environmental concerns, impact, mobilization
- Toys, games and gender socialization
- Sweatshops/labor use by multinational corporations in 3rd world countries
- Education
- Historical variations in the construction of gender (middle ages, renaissance, civil war, turn of the century, 1920's, WWII, etc.)
- Consumption (in one country or compare countries)
- Illicit drug use and/or related policies
- Aging (look at physical health, financial concerns, widowhood)
- Social networks
- Mental health
- Crime Political affiliation



