

Sociology 262:
Sociology of Race & Ethnicity
Bellevue College
Winter Term 2010

Instructor: Eric C. Davis eric.davis@bellevuecollege.edu
Phone: 425-564-6167 www.twitter.com/ProfE_BC
Office Hrs: M-TH 11:30-12:20 Office: D200A

Class meeting times:
M-F 10:30-11:20, Room L-124
+ Online requirements weekly

Course Catalog Description:

Examine the complexities of race and ethnicity in America. Themes include current events, representations in popular culture, the development of a racial self, and/or the interaction of race and social class.

Classroom Theme/Pedagogical Approach:

Sociologists study a broad range of topics--some of which includes provocative content and adult themes. While every attempt will be made to keep things PG-13, please know that there will be times where R-rated content (language, images, etc.) is necessary to examine course topics within an academic context. SOC 262 will feature readings, music, comedy clips, films and discussions that include adult themes and strong language. Students will not be penalized for excusing themselves from content they find objectionable or difficult to watch, see, discuss or listen to. That being said, students who excuse themselves are responsible for any course material they miss as a result of choosing not to participate. If you have any questions or concerns about course content or classroom climate, feel free to speak with me about it at any time. I am not punitive, I am here to support you. Come talk to me during office hours or email me.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of SOC 262, the successful student will be able to:

- 1) Understand the concepts of “race” and “ethnicity” from a sociological perspective
- 2) Explain the general social, economic, and political conditions of diverse people in the United States
- 3) Understand how those conditions compare between racial/ethnic groups and articulate how those conditions have changed over time
- 4) Understand the impacts of racial prejudice and discrimination
- 5) Explain how race, class, and gender work together as a matrix of inequality
- 6) Distinguish between objectivity and subjectivity and between opinion and fact
- 7) Describe the many social forces that work together to maintain racial stratification
- 8) Articulate his/her own position within the racial stratification system of the United States and yet also be able to understand perspectives different from one’s own.

General Rules and Expectations:

- Come to class. Every day. Be on time. Be present.
- Complete the readings no later than the *start* of the week assigned.
- Properly manage your laptop, netbook, cell phone and/or PDA.
- ZERO TOLERANCE FOR TEXTING in class.
- Consistently demonstrate respect and proper classroom behavior. Disrespectful behavior will result in you being asked to leave.
- Critical thinking is expected. Informed opinion is the standard we seek.
- Questions are welcome and encouraged. Don’t be afraid to ask for help.
- *Discussion: What do you expect from me as classroom facilitator?
What can I expect from you all as students?*

Required Textbook:

**“Race, Ethnicity and Gender: Selected Readings.” 2nd edition
Joseph F. Healey and Eileen O’Brien, editors. Pine Forge Press, 2007.**

Students are expected to have completed assigned readings by the start of the week listed.

Course Schedule

Weeks 1/2	<i>Diversity Concepts. Identity: White Privilege. Understanding Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.</i>	p. 1-47; 377-385; 415-430; Syllabus Disc. Board #1 (DB1): Welcome Due. 1/8 DB2: Question #2 on page 385. Due: 1/15 <u>Cultural Heritage Project Handout.</u>
Week 3+	<i>Assimilation. Immigration. Intro to Asian American issues</i>	p. 51-97; 305-358; “Gran Torino” DB3: Q#1, p. 337. Due: 1/21 DB4: Q#3, p. 320. Due: 1/29 <u>***Debates: Immigration, 1/22; Model Minority?, 1/27***</u>
Week 4	<i>Latinos/Hispanic American Issues</i>	p. 265-305; “1st Commandment” DB5: Q#4, p. 299. Due: 2/3. <u>***Debate: “Hispanization” threat, 2/5***</u>
Week 5	<i>Native American Issues</i>	p. 227-265; “Smoke Signals” DB6: Q#1, p. 249. Due: 2/12 <u>***Debate: Native America Mascots, 2/11***</u>
Weeks 6/7	<i>African American Issues</i>	p. 47-50; 99-178; “Year of the Bull” DB7: Q#2, p. 124. Due: 2/19 <u>***Debates: Affirmative Action, 2/17; Black Athletes, 2/24***</u>
>>>>>>>>Cultural Heritage Project Due, Monday, March 8th<<<<<<<<<		
Weeks 8/9	<i>Cultural ID. Whiteness... Multiracial Identity issues</i>	p. 178-206; 359-410; “Far From Heaven” DB8: Q#4, p. 204. Due: 3/12 <u>***Debate: Racial Identity, 3/11***</u>
Week 10	<i>Crash: The intersection of Race, Class and Gender</i>	p. 422-461; “Crash”

Course Requirements:

- Attendance and Participation
40 points. Be in class. On time. Complete readings in a timely manner. Listen actively. Join in discussions. Engage in activities. Take notes. Demonstrate critical thinking. Ask questions. Be an active learner.
- Online Posts in response to assigned readings
120 points. There will be eight (8) Discussion Board (DB) posts required this term. Students will use mybcc.net to post individual answers to questions selected from the readings. NEW MOBILE OPTION this quarter: DB posts can be made without logging into myBC. Just send an email to an assigned mybcc.net address (announced by the Instructor a week prior to each assignment's due date)
15pts per response. Due dates listed on the Course Schedule.
- Cultural Heritage Project
100 points. Students are required to research a topic related to their cultural identity before designing a Powerpoint or Keynote presentation that summarizes their topic of choice. A detailed handout outlining expectations will be provided week 2.
Final Project presentations are due no later than Monday, March 8th.
- Debate Preparation Notes
140 points. We will be having in-class Socratic Dialogues based on seven (7) of the *Current Debates* featured in our textbook. Students are required to bring to class (and turn in afterwards) a one (1) page typewritten set of notes on each of the days that we are scheduled to dialogue. Notes are expected to be simple bullet points noting 2-3 key points for each side of the argument plus any personal comments you want to bring up in class. Notes are DUE and will be collected on the days we have scheduled ***Debates***. See the Course Schedule for specific dates.

Grading:

There are 400 points available in this class. Here is the grading scale:

380+pts = (4.0) A	290+pts = (2.3) C+
360+pts = (3.7) A-	275+pts = (2.0) C
340+pts = (3.3) B+	260+pts = (1.7) C-
325+pts = (3.0) B	245+pts = (1.3) D+
310+pts = (2.7) B-	230+pts = (1.0) D
	>230pts= (0.0) Fail

Bellevue College Email*:**

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: <https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam>.

*****REQUIRED for this Class**

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#).

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

There is no Final Exam scheduled for Sociology 262. The last class meeting day is 3/19/09.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

Classroom Meetings Dates

We will not be meeting in-class on the following dates:

1/18 (MLK Holiday), 1/20, 1/21, 1/28, 1/29, 2/2 (BC Faculty Development Day),

2/15 (Pres. Day), 2/22, 2/23 and 3/4 (BC College Issues Day)

Online DB assignments substitute for the days that we are not in the on-ground classroom.