

Instructor: Nicholas Russ, M.A. History, M.A. African American Studies

Office Hours: 8:30-9:30 M-W, D200A-D Tower

Email: nicholas.russ@bellevuecollege.edu

Course Description

What is the state of Race relations in the U.S? This will be the question that sets the context for this class. We will challenge ourselves to engage with the Racial Experience and History of America through a careful examination of five dominant themes: History, Social Movements, Literature, Media Imaging and Contemporary Issues. Through this examination, a greater picture will emerge in regards to the Race in America. This class will offer a critique and challenge to the idea that the Race in the U.S is a simplistic narrative. This class will be a democratic experiment and everyone's voice is imperative in this sociological exploration.

Required Textbook: Getting Real about Race: Hoodies, Mascots, Model Minorities and Other Conversations. Stephanie McClure and Cherise A. Harris

Assignments

Movie Reviews/ 20 points:

We will be watching two films that deal with the Black experience. After the completion of the film, you will be answering a sociological question that allows you to examine the sociological realities of race through film.

Sociological Write Ups / 20 points: There will be two sociological write-ups. We as a class will come up with a topic and then you will have the opportunity to examine your position and engage with the reality of sociological issues.

Discussion Questions/ 70 points

There will be discussion questions given in class and you will have the class period to critically engage and answer the questions that center on race and society.

Chapter review/ 20 points

There will be three chapter reviews assigned and completed. The chapter review will be 2-4 pages and will discuss these assignments in class.

Chapter review project/ 50 points

The final project will be a group project. In groups of three, you will choose a chapter and then do a presentation on the chapter. The prompt for this assignment will be given in week three.

Participation

It is imperative that you recognize that you are required to do more than attend. I expect students to engage and be active in the creation of a strong intellectual community. Being a passive participant will not be tolerated.

Plagiarism

The principal of academic honesty guides this class. Be honest with yourself and do not cheat.

Instructors have access to commercial software that detects plagiarism. There will be severe penalties for participating in academic dishonesty.

Class Schedule: Class Schedule will be giving at the beginning of each week.