



NORTHEAST TEXAS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SOCI 2319.085 – MINORITY STUDIES – ONLINE

Course Syllabus: Spring 2024

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”



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Perferred Communication: Microsoft Teams

Office Hours

Monday: By appointment

Tuesday: 9:30-12:30
3:00-4:00

Wednesday: 9:00-12:30
1:30-4:00

Thursday: 9:30-12:30
3:00-4:00

Friday: By appointment

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description: This course studies minority-majority group relations, addressing their historical, cultural, social, economic, and institutional development in the United States. Both sociological and social psychological levels of analysis will be employed to discuss issues including experiences of minority groups within the context of their cultural heritage and tradition, as well as that of the dominant culture. Core concepts to be examined include (but are not limited to) social inequality, dominance/subordination, prejudice, and discrimination. Particular minority groups discussed may include those based on poverty, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or religion. Three credit hour course.

Prerequisite(s): None

Student Learning Outcomes: Explain how the concept of social inequality pertains to minority group status defined in terms of identities that may include: social class, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or religion.

Differentiate between important concepts and theories of prejudice and discrimination including the effects of prejudice and discrimination on the everyday lives of minority group members in the context of social institutions.

Analyze the history of culture, experiences of inequality, and current life opportunities of various minority groups in the United States with contrasting reference to other countries.

Analyze minority group interactions in the United States focusing on immigration and migration patterns, assimilation processes, and adjustments to American life.

Evaluation/Grading Policy: Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Mid-term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
Discussion Boards	100 points
Reflection Paper	100 points
The “Othering” Project	100 points
Total Possible Points	500 points

Grading and evaluation--In general, a course grade of a "C" represents an acceptable level of work. A course grade of "B" represents a substantial effort and achievement. It is clearly a grade for the better than average product and effort. An "A" is awarded only in the case of both outstanding efforts and quality in the required products. The grades will be awarded on the following basis:

- A = 90% to 100% of possible points
- B = 80% to 89% of possible points
- C = 70% to 79% of possible points
- D = 60% to 69% of possible points
- F = 59% and below of possible points

Tests/Exams: There will be two tests (100 points each). Everyone must take the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching or definitions, and short essay questions. Make-up examinations, as a rule, will not be permitted, unless the student’s absence is excused in advance. A grade of incomplete ("X") will not be given unless the student contacts the instructor to make special arrangements for making up required work. Only emergency situation that prohibit the student from completing the course as planned will warrant consideration of the grade of "X".

Required Instructional Materials: *Racial and Ethnic Groups* 15th Edition

Publisher: Pearson

ISBN Number: 9780134736709

Optional Instructional Materials: None

Minimum Technology Requirements:

Below are some technical requirements for using Blackboard that will help your experience in this course. You will see the NTCC Tech Support email address and phone number below. Please contact them if you run into any technical problems during the semester. Please let your instructor know you are having difficulties as well. If you need further NTCC technical support services please contact IT at ITHelp@ntcc.edu or 903.434.8140. For informational videos:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv2_O6ZezbcwfbpMUQYHPA/ Blackboard will work on both a Mac and a PC. (Chrome Books are known to have issues with Blackboard.) It is best to access Blackboard through Fire-Fox or Chrome as your web browser. If you have trouble with any of the activities working improperly, you might change your web browser as your first solution. The Default Browser in Windows 10 is Edge. This browser does not do well with Blackboard! If you will go to Windows Accessories you will find Internet Explorer still on your computer, but is not your default browser. If you have any difficulties navigating with Edge, close it and go to Internet Explorer. You can

download Blackboard Student for your smart phone from the Play store or the App store. More information is available for Technology Requirements and Support under the Student Resources – Technical Support Tab in Blackboard.

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

As an online student you will have a much different "classroom" experience than a traditional student. In order to ensure that you are fully prepared for your online courses, following is a list of expectations and requirements: Students in a hybrid and/or on-line program should be comfortable with and possess the following skill sets: 1. Self-discipline 2. Problem solving skills 3. Critical thinking skills 4. Enjoy communication in the written word

Example

As part of your online experience, you can expect to utilize a variety of technology mediums as part of your curriculum:

1. Communicate via email including sending attachments 2. Navigate the World Wide Web using a Web browser such as Internet Explorer 3. Use office applications such as Microsoft Office (or similar) to create documents 4. Be willing to learn how to communicate using a discussion board and upload assignments to a classroom Web site 5. Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files 6. Have easy access to the Internet 7. Navigate Blackboard, including using the email component within Blackboard. Instructions and tutorials for this are provided in your course.

For more information or technical assistance on using the Learning Management System, please refer to the Home Page, Orientation Module, in the important technical requirement, information and support folder in Blackboard.

Course Structure and Overview:

This is an ONLINE class which means all instruction is done online via the learning management system BLACKBOARD Students are expected to complete all the readings of the required e-book chapters, watch the instructional videos and complete the online chapter activities. You will see that the course is divided into 10 weeks in the Blackboard portion. Each week you will be expected to complete certain online assignments for the chapters found in that week's folder. This course requires daily computer and internet access. You should expect to spend no less than 3-6 hours a week in this course. Pay close attention to deadlines for all assignments. Assignments will not be accepted late! Technical difficulties are no excuse for late assignments. **YOU CANNOT PASS THIS COURSE WITH OUT COMPLETING THE ONLINE PORTION!** In class participation is an essential element in this course. Each student will be expected to participate in speaking drills/activities which will occur during class time. These activities will allow students to sharpen their presentations and enhance delivery skills.

Tests/Exams:

Mid-term: March 7th

Final: May 1st

There will be two tests (100 points each). Everyone must take the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple-choice, matching or definitions, and short essay questions. Make-up examinations, as a rule, will not be permitted, unless the student's absence is excused in advance. A grade of incomplete ("X") will not be given unless the student contacts the instructor to make special arrangements for making up the required work. An only emergency situation that prohibits the student from completing the course as

planned will warrant consideration of the grade of "X".

DISCUSSION BOARDS/ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION - Value: 100 pts.

Due various dates throughout semester

Each student will participate in the learning process by participating in various discussion boards, classroom discussion and activities. Assigned throughout semester. Discussions/Activities is where we will assess your participation, whether you are an online or face-to-face learner. You are expected to be an active and engaged class member throughout the semester. Discussions/Activities are a way to exchange ideas and learn from your peers. Each student is expected to participate in the discussions/activities fully. It could involve summarizing articles, responding to questions from the text, or viewing and commenting on streaming videos. There will be a minimum of 10 activities worth 10 points each.

ONLINE LEARNERS:

To receive credit, you must post your response to the posted discussion board questions by Thursday at midnight. In addition, you must post a response to another peer's post by Sunday at midnight. Your grade on the discussion board is based on participation. Each discussion board assignment is worth 10 points. However, to receive full credit for these posts, you must fulfill some basic requirements: - After posting your answer to the question, you are expected to respond to a minimum of one other peer in the class. Initial posts should be a minimum of 75 words, and a response at a minimum of 50 words. All posts should be relevant to the topic being discussed but should also attempt to introduce a new point of view or piece of information or otherwise further the discussion. Posts should use correct grammar, punctuation, and vocabulary appropriate for a college-level course. Misuse of the discussion boards will not be accepted.

Assignments:

All written assignments should be typed (12-point font), double-spaced, with one-inch margins, a title page and stapled. Students are encouraged to submit written work that has been spell-checked and is free of grammatical errors. Students are expected to use APA style when citing reference materials. Students are advised that points will be deducted if these criteria are not met.

Reflection Paper - Value 100 pts.

March 19th

Students will write a 3-4 paper reflecting on minority matters topic selected by student. According to the College Board website, "A reflective essay is an authentic written composition that allows you to explore a topic of importance and reflect upon it. In your reflection, you analyze, synthesize, and evaluate an issue or event in light of your prior knowledge, present experiences, and future goals. You are also expected to evaluate what you understand about the topic at the end of the paper." This assignment will help us understand what topics are essential for upcoming coursework and what could be addressed during papers and other assignments in the class. In addition, we'll learn how to integrate our writing from different classes into a summative document for our class.

What were the practical strategies used to write this paper? Did I effectively analyze the topic and use examples to support my analysis? Did I effectively use transitions between paragraphs and sections in my paper? How well did I craft my introduction and conclusion to transition my readers into my analysis of my topic? Did I effectively engage a variety of writing styles, including expository writing, narrative writing, and argumentative writing? My motivation to write on this topic is the injustice I see in society

every day in the news. Drawing on personal experiences connects the reading experience with the topic. Did I connect the paper to other readings/writings that we have done in this class? Was my conclusion accurate and appropriate to my chosen topic? The instructor can assist with the selected topic, but encourages students to find a topic that they are passionate about or need more knowledge and understanding of said topic.

The “Othering Project” - Value: 100 pts.

DUE: March 3rd

Research projects are a valuable component of college courses. In this class, a 3-5 page essay paper (double-spaced) on "othering" specifically related to a minority population is required. "Othering," in this sense, refers to the practice whereby a member of a minority group is treated as an "other/something else" based on his/her/their cultural beliefs and practices or some other attribute. For example, individuals with a disability, particularly visible one, are often stigmatized and treated as something "other" and apart from the "abled" population. Students will select a population for the study, research the concept of "othering," apply it to their selected population and give examples of how "othering" manifests in a specific social institution (e.g. education, health care, social class/economy, religion, family, military, political system/government, or media).

Students may work alone on the essay or in groups of two people (maximum). Students who work in pairs will turn in one essay, and they'll receive the same grade.

Communications:

Emails will be responded to with 48 hours. If you do not receive a response within 48 hours, then the email was not received. Posts in the Discussion Forum “Questions, Comments, and/or Concerns?” will be monitored by the instructor. Responses by the instructor will be within 72 hours of post. The college’s official means of communication is via your campus email address. I will use your campus email address and Blackboard to communicate with you outside of class. Make sure you keep your campus email cleaned out and below the limit so you can receive important messages. In addition, I use the REMIND App to get information out to students quickly. This will enable you to receive important class announcements and reminders from me via text message so that you will not miss out on any assignment changes or important updates. Please continue to check your NTCC email daily. If you do not own a cell phone, you can receive these same reminders through your email... the instructions are also in the PDF.

Institutional/Course Policy:

No late work will be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. Students are always expected to be respectful toward classmates and professor! Review Student Conduct in the Student Handbook. It is the student’s responsibility to check Blackboard for important information/announcements regarding the course. Students should be working on course material via Blackboard every week. Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit assignments in case of technology issues.

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special population's page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Student Social Support Resources:

At Northeast Texas Community College, we understand that students often have concerns that could lead to barriers to success. If you are a student that needs support and/or guidance, NTCC offers EagleAssist. EagleAssist is a comprehensive hub for students to access resources beyond the classroom. Some of those services include but are not limited to classroom accommodations, mental health counseling, NTCC Care Center, Financial Literacy, and Emergency Assistance. Included in those services are essential needs services provided through the NTCC CARE Center, located in IA105. The NTCC CARE Center houses our Eagle Pantry, which provides monthly food and hygiene products for current students expressing a need. **Mental Health Resources:** *As a NTCC student, you have free unlimited access to therapists plus on-demand crisis counseling. Students can access services by accessing the link: <https://www.thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntcc/>.* NTCC supports alleviating barriers that will enable student value and success, regardless of lived experience. To access services, please email eagleassist@ntcc.edu or CARE@ntcc.edu. In addition, if you need additional community resources, please www.ntcc.edu/carecenter.