

INSTRUCTOR

Professor Joyce Tang

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Office Hours:

Tuesday, 11:00 am - 12 noon

Thursday, 11:00 am - 12 noon

LECTURES

Attendance at lectures is strongly recommended since materials will be presented in class that may not be accessible in texts. This course is organized on a lecture/discussion basis. Thoughtful comments and questions are encouraged at all class meetings.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The principal objective of this course is to examine intergroup relations in the United States, with special emphasis on contemporary America. We will consider the experiences of various racial and ethnic groups from different sociological perspectives.

We will first examine the central concepts and arguments that are central to the study of intergroup relations. Then, we will apply competing theories to understanding U.S. race relations in the past, present, and future. Finally, we will pay attention to various controversial issues related to public policy making.

In addition to focusing on the substantive topics of race relations, we will work on developing critical reading and writing skills. The objective of the written assignments is to encourage and facilitate an in-depth understanding and analysis of the theoretical contribution of recent literature.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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| 1) | Class attendance, participation, and class assignments | 20% |
| | Regular attendance is required. Students are expected to complete the assigned readings before class and to contribute to class discussions actively. You are also expected to lead discussion for one class. If you miss a lecture, you should try to get the notes and handouts from a classmate. | |
| 2) | Two book reviews | 30% |
| 3) | First in-class essay exam | 25% |
| 4) | Second in-class essay exam | 25% |

REQUIRED TEXTS (available at the College Bookstore)

Carter, Stephen L. 1991. Reflections of an Affirmative Action Baby. New York: Basic Books.

Chavez, Linda. 1991. Out of the Barrio: Toward a New Politics of Hispanic Assimilation. New York: Basic Books.

- Hochschild, Jennifer L. 1995. Facing Up to the American Dream: Race, Class, and the Soul of the Nation. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Massey, Douglas S. and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Min, Pyong Gap, ed. 1995. Asian Americans: Contemporary Trends and Issues. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Pedraza, Silvia and Ruben G. Rumbaut, eds. 1996. Origins and Destinies: Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in America. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
- Tang, Joyce and Earl Smith, eds. 1996. Women and Minorities in American Professions. Albany: State University of New York Press.
- Wellman, David T. 1993. Portraits of White Racism. 2d ed. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Zenner, Walter P. 1991. Minorities in the Middle: A Cross-Cultural Analysis. Albany: State University of New York Press.
- SUGGESTED READINGS* (on reserve at the Rosenthal Library)
- Allport, Gordon W. 1988. The Nature of Prejudice. New York: Addison-Wesley.
- Blalock, Hubert M. 1967. Toward a Theory of Minority-Group Relations. New York: John Wiley.
- Heilman, Samuel C. 1995. Portrait of American Jews: The Last Half of the 20th Century. Seattle: University of Washington Press.
- Loewen, James W. 1988. The Mississippi Chinese: Between Black and White. 2d ed. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press.
- Petersen, William, Michael Novak, and Philip Gleason. 1980. Concepts of Ethnicity. Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.
- Shanklin, Eugenia. 1994. Anthropology and Race. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
- Sowell, Thomas. 1996. Migrations and Cultures: A World View. New York: Basic Books.
- Terkel, Studs. 1992. Race: How Blacks and Whites Think and Feel about the American Obsession. New York: The New Press.
- Yinger, J. Milton. 1994. Ethnicity: Source of Strength? Source of Conflict? Albany: State University of New York Press.

LATE SUBMISSION POLICY

All written assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade for the course. Late submissions will receive no credit unless prior notification in writing is given to the instructor. If you are hospitalized or seriously ill, notification must be accompanied by proper medical documentation.

MAKE-UP POLICY

Exams will be given at scheduled times. As a general rule, there will be no make-up exams. In extraordinary circumstances, a make-up may be possible if arrangements have been made with the instructor at least one week before the scheduled exam date. If you are hospitalized or seriously ill, contact the instructor as soon as possible. The instructor reserves the right to refuse permission for a make-up if she feels it is not warranted.

PLAGIARISM

Definition: Using another person's work, ideas, data or language without specific or proper acknowledgment, e.g., submitting a written assignment that someone else prepared, either in part or in toto, or preparing all or part of a written assignment for another person.

All work you turn in should be your own. The penalty for plagiarism is stiff. If you are not sure as to what constitutes plagiarism, contact the instructor for clarification before it becomes an issue.

LECTURES & READINGS

1. INTRODUCTION & COURSE REVIEW
2. RACE, ETHNICITY, & SOCIOLOGY: WHY STUDY RACE RELATIONS?
Pedraza & Rumbaut, Origins and Destinies (Chs. 1-2, 31, 33-34, & 36)
Documentary: A Class Divided
3. SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES OF RACE & ETHNICITY
Pedraza & Rumbaut, Origins and Destinies (Chs. 3, 4, 7, 11, 23, 27, & 32)
4. BASIC CONCEPTS & ARGUMENTS
Wellman, Portraits of White Racism.
Documentary: Race Relations in the U.S. and How We Got That Way?
5. CONTINUING & CURRENT ISSUES
Pedraza & Rumbaut, Origins and Destinies (Chs. 16, 18, 19, 26, & 35)
Documentary: CBS's 48 Hours "Interracial Relations"
6. AFRICAN AMERICANS: THE UNDERCLASS
Massey & Denton, The American Apartheid.
7. AFRICAN AMERICANS: THE MIDDLE CLASS
Hochschild, Facing Up to the American Dream.
8. THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION QUESTION REVISITED
Carter, Reflections of an Affirmative Action Baby.
9. HISPANIC AMERICANS
Chavez, Out of the Barrio.
10. MIDDLEMAN MINORITY/MODEL MINORITY I: JEWISH AMERICANS

- Zenner, Minorities in the Middle.
11. MIDDLEMAN MINORITY/MODEL MINORITY II: ASIAN AMERICANS
Min, Asian Americans.
 12. RACE, EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT: MINORITIES IN PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATIONS
Tang & Smith, Women and Minorities in American Professions.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING BOOK REVIEWS

Each review should be typed, double-spaced, and 6-8 pages in length. Please refer to the American Sociological Association's Style Guide (1996) for guidelines on format and style.

The first review is based on one of the following assigned readings:

- Carter, Reflections of an Affirmative Action Baby.
Hochschild, Facing Up to the American Dream.
Massey & Denton, American Apartheid.

The second review is based on one of the following assigned readings:

- Chavez, Out of the Barrio.
Min, Asian Americans.
Zenner, Minorities in the Middle.

Your review should include the following information:

- 1) A brief summary of the book.
- 2) The thesis of the book.
- 3) Discuss whether sociological concepts and/or theories are used in the book.
- 4) Discuss if and how the author(s) use theoretical and/or empirical evidence to substantiate their claims.
- 5) Identify and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the book in light of the materials presented in class and the assigned readings.
- 6) Are there any relevant issues or questions that the author(s) should have addressed in the book?
- 7) Discuss your reactions to the book. Has the book changed the way you view intergroup relations in the United States?