

SOCY 276 Race and Ethnicity  
Fall semester, 2005  
Tuesday, Thursday, 8:00-10:10 a.m.  
Physical and Social Sciences / Room # 112  
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Office hours: by appointment (meet in College Center)  
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## *Race and Ethnicity*

What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up  
like a raisin in the sun?  
Or fester like a sore--  
And then run?  
Does it stink like rotten meat?  
Or crust and sugar over--  
like a syrupy sweet?  
  
Maybe it just sags  
like a heavy load.  
  
Or does it explode?  
  
~Langston Hughes

### **Course objectives and description:**

This course examines, among other issues, relations between the different racial and ethnic groups in the country. A sociological framework is the key lens used to investigate dominant-subordinate relations in the perspective of a variety of social categories such as race/ethnicity, religion, and gender. In addition, the course considers the causes of prejudice and discrimination in society. Also, various sociological theories of preventing prejudice and discrimination will be studied. Another key area of study is the pattern and economic impact of immigration.

\*\*The themes of this course are socially sensitive. Consequently, **respect** towards all individuals' viewpoints will be emphasized in the classroom.

**Prerequisites:** SOCY 151 E /GE INTRO TO SOCIOL

### **Course requirements:**

To complete this course, you must satisfy the following requirements: Read all assigned material. Students are responsible for all materials presented in text, class notes or handouts. It is the student's responsibility to obtain class notes from a fellow student for any classes missed.

### **Required Text:**

*Race and Ethnicity in the United States.* (2001). Schaefer, R. T. Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ.

*Night.* (1960). Wiesel, E. Bantam Books: New York

**Course aims:**

Students will understand the sociological perspective (e.g., structural, systematic, critical) as a social science. Students will apply this understanding through various theoretical lens within the discipline of sociology in the study of race and ethnicity. Key concepts for students will include the social construction of race, social difference, social stratification, social status, (dominant vs. subordinate group membership), social role, prejudice, labels and stereotypes of social groups, discrimination, privilege, social change, and, finally, pluralism.

**Attendance and Class participation**

Attendance is mandatory (be sure to initial the in-class attendance sheet). For students with multiple unexcused absences, final grade will be lowered. Please inform me beforehand if you will be absent from class (e.g. student-athlete, or commuter issue, or other issue preventing coming to class). If an exam is to be missed, the instructor must receive *notification by phone or (preferably) email* before the scheduled exam. Missed exams must be made up *prior to the next class meeting* through special arrangement with the instructor.

**\*\*Also, the syllabus is subject to change (readings, assignments, etc.). It does not constitute a contract. To maintain the integrity of the course, the instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus. Please pay close attention to class announcements made either in class or via email.**

**Grading:**

Midterm (40%), comprehensive final exam (40%), quizzes (10%, top 2 scores will count), attendance (10%)

Midterm and final exam will include T/F and multiple choice formats drawing from the texts and lecture.

Finally, during any test or quiz, all books, purses, and anything else other than the test materials must be off desktops and on the floor. Any challenges to grades will be discussed with the instructor outside of class.

**Students With Special Needs Services In The Classroom**

The Office for Special Needs Services (OSNS) at Lorain County Community College attempts to inform all incoming students of the availability of special services. Eligible students, however, do not always choose to identify themselves; nor do all students with disabilities require special accommodations. Faculty often make adjustments in instructional procedures or in student evaluations with no assistance or intervention from OSNS. The College's responsibility is to ensure that students will not be discriminated against and to make reasonable accommodation for allowing the students to participate in College programs and services from which they can benefit. Room 115 in the Learning Resource Center, LCCC ext. 4058

**\*\*Tutoring in all subjects is available to all students at the College through the Individualized Learning Support Center (ILSC).** Every student is entitled to two hours of tutoring per week, cost free. If additional hours of tutoring are necessary because of a student's disability, arrangements can be made through OSNS to meet this need.

## Course schedule and assignments

### Week 1 (October 18 & 20)

T: Logistics & introductions, Film: Understanding Race

Th:

### Week 2 (October 25 & 27)

T: Chap 1 Understanding Race and Ethnicity due

Th: Chap 2 Prejudice due. Night; read preface, forward, & pgs.1-43

### Week 3 (November 1 & 3)

T: Chap 3 Discrimination due;

Th: Night; read pgs. 45-80

### Week 4 (November 8 & 10)

T: Chap 4 Immigration and the U.S. due

Midterm review handout distributed (sociological toolbox so far)

Th: Midterm examination

### Week 5 (November 15 & 17)

T: Chap 5 Ethnicity and religion due; Night; read pgs. 81-109

Th: Chap 7 The Making of African Americans in a White America due

### Week 6 (Tuesday November 22 only-Happy Thanksgiving!)

T: Chap 9 Hispanic Americans due (possible guest speaker, Kate Masley, PhD Candidate)

Th: Happy Thanksgiving!

### Week 7 (November 29 & December 1)

T: Chapter 15 Women: The Oppressed Majority due; Film (? : I am open to your suggestions for a film that represents what we have learnt)

Th: Chapter 17 Overcoming Exclusion

Review handout distributed (race and ethnicity sociological toolbox)

### Week 8 (December 6 & 8) Review week--Reading Days

No classes but instructor available to review handout, study group, & answer any questions  
December 12-18<sup>th</sup> Final examination period. **Final exam will be comprehensive.**