

**RACE, CLASS, GENDER AND ETHNICITY
MEETS WITH WGST
SOCI 2010.001/WGST 2420.001
FALL 2017**

Instructor:	Jennifer Knudsen
E-mail:	Use course message system otherwise in an emergency , use Jennifer.Knudsen@unt.edu
Class Time:	M/W/F 8:00-8:50 am
Classroom:	BLB 055
Office:	Chilton Hall 397G
Office Hours:	M/W from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM CST/CDT (or by appointment)

REQUIRED TEXT

Anderson, M. & Hill Collins, P. (2013) Race, class, and gender: An anthology. 9th edition. California: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

Blackboard: Additional course readings will be made available on the UNT Blackboard at <https://learn.unt.edu/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This is a course designed to introduce the student to the basic concepts, theories, and intersectionality of race, class, gender, and ethnicity. The course will also introduce the relationship of inequality in the United States and elsewhere. A greater understanding of race, class, gender, and ethnicity can help to create a better understanding of our social world (or social interactions and behavior) and of human society. The objectives for the course are:

1. Encourage critical thinking and awareness of the intersectionality of race, class, gender, and ethnicity
2. Increase awareness and understanding of why inequalities in American society are based on differences in race, class, gender, and ethnicity.
3. Familiarize yourself with basic sociological theories and their application to understand the existence and perpetuation of social inequality and privilege.
4. Acquire a socio-historical perspective of how social inequality became embedded in the American society.
5. Discover how patterns of social inequality and privilege are perpetuated through social structures.
6. Understand how social inequality and privilege affect the lives of individuals and relationships between individuals.

COURSE INFORMATION

I am available for meeting during my open office hours or by appointment and welcome the opportunity to assist students. Please utilize the message system in Blackboard or the time before or after class to schedule an appointment. With the exception of weekends and holidays, I check my email, particularly the message system on Blackboard frequently and tend to respond within 24 hours. Except in an emergency, please do not send course-related messages to my UNT email.

Please ask questions if there is anything you do not understand or wish to clarify. Especially in regard to assignments. Do not fall behind in your readings and assignments. If you begin to fall behind or experience difficulty, be sure to consult with me. Do not wait until late in the semester, inform me as soon as possible if there are any issues. It is your responsibility to complete the course work on time. You may not be reminded of work that you have missed. I value discussion and input into the course and work to create opportunities for you to do so. I also highly value respect. I will treat you with respect and expect that you will do the same for your classmates. This syllabus is not to be treated as a contract and is subject to change with advance notice to the student by the instructor.

IMPORTANT DATES

August 28, 2017	First Class Day
September 4, 2017	Labor Day (no classes)
November 23-26, 2017	Thanksgiving Break (no classes)
December 7, 2017	Last Class Day
December 8, 2017	Reading Day (no classes)
December 9-15, 2017	Finals

GRADES AND GRADING STRUCTURE

The final grade for this class will be based on your performance on: 1) three exams, 2) weekly discussions, and 3) attendance. Discussion is critical to your and the class's success. Therefore, you are required to participate fully in all activities.

Exams: There are three exams for this course, each of which will be taken in class. In order to complete and pass this course, all three exams must be taken. Exams will consist of material from readings, lectures, and discussions. The first two exams will consist of 25 multiple choice questions and a short essay. The Final Exam will consist of 40 multiple choice questions, 20 of which will come directly from the two (2) previous exams. The Final exam will also include a short essay. Exams cannot be taken late, unless documentation is given in regard to an **illness, family emergency, or required UNT sponsored event**.

Discussion: Weekly discussions whether in class or online are mandatory and full engagement is critical for your success. The discussions will pertain to the current week's readings and events within the context of race, class, gender, and ethnicity. When engaging in discussions, you will be expected to give credit where it is due. This requires **citing**, please use the APA style format. Failing to cite when using the ideas or words of another person will be considered plagiarism. In-class discussions and online discussion responses cannot be turned in late. The original post aspect of online discussions can be turned in late for half credit. Online discussions will open **Friday at 6 a.m.** The original post aspect is due **Friday at 11:59 p.m.** and the responses are due **Saturday at 10:30 p.m.** Further requirements and guidelines can be found on Blackboard.

Readings and Attendance: The student is responsible to complete each week's readings before class. In order to be able to fully participate in discussions it is important to keep up with the readings. Although class material may be available online, lectures and in-class discussions will not be available. Therefore it is within your best interest to attend every class session. **Attendance will count toward your final grade.**

Late Work: Students are responsible to complete all work on time. **Exams** may only be taken late with appropriate documentation. **In-class discussions** and **online discussion responses** cannot be turned in late as these assignments require participation with other students. Thus, students should be present and on time for exam days or when there is an in-class assignment. **Online discussions** may be turned in late for *up-to* half credit for the *original post aspect* of the discussion. You will be able to access on-line discussions for the duration of the course once they become available.

GRADING SCALE

GRADING SOURCE	POINTS	PERCENTAGE
Two (2) Exams (75 points each)	150	34.1%
Final Exam (100 points)	100	22.7%
Eleven (11) Discussions (15 points each)	165	37.5%
Attendance	25	5.7%
Total Points	440	100%
** A: 396+, B: 352-395, C: 308-351, D: 264-307, F: 263 (or lower) **		

COURSE POLICIES

Etiquette: As noted above, I highly value respect. I expect that all students will respect the opinions and experiences of other students. When engaging other students in class or online you are expected to be respectful, thoughtful and considerate of others. This also includes acknowledging various perspectives even when they are different from your own. Derogatory statements and signs of disrespect will not be tolerated. Ask questions of your fellow classmates for clarification when you disagree with them. The focus should be on the ideas expressed, not on the individual themselves.

Remember when engaging in online discussions that there are a number of aspects of communication that are missing: tone of voice, posture, gestures, eye contact, and other cues. Words can take on different meanings when these cues are added or removed from communication, and thus, when they are missing it can be easier to misinterpret what another person is saying. If you find anything offensive in class or online please let the course instructor know as soon as possible. All discussions, in class or online are to remain confidential. Respect for your fellow classmates also includes respecting their privacy. Classmates may divulge personal experiences or anecdotes, anything divulged by another person is theirs to tell, not yours to share with others. What your classmates say in class and post in discussions is to remain confidential.

Behavior: Behavior that interferes with the instructor's ability to conduct class or the ability of other students to learn is not acceptable. Students who are being disruptive will be asked to leave the classroom, the instructor can refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to determine if the behavior violated UNT's Code of Students Conduct. The student code of conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.

Cell phones must be turned off or turned to silent and are to be put away during class. As cell phones ringing during class and texting can be disruptive to instruction and learning. Arriving late or leaving early are also disruptive. Please inform the instructor **before** class if you must leave the class early. If you arrive late please be sure to discuss the reason with the instructor **before** leaving after class. When leaving, or if arriving late please be sure that your entrance or exit distracts others as little as possible. To best meet this objective please sit close to the door when you plan to leave early or when arriving late.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty (cheating and/or plagiarism) will not be tolerated at any time. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty will be handled in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth by the University of North Texas, the College of Public Affairs and Community Service and the Department of Sociology. You will find the complete provisions of the code in the student handbook. Please note that I take academic dishonesty very seriously and the consequences will be very harsh.

Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking another's ideas, words, writings, or research findings and not giving them proper credit through quotations or citations. Even when we are paraphrasing another's ideas, we must give credit. To do otherwise is to allow the reader to think these ideas and words are your own when they are not. This act is considered theft of intellectual property. Plagiarism is considered one of the most serious transgressions that can be committed in the educational community. Further information can be found on the website: <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/development/dishonesty.html>

In the case of plagiarism, there are several options available to an instructor, including verbal and/or written reprimand, assignment of a lower grade with an explanation from the instructor, expulsion from the course with the assignment of a passing grade (WP), expulsion from the course with the assignment of a failing grade (WF), and/or expulsion from the university.

Therefore, all written work should be properly cited when:

1. Describing the ideas of another (even if it is not a direct quotation),
2. Describing the research of another (even if it is not a direct quotation),
3. Using the words, phrases, paragraphs, or pages of another, and/or
4. Quoting the words of another.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

The University of North Texas seeks to provide appropriate academic adjustments for all individuals with disabilities. This University will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines, specifically Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), with respect to providing appropriate academic adjustments to afford equal educational opportunity. However, it is the responsibility of the student to register with and provide medical verification and academic schedules to Disability Support Services (DSS) at the beginning of each semester and no later than the second week of school unless otherwise determined by the coordinator (i.e., no later than January 27th). The student also must contact the faculty member in a timely manner to arrange for appropriate academic adjustments. Appropriate adjustments and auxiliary aid are available for persons with disabilities. Call [940-565-2456](tel:940-565-2456) (TDD access [1-800-735-2989](tel:1-800-735-2989)).

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at: <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

COURSE TOPICS, READING AND QUIZ/EXAM SCHEDULE

Week	Day	Topics	Assigned Readings	Discussions and Exams
1	28	The Basics of Social Inequality	Introduction/ Review Syllabus	
	30		Why Race, Class and Gender Still Matter, p.1-14	
	1		Reading 2: A Different Mirror p. 22-33	Classroom Discussion
2	4	Systems of Power and Inequality	Systems of Power and Inequality, p. 51-71	
	6			
	8			Online Meeting
3	11	Race and Racism	Reading 6: White Privilege p. 74-78 Reading 7: Color-Blind Privilege p. 79-83 Reading 10: Race as Class p. 94-100	
	13			
	15			Classroom Discussion
4	18	Class and Inequality	Reading 11: Is Capitalism Gendered and Racialized? p. 101- 109 Reading 14: The Intersection of Poverty Discourses p.121-128 Reading 15: Health and Wealth p. 129-133	
	20			
	22			Online Meeting
5	25		Review for Exam 1	
	27			
	29			Exam 1
6	2	Ethnicity, Immigration, and Nationality	Reading 16: "Is This a White Country or What?" p. 133-140 Reading 18: Optional Ethnicities p. 148-156 Reading 19: Living "illegal" p. 157-163	
	4			
	6			Online Meeting
7	9	Gender and Sexism	Reading 21: Sex and Gender... p. 170-178 Reading 22: Seeing Privilege Where It Isn't p. 179-187	
	11			
	13			Classroom Discussion
8	16	The Structure of Social Institutions/ Work and Economic Transformation	The Structure of Social Institutions p. 249-252 Reading 31: Seeing in 3D p. 263-269 Reading 33: Are Emily and Greg More Employable than Lakisha and Jamal? p. 273-277 Reading 35: Gender Matters, So Do Race and Class p. 285-293	
	18			
	20			Online Meeting
9	23	Families	Reading 36: Our Mother's Grief p. 249-252 Reading 37: Exploring the Intersections of Race, Ethnicity, and Class on Maternity Leave Decisions p. 307-313 Reading 39: Navigating Interracial Borders p. 319-327	
	25			
	27			Classroom Discussion
10	30		Review for Exam 2	
	1			
	3			Exam 2
11	6	Education	Reading 40: Affirming Identity in an Era of School Desegregation p. 327-332 Reading 41: From the Achievement Gap to Edu... Debt p. 333-345	
	8			
	10			Online Meeting
12	13	Media and Popular Culture	Reading 46: Media Magic p. 372-379 Reading 47: Gender Norms in the Twilight Series p. 380-382 Reading 48: Rethinking Cyberfeminism(s) p. 383-389	
	15			
	17			Classroom Discussion
13	20	Bodies, Beauty, and Sports	Reading 49: Brown Body, White Wonderland p. 390-391 Reading 51: Sustainable Food and Privilege p. 399-400	
	22			
	24			Thanksgiving Break (no class)
14	27	The State and Violence	Reading 53: Gender, Race and Urban Policing p. 390- 391 Reading 54: The Color of Justice p. 419-423 Reading 55: Rape, Racism, and the Law p. 424-431	
	29			
	1			Online Meeting
15	4		Final Exam Review	
	6			
	8			Reading Day (No Class)
	11		Monday, December 11 th 8:00am – 10:00am	Final Exam