

**RACE AND ETHNIC MINORITIES**  
**SOCI 4540.001**  
**FALL 2018**

Instructor:	Jennifer Knudsen
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E-mail:	<b>Use course message system</b> otherwise in an <b>emergency</b> , use <a href="mailto:Jennifer.Knudsen@unt.edu">Jennifer.Knudsen@unt.edu</a>
Class Time:	Tu/Th 11:00 am 12:20 pm
Classroom:	CHEM 106
Office:	Sycamore Hall 288U
Office Hours:	M/W from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM CST/CDT (or by appointment)

**REQUIRED TEXT**

Marger, Martin N., (2012) Race and Ethnic Relations: American and Global Perspectives. 10<sup>th</sup> edition. Stamford, CT: 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, intersectionality, relations, conditions/ distribution of race and ethnicity in the United States. The course will also introduce the relationship of inequality in the United States and Globally. A greater understanding of race and ethnicity can help to create a better understanding of our social world (or social interactions and behavior) and of human society. As this is an upper-level course, the emphasis will be placed on understanding, conceptualization, and analysis, rather than on just memorization of terms and concepts. Students will be required to participate in discussions and help with the learning process. The objectives for the course are:

1. Increase the student's awareness and understanding of the society in which we live, the social phenomena which we observe, and the world in which we live;
2. Introduce students to theories, cultural factors, and patterns of race and ethnic relations, particularly within the U.S. from a sociological perspective;
3. Acquire a socio-historical perspective of how social inequality became embedded in the American society;
4. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures particularly in regard to race and ethnic relations;
5. Address the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural and global forces on race and ethnic relations and how patterns of social inequality and privilege are perpetuated through social structures;
6. Increase awareness and understand of how social inequality and privilege affect the lives of individuals and relationships between individuals and are based in race and ethnic relations;
7. Familiarize yourself with basic sociological theories and their application to understanding the existence and perpetuation of social inequality and privilege;
8. Recognize the structural, systemic factors which affect the quality of life of persons of different racial/ethnic backgrounds;
9. Employ a comparative perspective on human societies and race and ethnic relations;
10. Encourage critical thinking and awareness of the intersectionality of race and ethnicity, progressive race relations and current events;
11. Consider alternative explanations and solutions for contemporary social issues.

## 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 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. You may use the UNT email, Eagle Connect. If you do use Eagle Connect, please be sure to use my faculty email (above) and put the course heading in the subject section. ***This helps me help you***, allowing for faster response times.

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 coursework 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 27, 2018	First Class Day
Sept 3, 2018	Labor Day (no classes)
Nov 22-25, 2018	Thanksgiving Break (no classes)
Dec 5-6, 2018	Pre-finals Days
Dec 6, 2018	Last Class Day
Dec 7, 2018	Reading Day (no classes)
Dec 8-14, 2018	Finals
Dec 14-15, 2018	Graduation Ceremonies

## GRADES AND GRADING STRUCTURE

The final grade for this class will be based on your performance on 1) Two exams, 2) Ten discussions, and 3) Two projects.

**Readings:** 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 in your best interest to attend every class session.

**Quizzes:** Periodically throughout the semester quizzes will be given so as to assess your progress in the course. There will be five (5) quizzes for a total of 100 points (25 points each) throughout the semester. It will be important for you to keep up with your readings, attend class, and maintain a study schedule throughout the semester so as to be prepared for the quizzes. Quizzes will not be comprehensive, but test key topics, and will consist of multiple choice questions and a short answer. Quizzes will be announced the week prior and occur approximately every two to three weeks. Quizzes can be taken late for up to half credit, unless documentation of an **illness, family emergency, or required UNT sponsored event** is provided.

**Final Exam:** There is one comprehensive exam for this course, the final. The final is worth up to 150 points. In order to complete and pass this course, you must take the final. The exam will consist of material from readings, lectures, and discussions. The exam will include multiple choice, short answer, and a short essay. The exam should be taken individually and not collaboratively. Taking the exam collaboratively will be considered academic dishonesty and treated accordingly. The final will be held in online and will open Monday, December 10 at 5:00 a.m. and close Wednesday, December 12 at 11:59 p.m. The final cannot be taken late for any reason.

**Discussion:** Weekly discussion is mandatory and full engagement is critical to your and the course's success. Ten (10) of the twelve discussions will be graded and count toward the course total. The quality of this participation is very important. Your discussions should be interactive and engaging. You should ask questions of your fellow students, make comments, and/or even ask them for clarification on various aspects of their understanding of the reading. These discussions are worth a total of 100 points (10 points each) toward your final grade.

**Late Discussions:** Discussions **cannot** be completed late as they require you to participate with your classmates.

**Analysis Papers:** There will be two analysis papers (75 points each) due during the course of the semester. These papers are a chance for you to find an academic article of your choosing and write an analysis of the article applying the material learned in class. Papers will be due Saturday at 11:59 p.m. via Blackboard on the respective week. Instructions and a rubric will be handed out closer to the due date. **Late Papers:** There will be a 5 point deduction for every day a paper is late. **More details will follow.**

### GRADING POINT SYSTEM

GRADING SOURCE	POINTS
Quizzes (5)	100
Final Exam	150
Ten (10) Discussions (10 points each)	100
Two (2) Papers/Projects (75 points each)	150
Total Points	500

### GRADING SCALE

GRADE	POINTS REQUIRED
A	500-450
B	449-400
C	399-350
D	349-300
F	299-000

### COURSE POLICIES

**Etiquette:** I highly value respect. I expect that all students will respect the opinions and experiences of other students. When engaging other students 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. If you find anything offensive, please let the course instructor know as soon as possible. All discussions 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](http://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 September 7th). 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 a reasonable 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).

## RELIGIOUS OBLIGATIONS AND HOLIDAYS

If there are reasons that will cause you to "miss" class sessions for religious reasons, etc., sometime during the semester, you must notify me - in advance - in writing by no later than 5:00 PM, Friday, of the first week of classes.

## STUDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

Links to all of these services can be found on the [Academic Support tab](#) within Blackboard Learn:

- Academic Resource Center: buy textbooks and supplies, access academic catalogs and programs, register for classes, and more.
- Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities: provides Code of Student Conduct along with other useful links.
- Office of Disability Accommodation: ODA exists to prevent discrimination on the basis of disability and to help students reach a higher level of independence.
- Counseling and Testing Services: CTS provides counseling services to the UNT community as well as testing services; such as admissions testing, computer-based testing, career testing and other tests.
- UNT Libraries: online library services
- Online Tutoring: chat in real time, mark up your paper using drawing tools and edit the text of your paper with the tutor's help.
- The Learning Center Support Programs: various program links provided to enhance the student experience.
- Supplemental Instruction: program for every student, not just for students that are struggling.
- UNT Writing Lab: offers free writing tutoring to all UNT students, undergraduate, and graduate.
- Math Tutor Lab: located in GAB, room 440.
- Succeed at UNT: how to be "a successful student" information.

## STUDENT TECHNICAL SUPPORT

The University of North Texas [UIT Student Helpdesk](#) provides student technical support in the use of Blackboard and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:

Email: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

Phone: 940.565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Our hours are:

Monday-Thursday 8am-midnight

Friday 8am-8pm

Saturday 9am-5p

Sunday 8am-midnight

## VOLUNTARY PRODUCT ACCESSIBILITY TEMPLATE (VPAT) Blackboard Learn Release 9.1

The [Voluntary Product Accessibility Template](#)® or VPAT® documents Blackboard Learn 9.1's conformance with the accessibility standards under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. '794 d), as amended by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (P.L. 105 - 220), August 7, 1998.

### COURSE TOPICS, READING AND QUIZ/EXAM SCHEDULE

Week Month/ Day		Topics	Readings	Discussions, Assignment, & Exams
1	Aug, 28	The Nature of Ethnic Relations & Introduction	Introduction/ Review Syllabus Part 1 & Chapter 1	
	30			Discussion 1
2	Sept, 4	Ethnic Stratification: Majority and Minority	Chapter 2	
	6			Discussion 2
3	11	Tools of Dominance: Prejudice and Discrimination	Chapter 3	
	13			Discussion 3
4	18	Patterns of Ethnic Relations: Assimilation and Pluralism	Chapter 4	
	20			Discussion 4
5	25	Ethnicity in the U.S.: Immigration & American Ethnic Hierarchy	Part 2 & Chapter 5	
	27			Discussion 5
6	Oct, 2	Native Americans	Chapter 6	
	4			Analysis Paper 1, Due: Sat 11:59 p.
7	9	Jewish Americans	Chapter 11	
	11			Discussion 6: Online
8	16	African Americans	Chapter 7	
	18			Discussion 7
9	23	Hispanic Americans	Chapter 8	
	25			Discussion 8
10	30	Asian Americans	Chapter 9	
	Nov, 1			Discussion 9
11	6	White Ethnic Americans	Chapter 10	
	8			Discussion 10
12	13	Arab Americans	Chapter 12	
	15			Analysis Paper 2, Due: Sat 11:59 p.
13	20	Changing Context of American Race & Ethnic Relations	Chapter 13	Discussion 11
	22	Thanksgiving Break		
14	27	Ethnic Relations in Comparative Perspective & Global Issues	Part 3 & Chapter 17	
	29			Discussion 12
15	Dec, 4	Global Examples: South Africa/ Brazil/ Canada	One of the following: Chapter 14, 15, or 16	
	6			Review for Exam
	11	Dec 8-14 finals		Final Exam: Dec 11 at 10:30-12:30