

**University of North Texas
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Sociology**

**SOCI 2010.001: Race, Class, Gender and Ethnicity
(Meets with WGST 2420.001)**

Fall 2016

Instructor: Nikolitsa Grigoropoulou

Class time: MWF 8:00 - 8:50 am

Classroom: BLB 055

Office: Chilton Room 121

Office hours: Wednesday and Friday 9:30 – 11:30 am or by appointment

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Course Description:

This course introduces basic concepts and theories about race, class, gender, and ethnicity and their relationship with social inequality in the United States (or even around the world). By the end of this course, you should be able to

- ✓ learn how and why inequalities in the American society are based on differences in race, class, gender, and ethnicity.
- ✓ familiarize yourself with basic sociological theories and how to apply them in order to understand the existence and perpetuation of social inequality.
- ✓ acquire a socio-historical perspective of how social inequality became embedded in the American society.
- ✓ discover how patterns of social inequality are perpetuated through social structures.
- ✓ familiarize yourself with the intersectionality of race, class, gender, and ethnicity in the context of social inequality.
- ✓ understand how social inequality affects the lives of individuals and relationships between individuals.

Course Material:

Required Textbook: Andersen, 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/>

Reading Assignments & Participation:

Students are responsible for reading the assigned materials from the text before each class session. It is very important to keep up with the readings. The lecture presentations will be available online, but not the lecture notes, so it is to your best interest to attend every class. **Class attendance counts toward your final grade.**

Monday Group Discussions

Race, class, gender, and ethnicity make their influence apparent in numerous social events and different aspects of our everyday lives. During this semester, we will experience the last few months of Barack Obama in office, the first African American to be the President of the United States. At the same time, Hillary Clinton seems to lead the way in becoming the next elected President of the country. Not to mention that your instructor is Greek! Starting **Monday September 19th**, we will dedicate almost half of our Monday meetings to discuss various events in the context of race, class, gender, and/or ethnicity. Additional information will be provided in class.

Monday Online Meetings

Approximately 7 Monday meetings will take place on Blackboard in the form of discussion boards. The material for the online discussion will be drawn from the previous week's readings. Blackboard discussion boards will become available at **8:00 am on Sunday and close 11:59 pm on Monday night.**

Exams: There will be 3 exams throughout the semester.

Location: Exams will be taken in class.

Format: Exams cover material from assigned readings, lectures, and blackboard discussions and will typically consist of 25 multiple choice questions and one short answer question. The final exam will consist of 40 multiple choice questions and one short answer question. 20 of the multiple choice questions will come directly from the previous two exams.

Because life happens, make-up exams can be given with documentation for a serious illness, death in the family, required university-sponsored event, or after prior arrangement with the instructor.

Late papers or assignments:

Students are responsible to submit their discussion posts on time. Late work will not be accepted without documentation for a serious illness, death in the family, or required university-sponsored event. If you miss Monday group discussions, you cannot make up for them.

Grading:

Exams	2 at 75 points each	150 points
Final Exam	1 at 100 points	100 points
Monday Classroom Discussions	6 at 15 points each	90 points
Monday Online Meetings	7 at 10 points each	70 points
Attendance	30 at 2 points	60 points
Total		470 points

Range of Points	Range of Percentages	Grade
419 - 470	90% - 100%	A
372 - 418	80% - 89%	B
325 - 371	70% - 79%	C
278 - 324	60% - 69%	D
0 - 277	0% - 59%	F

Classroom Etiquette:**Cell phones must be turned on SILENT and put away!**

Arriving late in class and leaving early are very disruptive to the instructor and other students. Please let the instructor know prior to the beginning of class if you absolutely must leave early and make sure your exit distracts others as little as possible. Please make every effort to respect others.

Disagreements are allowed and expected, but the focus should be on ideas rather than on the individual who expresses them. Signs of disrespect that will not be tolerated include but are not limited to, having background conversations when others are talking, packing up early when others are still talking or asking questions, and working on material for other classes.

Acceptable Student Behavior:

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will

be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated UNT's Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. UNT's Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.

Academic Integrity Policy:

Academic dishonesty is defined as follows by the Office of Academic Integrity on the website: <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/development/dishonesty.html>

- **Cheating:** Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term academic exercise includes all forms of work submitted for credit or hours.
- **Plagiarism:** The deliberate adoption or reproduction of ideas, words or statements of another person as one's own without acknowledgement.
- **Fabrication:** Intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- **Facilitating academic dishonesty:** Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate a provision of the institutional code of academic integrity.

Violations of the policy of academic integrity are taken seriously at UNT and may include (1) failing grades on assignments and/or the course and (2) reports to the VPAA that become a part of the official student record. You should read the procedures and sanctions for academic dishonesty on the website of the Vice President for academic Affairs at <http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm>. If you are in doubt about any of the issues related to academic integrity, it is your responsibility to consult with the course instructor regarding these requirements before your assignments are submitted.

Disability Statement:

Students requesting accommodations and services due to a disability are required to provide the authorization letter issued by the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) before their requests can be processed. Attempts will be made to meet all certified requirements. For more information contact the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) at 940-565-4323.

Syllabus as a Contract:

The University attorney advises faculty members to notify students that the syllabus is not a contract and is therefore subject to change. I will try to adhere to the schedule provided, but I reserve the right to alter the syllabus to better suit the needs of the class.

WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading / Assignment
Week 1		
M 08/29	Introduction / Review Course Outline	
W 08/31	The Basics of Social Inequality	Why Race, Class, and Gender Still Matter p. 1-14 Reading 2: A Different Mirror p. 22-33
F 09/02		
Week 2		
M 09/05	Labor Day	No Class
W 09/07	Systems of Power and Inequality	Systems of Power and Inequality p. 51-71 Film: White Like Me (in class)
F 09/09		
Week 3		
M 09/12	Online Meeting	
W 09/14	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
F 09/16		
Week 4		
M 09/19	Classroom Group Discussion	
W 09/21	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
F 09/23		
Week 5		
M 09/26	Online Meeting	
W 09/28	Review #1	
F 09/30	Exam #1	
Week 6		
M 10/03	Classroom Group Discussion	
W 10/05	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
F 10/07		
Week 7		
M 10/10	Online Meeting	
W 10/12	Gender and Sexism	Reading 21: Sex and Gender... p. 170-178 Reading 22: Seeing Privilege Where It Isn’t p. 179-187 Additional reading will be provided on Blackboard
F 10/14		

Week 8			
M	10/17	Classroom Group Discussion	
W	10/19	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
F	10/21		
Week 9			
M	10/24	Online Meeting	
W	10/26	Families	Reading 36: Our Mothers' Grief p. 294-306 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
F	10/28		
Week 10			
M	10/31	Online Meeting	
W	11/02	Review #2	
F	11/04	Exam #2	
Week 11			
M	11/07	Classroom Group Discussion	
W	11/09	Education	Reading 40: Affirming Identity in an Era of School Desegregation p. 327-332 Reading 41: From the Achievement Gap to Education Debt p. 333-345
F	11/11		
Week 12			
M	11/14	Online Meeting	
W	11/16	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
F	11/18		
Week 13			
M	11/21	Classroom Group Discussion	
W	11/23	Bodies, Beauty, and Sports	Reading 49: Brown Body, White Wonderland p. 390-391 Reading 51: Sustainable Food and Privilege p. 399-400 Film: A knock out (in class)
F	11/25	Thanksgiving Break	No Class
Week 14			
M	11/28	Online Group Discussion	
W	11/30	The State and Violence	Reading 53: Gender, Race, and Urban Policing p. 408-418 Reading 54: The Color of Justice p. 419-423 Reading 55: Rape, Racism, and the Law p. 424-431
F	12/02		

Week 15		
M 12/05	Classroom Group Discussion	
W 12/07	Final Exam Review	
F 12/09	Reading Day	No Class
Finals Week		
M 12/12	Final Exam	8:00 am – 10:00 am

Have a Great Semester!!!