

# SOCI 4540: Race and Ethnic Minorities

Fall 2021

## Instructor Contact

**Instructor:** Phoebe Ho (Professor Ho)

**Office Hours:** TuWTr 3:45-5:15pm or by appointment (Sycamore Hall, 288K)

**Email:** [phoebe.ho@unt.edu](mailto:phoebe.ho@unt.edu)

**Class Meeting Schedule:** TuTh 2:00AM - 3:20PM

**Class Location:** LIFE A419

## Course Communications and Office Hours:

All relevant course communications outside of class will occur through Canvas. Make sure your primary email account is set up in Canvas to avoid missing course communications. For individual questions and concerns, email me or the teaching assistant directly or schedule a meeting during virtual office hours.

When sending an email:

- Make sure that the answer is not already in the syllabus or elsewhere on Canvas.
- Include an informative subject line and start with Dear Professor Ho.
- Have a clear and succinct inquiry.
- If you have not received a reply within 24 hours, you may send a polite reminder (above rules still apply).

Office hours for Professor Ho can be reserved at this link or through Canvas:

<https://calendly.com/phoebeho/15min>

Meetings are set in 15-minute increments. If you think you will need more than 15 minutes, you may reserve additional meeting slots within reason. Do not be late as it may impact other students' schedules. If you cannot make your appointment, make changes at least 24 hours in advance so that other students have the chance to sign up. You may request appointments outside of these hours by emailing me several date and time options.

## Course Description

This course focuses on racial and ethnic relations in the US, from historical developments to contemporary issues, through a sociological lens. The course satisfies the Cross-cultural, Diversity and Global Studies requirement of the University Core Curriculum.

## Course Structure

The course is structured around seven broadly themed modules. There are activities, readings, assignments, and quizzes specific to each module. A detailed breakdown of each module is available on Canvas. Class meets on Tuesdays and Thursday. Class sessions will revolve around a brief lecture and small-group and whole-class discussion.

## Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

There are no course prerequisites for this course.

## Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will have:

- A solid foundation of knowledge about sociological approaches to studying race and ethnicity
- An understanding of the social construction of race and ethnicity and how it is related to other forms of social inequality
- The ability to comprehend and effectively summarize research studies related
- An awareness of how personal experiences are shaped by societal forces

## Course Policies

### Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class meetings. Up to three no-questions-asked absences and three excused absences (with documentation and consistent with UNT policy) are allowed for the semester. Each additional absence beyond this will result in a loss of participation points. Students are also expected to log in to the course Canvas site on a regular basis to access course materials and otherwise engage with the course and classmates.

### Late Work and Extensions

Most assignments (with the exception of the final paper, quizzes, and any extra credit or optional assignments) have a no-questions-asked 24-hour courtesy extension. As long as assignments are submitted within 24 hours of the original due date, they will not be penalized for lateness.

Assignments submitted after the 24-hour courtesy window but within 48 hours of the original due date will have 10% of the score deducted. Assignments submitted after 48 hours but within 72 hours of the original due date will have 20% of the score deducted. Assignments submitted later than 72 hours from the original due date will receive no credit. Students do not need to make any special arrangements to make use of this policy.

If there is an emergency that requires a longer extension, you must contact me for accommodations before the assignment deadline. Further extensions will be provided solely at my discretion. It is your responsibility as a student to contact me as early as possible if you anticipate difficulties in meeting any of the deadlines.

### Extra Credit

Refer to Assignments on Canvas for details on how to earn Syllabus & Guidelines Extra Credit. Any additional extra credit will be provided at my discretion.

## Materials

All course readings will be held on electronic reserve at UNT libraries, including research articles and an electronic copy of the assigned book for the course.

### Required Book:

- Iceland, John. 2017. Race and Ethnicity in America. University of California Press. Free e-book access for students via UNT Libraries (need EUID):  
<https://discover.library.unt.edu/catalog/b6562544>

## Course Requirements and Assignments

Assignment	Points Possible	Percentage of Final Grade
<b>Participation</b> In-class participation	150	15%
<b>SOCI 4540 Playlist Project</b>	50	5%
<b>Module Quizzes</b> Seven quizzes at the end of each module, lowest dropped. 6 quizzes, 50 points each	300	30%
<b>Research Article Summaries</b> 3 summaries, 100 points each	300	30%
<b>Motivation Essay</b>	50	5%
<b>Reflection Essay</b>	50	5%
<b>Final Paper</b> Failure to submit will result in a failing grade, regardless of prior course standing.	100	10%
<b>Total Points Possible</b>	1,000	100%

## Grading

A = 900+ (Excellent work)

B = 800-899 (Good work)

C = 700-799 (Fair work)

D = 600-699 (Passing work)

F = 0-599 (Failing work)