

SOCI 4540: Race and Ethnic Minorities

IMPORTANT: The syllabus is subject to change throughout the semester. This version may not reflect the latest changes. The electronic version on Canvas will always be up-to-date, so be sure to cross-reference your copy with the version on Canvas->Syllabus.

Instructor Contact

Instructor: Phoebe Ho (Professor Ho)

Virtual Office Hours: TuWTr 11:00am-1:00pm or by appointment

Email: phoebe.ho@unt.edu

Teaching Assistant: Jennifer Knudsen (Jennifer)

Virtual Office Hours: Monday 11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Email: Jennifer.Knudsen@unt.edu

Course Communications and Office Hours:

All relevant course communications 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. It is best to schedule meetings at a time when you will be in a quiet location where you can speak freely and without interruption. 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. **Due to COVID-19, all office hours will be held virtually via Zoom.**

Access office hours for Jennifer at this link: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/84403605872>

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, each covering about two weeks' worth of course materials. There are readings and assignments specific to each module but you have considerable freedom to progress in each module at your own pace, keeping in mind assignment deadlines. A detailed breakdown of module readings and course assignments is provided on Canvas.

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

Late Work and Extensions

Details for all the course assignments and deadlines are available before the start of the course so that you can plan accordingly. However, I understand sometimes students need extensions. With this in mind, all 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. I recognize that COVID-19 presents unique challenges and intend to be as flexible as possible in determining assignment extensions. However, it is your responsibility as a student to contact me as early as possible if you anticipate difficulties in meeting any of the deadlines.

Attendance Policy

You are expected to log into the course Canvas site on a regular basis to access course materials, participate in the discussion board, and otherwise engage with the course and your classmates.

COVID-19 impact on attendance

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to COVID-19 including symptoms, potential exposure, pending or positive test results, or if you have been given specific instructions to isolate or quarantine from a health care provider or a local authority. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

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. Hard copies of the assigned book will also be available at the UNT Bookstore as well as at online retailers. Refer to the Modules section on Canvas for details about course readings.

Required Book:

- Iceland, John. 2017. *Race and Ethnicity in America*. University of California Press.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Assignment	Points Possible	Percentage of Final Grade
Discussion Board Participation Submit a comment, question, or response on Canvas for five modules. Details on Canvas. 5 posts, 15 points each	75	7.5%
SOCI 4540 Playlist Project	75	7.5%
Module Quizzes Six quizzes at the end of each module (beginning with Module 2). 6 quizzes, 50 points each	300	30%
Personal Reflection Essay	100	10%
Research Article Summaries 4 summaries, 75 points each	300	30%
Final Paper	150	15%

Assignment	Points Possible	Percentage of Final Grade
Failure to submit will result in a failing grade, regardless of prior course standing.		
Total Points Possible	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)