

SOCI 4540: Race and Ethnic Minorities

Spring 2022

Instructor Contact

Instructor: Phoebe Ho (Professor Ho)

Office Hours: 2:15-4:15pm on Tue. (Sycamore Hall, 288K) and Wed. (Zoom), or by appointment

Email: phoebe.ho@unt.edu

Class Meeting Schedule: TuTh 12:30- 1:50PM

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

Upon successful completion of this course, learners will be able to:

1. Articulate sociological approaches to studying race and ethnicity, including theoretical concepts and methods
2. Define how race is a social construction using historical and contemporary examples
3. Describe how race and ethnicity are associated with measurable social inequalities
4. Accurately summarize and critically assess social science research studies

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. COVID-related absences will not be counted but it is your responsibility to notify me **early** about such absences and you remain responsible for coursework.

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 (unless otherwise noted) have a no-questions-asked 24-hour courtesy extension. As long as eligible assignments are submitted within 24 hours of the original due date, they will not be penalized for lateness.
- Eligible assignments submitted after the 24-hour courtesy window but within 48 hours of the original due date will have 10% of the score deducted.
- Eligible 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. Extensions and deductions for lateness will be applied based on the submission timestamp shown in Canvas.
- If an emergency arises that necessitates longer extensions, you must contact me for accommodations **before the original 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 extra credit opportunities. Any additional extra credit will be provided at my discretion.

Grade Disputes

You are required to wait 24 hours before contacting me to dispute a grade. Within that time, I expect that you will review the assignment details and reflect on the quality of the work you turned in. If you would still like to meet, sign up for office hours (I will not discuss grades over email). You should come to our scheduled meeting with specific examples that demonstrate you earned a higher grade than you received. If you miss your scheduled meeting, you forfeit your right to a grade dispute. If you do not contact me to schedule a meeting within seven days of receiving your grade, you also forfeit your right to a grade dispute.

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. E-book access for students via UNT Libraries: <https://discover.library.unt.edu/catalog/b6562544>

Course Requirements and Assignments

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