

Race and Ethnicity (Soci 3314)

CRN 80141

Fall 2014

Mondays and Wednesdays 5pm – 6:15pm

SSB Rm 2021

Instructor: Chandra Ward

E-mail: cward61@kennesaw.edu

Office: SSB Rm. 4005

Office Hours: MW 3:30 – 4:30 or by appointment

**Required Texts: *THINK Race and Ethnicity, by Mona Scott.* ISBN-13 978-0-205-77373-2
Pearson, 2012**

***Rethinking the Color Line: Readings in Race and Ethnicity, 5th ed. by Charles A. Gallagher.* ISBN-13 978-0-07-340427-1, McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2012**

Course description

America is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse country in the world and we as a country are becoming increasingly less white. We are also a country comprised of generations of forced and voluntary immigrants. The purpose of this course is to explore a number of issues concerning race and ethnicity including issues of identity, inequality, social class, discrimination, and immigration in the United States.

Course objectives

The overall objective of this course is to instill in you a solid understanding of the fundamentals of race and ethnic relations from a sociological framework.

GRADING: Assignment Weighting / Assignment Points

Participation (three quizzes/discussions@ 30 pts=90 pts, 10 pts for attendance) 100

Midterm Exam 100

Final Exam 100

Final Paper 100

Total 400

Take your final points and divide by four:

GRADING AND POINT SCALE

On all papers and examinations the grading will be based on the following scale:

90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70-79% = C 60-69% = D
59% and below = F

Attendance and Participation

Participation will be assessed by quizzes and group discussions. On three occasions you will have a quiz over select readings in your Gallagher reader. These quizzes will be multiple choice questions over the content of the readings. Each set of readings addresses a controversial issue in drugs and society (e.g. is addiction a disease?). Once you have completed the quizzes demonstrating that you have read and understood the readings you will be put into groups to discuss the broader controversy that the readings address. You must participate in this group discussion to receive credit for the quiz. I will ask a representative of your group to share your group's perspective with the class. This group exercise will be used to determine not only that you have read the assigned material, but that you have integrated the ideas and thought critically about them. In general the assignment is for you to use the readings, your critical thinking skills, and your classmates to help you develop informed opinions on controversial drug issues. These quizzes/group discussions will comprise the majority of your participation grade (90%). The remainder of the participation points will be derived from random class attendance checks.

Paper

Students will be required to write one critical paper for the course. The papers should draw from course material covered in the class via lecture, and your required texts. You may choose from one of the three paper options below.

- 1.) Current Event: The current event can be any news story you see or read about from news media. The papers must be well supported with explicit use of course content applied to current events. If you have any questions about what constitutes a current event, please email me or see me after class. You will be expected to critically convey and engage your thoughts on how the current

event is related to the sociological topic or perspective you have chosen to write about.

2.) Media analysis

For this project, you should choose a form of media—magazine, TV, movie or radio show, song/CD, computer/video game, or website—and analyze its content for the ways in which race/ethnicity is depicted. Again, support your analysis of the media with course content such as lecture notes, and your textbook and reader.

3.) Autobiographical

This assignment involves your own experiences with race and ethnicity. For example, what have been your experiences with how people read your race/ethnicity and how have you negotiated that? How does your family and peers view race and ethnicity? Consider questions such as these, but don't limit yourself to these questions, they are simply examples. Support your paper with course content and themes from lecture, the textbook and class reader.

The paper should be carefully, cohesively, and logically written void of grammatical errors.

The essays must be 5 pages, typed in 12 point font and double-spaced with 1 inch margins.

Sources should be referenced in a work cited page. **Emailed papers will not be accepted.**

Hard copies only, please. 10 points will be taken off each day a paper is late.

These essays are meant to engage you in the sociological imagination, allow you creativity and autonomy in your choice of topic and how you want to discuss it. They are also meant to encourage you to think critically about your position, or others, as a social agent reproducing, resisting, or otherwise engaging in the social arena. I encourage the writer to reflexively engage in the content they are writing about. In other words, try to be aware of any bias you may have given your social positioning in society when writing. How does your identity as a college student (just one of potentially many positions of privilege you may possess) affect your perspective of what it is you are writing on as opposed to a non-college student, for instance.

Midterm

Multiple-choice exam on course context covered up to day of scheduled exam.

Final Exam

Multiple-choice exam on course content covered after the midterm. Not cumulative.

Make up exams will automatically be granted for the following reasons: ***official University business (documentation provided at least 2 weeks in advance), religious holiday (if I am notified by the end of the first week of the semester) and official legal obligations (required to testify, etc.)***. If you have a dire emergency, you **must** notify me by phone or email in advance or as soon as possible if you are unable to give advanced notice. Based upon this, I reserve the right to decide if I will allow you to take a make-up exam **at my own discretion**. Students who have been granted a make-up exam have exactly **one week** from the time of the original exam to provide approved documentation and to make up the exam.

Accommodations

Students who wish to request accommodations for a disability may do so by registering with the Office of Disability Services. Students may only be accommodated upon issuance by the Office of Disability Services, of a signed Accommodation Plan and are responsible for providing a copy of that plan to instructors of all classes in which an accommodation is sought. The Office of Disabilities Services can be contacted at 770-423-6443.

Academic Honesty

According to KSU's academic policy in the student handbook "No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior [that] a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are

incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s)".

http://www.kennesaw.edu/student_life/forms/shb/ksushp14.pdf

**Plagiarism is only one example of academic dishonesty. Familiarize yourself with the above website concerning all aspects of academic dishonesty. Violation of the Academic Honesty policy will result in an F in the course and possible disciplinary action. All violations will be formally reported. Do not cheat, plagiarize, or violate any of the rules concerning this policy! Again, do not cheat, plagiarize, or violate any of these rules!

Withdrawal Procedures

The final day to withdraw from this class without incurring a "WF" (Withdrawal failing) is October 8th. You must withdraw by this date in order to receive a "W." If you withdraw by October 8th but are failing the course, you will receive a "WF."

Course Evaluations

Your constructive assessment of this course plays an indispensable role in shaping education at Kennesaw State University. Upon completing the course, please take time to fill out the online course evaluation.

Classroom Conduct

To help facilitate a classroom environment conducive to learning, students will be expected to adhere the following rules of conduct.

- Students are expected to arrive to class on time and prepared. Tardiness (as well as leaving during the middle of class) is a both a distraction to other students and myself, thus interfering with an optimal learning space.
- Please do not bring food to class to eat that is of a highly odorous nature that can permeate the room. For example, hot wings are a type of food that when brought into a room completely fills it with its smell. We will have a long break during class, so if you cannot eat before class, you have the opportunity to eat during the break outside of class.
- Upon entering class, please put away your cell phone and put it on silent. Do not text during class. Please do not use your laptop or any other mobile device for anything

other than class purposes while in class. If I find you checking Facebook or anything unrelated to the class while class is in session, I may request that you not bring your laptop to class for the remainder of the semester.

- I **DO NOT** and **WILL NOT** offer extra credit. There are no exceptions.
- I will not email final grades to individuals.
- Please be respectful of your other classmates during discussion. There will be controversial, thought provoking topics covered in this course. In order to be fair to everyone, please do not speak out of turn unless otherwise told and refrain from making personal insults to another student whose views may differ from yours. You should only critique another student's idea or argument. This is an intellectual environment, not the Jerry Springer Show. Discriminatory, hateful language will not be tolerated.
- Technology is a fundamental aspect of the classroom; however, it can often interfere with the learning environment if it is used inappropriately. Therefore, laptops are **NOT ALLOWED** in my classroom. Also, **DO NOT** use your cell phones (or other electronic devices—iPods, MP-3 players, etc... I shouldn't have to explain myself) while you are in my class; please turn them off or on silent! If you choose to utilize technology in a manner that I deem inappropriate (see above), I reserve the right to confiscate your technological device for that day.

Phone Numbers That May be Useful

- **Teaching Support Numbers**
 - Writing Center: 770-423-6380
- **Health and Medical Services**
 - Student Health Service Clinic: 770-423-6644
 - KSU Counseling and Psychological Services: 770-423-6600

Course Outline*

*Please note: The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary. Unless otherwise noted, all readings appear in our text book and reader, **THINK Race and Ethnicity** and **Rethinking the Color Line: Readings in Race and Ethnicity**.

Date	Topic	Assigned Readings	Assignment Due
08/18/14	Introduction to the course / Introduction to Race and Ethnicity		
08/20/14	Historical roots in concepts of race/ethnicity	THINK Ch.1	
08/25/14	Historical roots in concepts of race/ethnicity	Readings #3, 9	
08/27/14	Prejudice and discrimination	THINK Ch.2	
09/03/14	Prejudice and discrimination	Readings #16,18, 30	
09/08/14	Dominant Ideologies	THINK Ch.3	
09/10/14	Dominant Ideologies	Readings #12,13	
09/15/14	Privilege	THINK Ch.4	
09/17/14	Privilege	Readings #13,14, 19	QUIZ 1
09/22/14	Internalized Oppression	THINK Ch.5	

<u>09/24/14</u>	Internalized Oppression	THINK Ch.5	
<u>09/29/14</u>	Education	THINK Ch.6	
10/01/14	Education		
10/06/14	Review		
10/09/14	Midterm		
10/13/14	Media and Representation	THINK Ch.7	
10/15/14	Media and Representation	Readings 39,40,37	
10/20/13	Residential Segregation	THINK Ch.8	
10/22/13	Residential Segregation		
10/27/14	Residential Segregation	Reading #21, 23, 25	QUIZ 2
10/29/14	Economic Inequality	THINK Ch.9	
11/03/14	Economic Inequality	Reading #8	
11/05/14	Employment and Race	Reading #29, 30	

11/10/14	Health	THINK Ch.10	
11/12/14	Health	Reading #7	
11/17/14	Legal System	THINK Ch.11	
11/19/14	Legal System	Reading #26, 27, 28	
11/24-26/14	NO CLASS	Fall Break	
12/01/14	Immigration and Citizenship	Readings #40, 42	Critical Paper due
12/03/14	Undoing Racism	Readings #49, 50	QUIZ 3
12/08/14	LAST DAY OF CLASS		
12/10/14	Final Exam @6-8 pm		