

SPC
AMERICAN MINORITY STUDIES
COMMON COURSE SYLLABUS

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: HUMANITIES

Course Number: HUMA 2319

Course Name: AMERICAN MINORITY STUDIES

Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes – Language, Philosophy and Culture

Prerequisites: none for campus; TSI reading for Internet

Available Formats: Conventional and Internet

Textbook: *American Ethnicity*, Adalberto Aguirre, Jr., Jonathan Turner, 7th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2009. .

Check with your instructor to see which is required for your section

Supplies: Computer and Internet access for Internet courses and campus classes.

Course Description: (3:3:0) : This interdisciplinary survey examines the diverse cultural, artistic, economic, historical, political, and social aspects of American minority communities. Topics may include race/ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, and religion.

Semester Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Lab Hours: 0 (This course covers the historical, economic, social, and cultural development of minority groups, including African-American, Mexican-American, Asian-American, and Native-American issues)

Course Purpose/Rationale/Goal: American Minority Studies provides a multidisciplinary analysis of the subordinate/dominant statuses of individuals and groups by recognizing the impact of race/ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic class of individuals and groups in relationship to American society. The course is designed to foster critical analysis of the issues of difference in our society and to prepare students to understand and interact with people from diverse backgrounds and cultural perspectives throughout their lives. Art, literature, historical analysis, economic analysis, and/or music will be utilized to understand the cultural differences.

Learning Outcomes/Competencies:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Analyze the history, culture, and struggles for equality of American minority groups.
2. Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works by minorities in the arts and humanities.
3. Demonstrate awareness of multiple cultural perspectives representative of diverse minority groups.
4. Describe the impact of discrimination on the everyday life of minority groups in the context of social, political, and economic circumstances.
5. Analyze minority group interactions in the United States focusing on immigration and migration patterns, assimilation processes, and adjustments to American life.
6. Formulate an understanding of shifting societal perceptions and self-identifications of minority group cultural identities.

Core Objectives:

- **Communication skills-** to include effective written, oral and visual communication.

- **Critical thinking skills-** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Social Responsibility-** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.
- **Personal Responsibility-**to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Texas Coordinating Board Approval Number..... 45.1101.53 25

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class session, complete all homework assignments, and complete all examinations. The specific course requirements are listed on the individual instructor’s course information sheet.

Course Evaluation:

Please see the instructor’s course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student’s responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

Academic Appeals Procedure

INFORMAL APPEAL

1. The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or discipline action.
2. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate department chairperson to discuss the situation. (The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.)
3. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. (The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.)
4. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should be advised of the formal appeal process.

FORMAL APPEAL

1. If the student is not satisfied with the results of the Informal Appeal, he/she should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
 - a. A request for a formal appeals hearing.
 - b. A brief statement of what is being appealed.
 - c. The basis for the appeal.
 - d. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.

NOTE: The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter.

2. The Vice President for Academic Affairs of South Plains College, will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.

THE HEARING

1. Composition of the appeals committee:

a. Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing. b. Faculty member of the student's choice. c. Faculty member and student of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. d. President of the Student Body/Student Advisory Council. e. Vice President of Student Affairs.

2. Other persons who should be available at the hearing:

a. The student who requested the hearing. b. The faculty member involved. c. Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case. d. Chairperson and Divisional Dean.

3. Hearing Procedure: The Committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy, and such representatives as desired, will present all facts relating to the case. Consequently, the committee will recommend appropriate action by majority vote.

4. The termination of the hearing finalizes the academic appeal procedure.

APPEAL RESTRICTIONS

1. Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. 2. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. 3. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed.

Standard Written English REQUIREMENT:

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus **expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays.** Each instructor may also add additional requirements regarding written assignments that are contained in your syllabus.

IF YOU ARE ON CAMPUS

Campus Concealed Carry Policy:

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at:

(http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the **open carrying** of handguns **is prohibited** on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Equal Opportunity Statement

South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities.

INSTRUCTOR-SPECIFIC COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

HUMA 2319
AMERICAN MINORITY STUDIES
Instructor: Raynie Gibbs
FALL 2019

Instructor: Raynie Gibbs,
Instructor of Psychology

Office: n/a
Phone: 806.834.0260
Email: rbjibbs@southplainscollege.edu

Office Hours: Office hours will be conducted before or after class by appointment. I can also chat with you via Skype for Business. The phone number listed is my Skype number. We can verbally communicate, type chat, or video conference, or a combination of the 3.

The **best way** to contact me for this course is through email. I will respond within two business days. I will only respond to emails from your SPC email address. If you use Hotmail, gmail, etc, those emails tend to go to my junk folder and I do not see them.

Required Text: We will be using the *American Ethnicity: The Dynamics and Consequences of Discrimination* – 7th edition, (see page 1 of syllabus). **YOU DO NOT NEED TO PURCHASE THE MATRIX READER FOR THIS CLASS.**

Diversity Statement: “In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be” (Faculty Handbook 4.1.1.1) – How **PERFECT** for this class !!

Disabilities Statement: “Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office”::

THE RULES:

Pages 11-15 of the South Plains Student Guide highlights topics and procedures of Student Conduct and Penalties for

Misconduct. I suggest you read this. Here are the highlights as they fit this class:

Academic Integrity: Cheating of any type is a serious matter and will **NOT** be tolerated. This includes cheating **in any form** on tests, quizzes, homeworks, and/or assignments (such as copying someone’s exam or assignments), and plagiarism.

According to the South Plains College website,

<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/library/smartstarts/mod6/04-plagiarism.html>, “plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of someone else as your own without proper acknowledgment of the source. It is okay to use the ideas of other people, but you do need to correctly credit them. When you quote people – or even when you summarize or paraphrase information found in books, articles, or Web pages – you must acknowledge the original author.”

(If you do not know/understand what constitutes plagiarism, or if you need further clarification ask me or look it up .. **ignorance will not be an excuse.**) Do not even THINK ABOUT cheating in any way.

However, if you do and if you are caught the **following WILL happen ...**

1. You will receive a ZERO on the assignment and we will have a discussion
2. You will be ineligible to receive any extra credit points
3. You may be dropped ONE letter grade at the end of the semester
4. If you are caught a second time, you be dropped from the class with an F

THIS HOLDS TRUE FOR ANY ASSIGNMENT – EVEN AN EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT. Penalization because of plagiarism/cheating is the consequence of YOUR choices and YOUR actions. It is not something I am doing to YOU – it is what YOU are doing to YOU.

This is serious. I am serious. DO NOT DO IT !! Take the low grade for not-knowing/doing the material, rather than the above repercussions for cheating.

Student Behavior: This is college, and I view you as an **adult. Please act like one.** Be courteous, be respectful, think before you speak. Do not disrupt class. If you are disruptive with your online responses or comments, you may **be dropped from the class.**

Attendance: Here's how it works in this class: HYBRID: face-to-face and online.

You must attend every Monday from 11-12:15 am. We will not meet Wednesdays.

Submitted work will be done on BLACKBOARD.

"Participation" in this online class is mandatory – you must be active. There are numerous assignments which should force you to log-on continuously each week. I understand that each of you has your own schedule and will be logging-on at different times. That's fine. All that is expected of you is that you **GET THE WORK DONE BY THE DUE DATE.**

I do not accept late work.

Each assignment and discussion will be due Sunday of each week by 11:59pm CST. It is your responsibility to get the work done and submitted to me by the deadline. Attendance will be taken on Mondays and according to completion/submission of Discussions, Quizzes, Assignments, and projects.

If you are unable to log-on or complete your work for any reason, **YOU MUST CONTACT ME ASAP!** Excuses such as "The network was down," or "I could not figure out how to send the assignment through the assignments function" are not acceptable. In short, plan ahead and **do not wait until the last minute to submit your assignments.** It is always okay to turn in assignments early.

Administrative Drop Policy: Due to Financial Aid and South Plains College requirements for participation/attendance a student who **fails to turn in 5 assignments** during the semester may be **dropped** with a grade of "X" from the course. Assignments in this context refer to the written chapter assignments as well as test and/or postings to the discussion board.

Courtesy and Respect: I am your instructor, and though I may joke around with you please don't lose sight of the fact that I am still your instructor. So please do not address me with "hey," "yo," etc. Emails must also abide by Standard Written English. Standard Written English, courtesy and respect is expected in all manners of correspondence, and I will do the same. THANKS !!

THE GRADES:

1. Four (4) Quizzes/ONE (1) Final Exam: You will be instructed to take an exam/quiz for most units. These tests are timed and will shut down if you exceed the allotted time. Also, do not try to open another tab on the internet while you are taking the test because that will not be allowed – the computer will shut you down.

- There are **NO make-up exams** except for **EXTREME** circumstances which must be discussed with me within **ONE DAY** of your missed test .
- Do not be late logging in for tests – I do not accept late work.
- If you happen to miss a test .. do not fret. A missed test does not equate to Failing the class. It could, if your grades for everything else are poor .. but if you are a good student and do well on everything else, a missed test **should not** lead to a failing grade.
- The test questions will be randomly selected and will consist of Multiple Choice and True-False.

2. Cultural Artifact Project: The purpose of this assignment is to critically analyze a cultural artifact. A cultural artifact is any item that tells us about the culture which produced the artifact in question. For this assignment you will choose a graphic novel, written novel, series of children's books, a movie, a book of poetry (at least ten poems from one poet), or series of artistic renderings (at least ten paintings/sculptures/drawings from one artist), then select **FOUR KEY TERMS** from the course material and explain how the four terms are presented in the artifact you have selected. You will provide your explanation in the form of a typed paper.

You will also PRESENT your project to the class with a Powerpoint Slide Presentation.

3. TEN (10) DISCUSSIONS on Blackboard: After you have answered the initial Discussion Question(s), you must post at least two (2), substantive replies to your classmates. You are NOT expected to reply to every single post – this would be overwhelming. However, you are expected to be an active participant in the online discussion forum. Each week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. If you wait until the last minute to post, you are not allowing for any discussion, simply posting your thoughts. **Thus, make every effort to submit your initial posting on Wednesday and your replies to classmates by Sunday.** I also expect that you will reference course material in your discussion postings, i.e., readings, lectures, other material. **REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE ASSIGNMENT IS... YOU ARE EXPECTED TO WRITE IN FORMAL GRAMMAR. I WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY TEXT MESSAGING ABBREVIATIONS !! THIS IS A CLASS..NOT A PHONE.... ****

Also, for Discussions... I expect you to include terms and definitions from the unit within the context of your answer. You will lose points if I do not see terms and definitions !

Your overall, class grade is compiled in the following way:

Class Attendance/Participation on Mondays = 5%
Quizzes/Final Exam (5 items) = 35%
Discussions (10 items) = 40%
Project = 20%

Final Grades:

A = 90 and above

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F – 59 and below (F is the only “failing” grade)

NOTE:

If EVER you should have any questions, concerns, etc – come and see me or contact me. That is what I am here for .. that is what my office hours are for. I cannot help you if you don't come and talk to me.

COMPUTER INFORMATION FOR AN ONLINE CLASS:

Blackboard Learn 9.1 is the computer software used to deliver this course. It is essential that you have reliable access to the Internet. It is not necessary to purchase or own your own computer but you should have a backup plan in place should you encounter computer problems. There are open computer labs available to all enrolled SPC students on all campuses. It is also the student's responsibility to have the required computer skills to complete this course. More information on online courses is available at www.southplainscollege.edu/online.

IF YOU SHOULD EVER ENCOUNTER TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH THE SYSTEM, DO NOT CONTACT ME. YOUR FIRST PHONE CALL SHOULD GO TO 806-716-2180 or email blackboard@southplainscollege.edu. OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CAN BE FOUND AT BLACKBOARD.COM, AND THE SPC WEBPAGE (THEY HAVE TUTORIALS). You may email to tell me that someone from SPC Blackboard assistance is helping you, but do not call me for Technical/Computer related questions. I am not the expert on that. I can help you on ASSIGNMENT and COURSE CONTENT questions ... not the "system" questions.

MINIMUM Software requirements:

Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, or another word processing program capable of saving files in RTF (Rich Text Format).

Web Browser – Firefox or Google Chrome is recommended (this is a free downloadable program) - If you plan on using a browser supplied by your Internet service provider (for example, AOL or WebTV) make sure it is the most recent version. We cannot guarantee that all course features will function in all browsers.

SEMESTER SCHEDULE

Following is the schedule for the FALL 2019 Semester. **REFER TO IT OFTEN!**

Week and Topic	Readings/Assignments	Due Dates
Aug 26 - Welcome	Syllabus Quiz Intro Discussion Assignment	Sept 1 Sept 1
UNIT 1: TERMS, DEFINITIONS, CONCEPTS		
Sept 2 – Labor Day (will not meet in class, work done on Bb only) Ethnicity and Ethnic Relations	Chapter 1 Racial Formations (Bb) Discussion 1: Privilege Survey (Bb)	Sept 8
Sept 9 - Ethnicity and Ethnic Relations (cont.)	Race and Ethnicity Slides (Bb) Discussion 2: Colorism (Bb)	Sept 15
Sept 16 - Ethnicity and Ethnic Relations (con.)	Defining Racism (Bb) Origins of Prejudice and Discrimination Slides (Bb) Chapter 1 Quiz (Bb)	Sept 22
Sept 23 – Explaining Ethnic Relations	Chapter 2 Race and Ethnicity Slides (Bb) Foundational Concepts for AMS Slides (Bb) Discussion 3: America – Assimilation vs. Pluralism (Bb)	Sept 29
Sept 30 – Disabilities and Class Separation	The Social Construction of Disability Slides (Bb) Media Magic: Making Class Invisible (Bb) Social Class Matters (Bb) Social Class Matters Part 2 (Bb) Chapter 2 Quiz (Bb)	Oct 6
UNIT 2: ETHNIC GROUPS	5 Characteristics of a Subordinate (Minority) Group	
Oct 7 – African Americans	BEGIN WORK on CULTURAL ARTIFACT PROJECTS Chapter 5 Discussion 4: Blackface – A Cultural History of a Racist Artform (Bb)	Oct 13
Oct 14 – Latinos/Latinas	Chapter 7 Discussion 5: A Class Apart (Bb)	Oct 20
Oct 21 – Native Americans	Chapter 6 Discussion 6 (Bb)	Oct 27
Oct 28 – Asian and Pacific Islanders	Chapter 8 Discussion 7 (Bb) Ethnic Groups Quiz (Bb)	Nov 3 Nov 3
UNIT 3: OTHER SUBORDINATE GROUPS		
Nov 4 – Gender and Sexuality	Still Killing Us Softly Video https://youtu.be/IIKsGbn2GP8 Gender Slides (Bb) Discussion 8: Gender Advertisement Analysis (Bb)	Nov 10
Nov 11 – Gender and Sexuality	Sexuality Slides (Bb) Discussion 9: Sexuality Current Event Analysis (Bb)	Nov 17
Nov 18 – Presentations	CULTURAL ARTIFACT PROJECT PAPER DUE PRESENT CULTURAL ARTIFACT PROJECT	Nov 18
Nov 25 – Presentations	PRESENT CULTURAL ARTIFACT PROJECT	
Dec 2 – Presentations/ Course Review	PRESENT CULTURAL ARTIFACT PROJECT Final Exam Review (Cumulative)	
Dec 9 – FINAL EXAM		Dec 9

If you should have any questions on the content or instructions.. please notify me.

If you should have TECHNICAL issues/problems/questions .. please notify SPC Blackboard assistance at [806-716-2180](tel:806-716-2180) or email blackboard@southplainscollege.edu.