

South Plains College: Common Course Syllabus

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: HUMANITIES

Course Number: HUMA 2319
STUDIES

Course Name: AMERICAN MINORITY

Credit: class: 3, Lecture: 3, Lab: 0.

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement (HUMA).

Prerequisites: none for campus, TSI restrictions for INET

Available Formats: Conventional and Internet

Textbook: *The matrix reader: examining the dynamics of oppression and privilege*, Ferber, Jimenez, O'Reilly, Herrera, & Samuels, 1st edition. McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2009; or *American Ethnicity*, Adalberto Aguirre, Jr., Jonathan Turner, 7th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2009; or some sections use no textbook.

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

Course Description: 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.

Course Purpose/Rationale/Goal: This course addresses the cultural, historical, economic, political, social/psychological, and legal issues affecting American subordinate and dominant groups, including race/ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, and/or disabilities. American Minority Studies provides a broad yet focused 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.

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class session, log into Blackboard multiple times per week, 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 The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.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.

See instructor’s Course Information Sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

Disability Services Policy: 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 at Levelland Student Health & Wellness Center 806-716-2577, Reese Center (also covers ATC) Building 8: 806-716-4675, Plainview Center Main Office: 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611, or the Health and Wellness main number at 806-716-2529. See *South Plains College General Catalog 2015-2016*, pages 53 and 54 for more information.

Academic Integrity Policy: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

- **Cheating:** Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text- book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of what- ever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.
- **Plagiarism:** Offering the work of another as one’s own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

See *South Plains College Student Guide 2015-2016*, pages 13 and 14 and *South Plains College General Catalog 2015-2016*, page 22.

See instructor's course information sheet for more information.

Student Conduct Policy:

- Classroom Conduct: Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course.
- See *South Plains College Student Guide 2015-2016*, pages 13 through 18 for full policy covering other areas of conduct including penalties for misconduct and procedures for disciplinary action.

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.

Grade and Academic Discipline Appeals: South Plains College provides two procedures which allow students the opportunity to address grievances of an academic nature.

- Appeal Restrictions: Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed
- Informal Appeal
 - The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or disciplinary action.
 - 2. If the student is still not satisfied, she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate departmental 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: If the student is not satisfied with the results of the informal appeal, s/he should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
 - A request for a formal appeals hearing.
 - 2. A brief statement of what is being appealed.
 - 3. The basis for the appeal.
 - 4. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.

- The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.
- The Hearing
 - Composition of the appeals committee:
 - Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing.
 - Faculty member of the student's choice.
 - Faculty member and student selected by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
 - President of Student Government Association.
 - Dean of Students.
 - Other persons who should be available at the hearing:
 - The student who requested the hearing.
 - The faculty member involved.
 - Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case.
 - Chairperson and Divisional Dean.
 - 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. By majority vote, the committee will decide to sustain, amend or reverse the previous decision.
 - The decision of the committee is final and completes the academic appeals procedure.

See *South Plains College Student Guide 2015-2016*, pages 18 and 19.

Equal Rights Policy: All students are entitled to equal rights under the affirmative action and equal opportunity laws. Students are also protected against unjust or biased academic evaluation, but at the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. See *South Plains College Student Guide 2015-2016*, page 10.

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.
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..... 23.0101.51 12

Course Specific Information

American Minority Studies

HUMA 2319, section 200

Class: Monday & Wednesday from 9:30AM-10:45AM

Location: Reese Center 403

Instructor: Nancy Trevino-Schafer

Office Hours: Before or after class, or by appointment.

Email Address: ntrevino@southplainscollege.edu

REQUIRED TEXT

Privilege, Power, and Difference, Johnson, 3rd edition. McGraw-Hill Education, 2018.

POLICIES & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Student Responsibility

It is your job, as a student, to know the rules of student conduct laid out in the Catalog and Student Guide, all other South Plains College policies which impact you laid out in the Catalog, and the policies laid out in this syllabus. It is also your job to check email, blackboard, and the calendar of due dates regularly to make sure that you are keeping up with your work. Students should check their email and blackboard accounts on a regular basis. Your official SPC email will be the official way that I contact you. Blackboard may be utilized during the semester at the instructor's discretion.

Classroom Expectations

Students should come to class prepared. This includes having read the assigned chapters from the textbook and any other assigned reading material BEFORE coming to class. Preparing for class will allow you to participate in classroom discussion and ask questions to clarify anything you did not understand from the readings that you will be required to know for assignments and exams.

In-class participation is highly encouraged and expected from all students. Ideas should be expressed in a respectful and constructive way that enriches discussion about topics explored in this course. Students should not talk while other people (classmates or instructor) are speaking. Students are not allowed to make rude, disparaging, or offensive remarks. The instructor has the right to limit classroom discussion in order to meet the educational objectives of the class session. The instructor is responsible for taking the necessary steps to stop student behavior that disrupts the normal classroom procedure including removing a student for the single class session in which disruptive behavior becomes continuous and/or serious. See the Student Guide for details regarding SPC policy concerning student conduct.

CELL PHONES, MP3 DEVICES, AND OTHER TECHNOLOGY NON GRATA: Students are prohibited from using electronic devices including laptops, tablets, cellphones, MP3 devices, iPods, iPads, etc. In other words, no electronic devices should be used in this class. Please turn off, disable, hide, or cache any electronic devices before entering the classroom. These devices are distracting and I reserve the right to mark you absent for violations of this policy. Please be aware that if you have special circumstances, it is your responsibility to discuss this with the instructor BEFORE class begins. If you are using electronic devices during class, you will be asked to leave and you will be

counted absent for that day. Students are not allowed to take pictures during class. This can violate your classmates' privacy. Pictures, videos, and voice recordings during class are also prohibited.

Course Specific Attendance Policy

Students who miss more than 10 minutes of scheduled class time will be considered absent. If you need to miss class, leave class early, or come late, please let the instructor know in ADVANCE. When you are absent, you are still responsible for ALL of the material covered including readings, assignments, and handouts. Attendance will be taken at each class. It is your responsibility to sign-in on the roll sheet at each class meeting. If you do not sign in, you will be counted absent for that day's class. Attendance is very important and students who have excessive absences may miss too much of the course content to be able to successfully accomplish the listed learning outcomes and pass the course.

A student with 6 or more absences (not counting absences that I excuse) may be dropped, especially if the absences are consecutive, the student does not contact me regarding absences, and/or the student stops completing course work. A student who is discussing his/her circumstances with me and making every effort to stay caught up will not be administratively dropped due to absences alone. When dropping due to absences, it is my policy to drop a student with an X, unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. cheating, etc.) that would leave me to drop a student with an F.

Diversity

This course involves controversial topics which may challenge or conflict with your existing beliefs and may require you to go outside your comfort zone. This course engages texts that some students might find difficult and/or controversial. The discussion of such issues will increase the student's knowledge of conditions in the modern world, but the information can be emotionally charged. It is also likely that the student will be exposed to a diversity of viewpoints; some viewpoints might differ substantially from the student's personal views. We will examine oppression, privilege, and inequality from a variety of expert, academic, and research perspectives. Although you are not expected to accept or concur with the perspectives, attitudes, and beliefs of the instructor, authors, or fellow classmates, you must at least consider other perspectives and interact with others respectfully. If the student chooses to remain in class, then she/he will be expected to respect the diverse viewpoints represented in course material, as well as the viewpoints of his/her classmates. In this class, the instructor 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.

In this class, the instructor 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.

Revelation of personal information

This course addresses topics that are personal in nature. The student is encouraged to participate in class discussion/presentations, but the student is not required to share personal information with classmates. Also, the student is advised to use discretion in self-disclosure with classmates and the instructor. It is anticipated that fellow students will be respectful and not disclose information that is

shared in class, but the instructor cannot guarantee confidentiality of information that the student shares with classmates. Thus, the student is responsible for the information that he/she shares, and should not share information that he/she does not want others to know.

METHODS FOR ASSESSING LEARNING OUTCOMES

The expected learning outcomes of the course will be assessed through:

Course Contract. You must sign and return the course contract by the beginning of class on Monday, September 18, 2017. Before signing the course contract, read the course syllabus carefully and access Blackboard. If you have questions, email me or set up an appointment to discuss these questions with me. Students who do not return the signed course contract by the due date will have 5 points deducted from their final grade at the end of the semester.

Activity and Participation (100 points). Activity and participation for this course can include, but is not limited to, class attendance, pop quizzes, interactive questions with instructor and classmates, written homework assignments, in-class writings, and small or large group discussions and/or activities. Activity and participation assignments will not be announced ahead of time. If you are sick and/or contagious when an assignment is due, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO CLASS and risk infecting your fellow students, instructors, and University staff. Rather, email your assignment to me BEFORE the beginning of class. Assignments done at home must be typed and turned in at the beginning of the class on the due date. Assignments done at home are to be done independently, unless otherwise specified by the instructor.

If you miss an in-class activity or assignment, the grade will be recorded as a zero. In-class activities CANNOT be made up for credit when you have an unexcused absence. If verifiable documentation is received within 48 hours, making an absence excused, the instructor will provide a revised due date for either the original assignment or an alternative assignment of equal value. The grade earned on the make-up assignment will replace the zero. However, if the student fails to meet the revised deadline, then the grade of zero (0) for that assignment will stand. If a student engages in disruptive behaviors during in-class assignments (assignments, group work, exams, etc.) that violate student expectations or classroom civility rules, s/he will be given a grade of zero for the assignment and will not be permitted to complete or make-up the assignment(s).

Auto-Ethnography Paper (100 points)

You will be required to write a paper in this class. This paper will require you to do some discovery into your own cultural/ethnic background. This paper will be done in segments and additional detailed instructions will be provided during class and on Blackboard. No late papers will be accepted.

Group Project (100 points)

We will discuss many topics in this course including race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, and disability. For this assignment, your group (2-3 people) will be responsible for picking one of the topics covered in the course, finding a children's book, and designing a Maker Project. Projects will be presented to the class on either December 4 or December 6. More instructions will be given during the semester and posted in Blackboard.

Exams (300 points)

There will be three exams this semester, including the final exam. Each exam will be worth 100 points. All exams may include a mix of any of the following types of questions: multiple choice,

True/False, matching, fill in the blank, short answer/essay. Bring a BLUE pen on exam days. The final exam will include old material from exams one and two and the new material covered since last. No smartwatches, cellphones, or other materials will be allowed with you during exams.

No student will be allowed to begin an exam after the first person has completed and turned in an exam. Please review the exam dates on the course schedule and plan accordingly. If you miss an exam, you will earn a grade of zero (0). If you can provide documentation of an excusable reason within 48 hours of the missed exam, you will be allowed one opportunity to take a make-up exam. The grade on the make-up exam will replace the zero. If the student does not notify the instructor, does not provide appropriate documentation, or misses the agreed upon make-up exam, the grade of zero will not be replaced.

Extra Credit. There may be an opportunity for extra credit assignments/activities during the semester. Information will be distributed in-class and/or posted on Blackboard. If extra credit is offered, it will be optional. If you decide not to participate, it will not affect your grade. However, students who do participate usually improve their final grade.

Grade Determination

Grading for this course will be calculated according to the number of points earned out of the total possible points offered during the semester.

Point requirements for letter grades are as follows: A=90% or above (540-600pts); B=80% or above (480-539pts); C=70% or above (420-479pts); D=60% or above (360-419pts); and, F=Below 60% (<359pts).

Grades for this course include:	Point Value
Activity & Participation	100 points
Exam 1	100 points
Auto-Ethnographic Individual Paper	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Group Project	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
Total	600 points

Tentative Schedule

Please note that you are responsible for any schedule changes announced via Blackboard, SPC email, or announced verbally in class.

Date	Topic	Readings and Exams*
8/28-8/30	Intro to Course Getting to know each other	Privilege, Power, and Difference (PPD)- Intro
9/4	No Class	No Class
9/6-9/25	Race & Ethnicity	PPD-Chpts 1 & 2
9/27	EXAM 1	
10/2-10/11	Social Class	PPD-Chpts 3 & 4
10/16-10/25	Gender	PPD-Chpts 5 & 6
10/30-11/6	Sexuality	PPD-Chpt 7
11/8	EXAM 2	
11/13-11/20	Disability	PPD-Chpt 8
11/22	No Class	No Class
11/27-11/29		PPD-Chpt 9
12/4-12/6	Presentations	
12/13	FINAL EXAM	8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
* Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard throughout the semester.		

Course Contract

I have received a copy of the course syllabus. I have reviewed the syllabus thoroughly. I understand the course format, attendance, drop policy, classroom behavior expectations, Blackboard, SPC email, assignment and examination system. I further understand my responsibilities and rights as explained by the instructor. I also understand that this course deals with controversial/difficult topics. I understand I do not have to agree with the professor or the course materials but that I must demonstrate an understanding of the material. I will discuss any issues I have concerning the class material and/or discussion with the professor. I agree to all the course requirements as stated in the syllabus.

Course and section number _____

Student's name (PRINT) _____

Student's local telephone number _____

Date _____

Student's Signature _____