

University of Calgary
Department of Sociology
Winter 2009

Course outline
Sociology 475.03
Special Topics in Race and Ethnic Relations
January 2009 – April 2009

Instructor: Michael Embaie
Time: Tuesdays 5:30 p.m.
Office:
Office Hours: by appointment
Phone: (403) 710-4028

This course will examine issues concerning race, ethnicity and factors that influence and impact on them. Topics will include social cohesion, cultural competency, racism, discrimination, migration patterns, policies and debates that affect them, multiculturalism, employment equity and foreign credentials.

Assignments

Assignment for this course will consist of Book Review, a Paper and Class Presentations. The Book Review will be 30% of the grade in the course. The paper will be 40% of the grade in the course and the Class Presentation will be 30%.

The Book Review is due on February 17 and the Paper due on March 24 and the class Presentations will be scheduled in consultation with students.

Students are encouraged and expected to participate in class discussions. An outline of what is to be expected and covered for the Book review, the Paper and class Presentation will available and covered in class.

Should students miss a scheduled class presentation for a legitimate reason such as illness, a physician's or counsellor's statement must be submitted to confirm an absence for health reasons.

Grading

The University of Calgary Undergraduate Grading System and the standard Department of Sociology percentage conversion will be used.

Grade	Grade Point	Description	Percentage Range
A+	4.0	Outstanding	98 - 100
A	4.0	Excellent – superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter	95 – 97
A-	3.7		90 – 94
B+	3.3		85 – 89
B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete	80 – 84
B-	2.7		75 – 79
C+	2.3		70 – 74
C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of subject matter	65 – 69
C-	1.7		60 – 64
D+	1.3		55 – 59
D	1.0	Minimal Pass – marginal performance	50 – 54
F	0.0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements	Below 50

Required Text

Li, Peter

2003 Destination Canada: Immigration Debates and Issues. Toronto: Oxford University Press

Recommended Readings:

James, Carl

1999 Seeing Ourselves: Exploring Race, Ethnicity and Culture, 2nd Edition. Thomson Educational Publishing, Inc. Toronto

Fleras, Augie and Elliot L. Jean

2002 Engaging Diversity: Multiculturalism in Canada. 2nd edition. Nelson Thomson Learning Limited.

Fleras, Augie and Elliott, L. Jean

2007 Unequal Relations: An Introduction to Race, Ethnic and Aboriginal Dynamics in Canada. 5th edition. Pearson Prentice Hall, Toronto

Satzewich, Vic and Wong, Lloyd

2006 Transnational Identities and Practices in Canada. UBCPress. Vancouver. Toronto

Exam Policies: You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

Ethics Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct: cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor’s office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.**

Handing in Papers Outside of Class, Return of Final Papers, and Release of Final Grades

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, (i.e., outside an instructor's office, the department office, etc.). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will only be available for pick-up during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.