

**SIUE**

Syllabus for Sociology 304
Race and Ethnic Relations – Online
Department of Sociology
Winter Session 2022-2023

About the Instructor

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Virtual office hours: By appointment

Welcome

Welcome to *Race and Ethnic Relations*. I look forward to lots of great interactions in the next few weeks!

Biography

I grew up in Los Angeles (Inglewood, to be exact), the youngest child and only daughter of an immigrant mother and immigrant father. At an early age, I developed a love for reading and learning, so it is no wonder to my family that I ended up in higher education. As an undergrad at UC Santa Barbara, I discovered Sociology, a discipline that gave me the tools to ask questions about identity, difference, race-ethnicity, gender and justice. Upon graduating with my bachelor's, I moved 3,000 miles away to Connecticut where I earned a master's and doctorate in sociology, learned to drive in the snow and attended hundreds of basketball games. I have been at SIUE since 2003, and I teach a number of courses including *Race and Ethnic Relations* (obviously!), *Marriage and Family*, *Social Inequality*, *Sociology of Immigration*, *Individual and Society* and the *Sociology of Harry Potter*. When I am not teaching, thinking about Harry Potter or watching UConn basketball, you can find me planking at the local Pilates studio.

Teaching Philosophy

Teaching is not about showing students *what* to think so much as it is about showing students *how* to think. A big part of showing students how to think entails leading them to the realization that our social world is complex and not easily reduced to the easy and superficial binaries of yes/no, good/bad, black/white and so on. I contend that the good questions, discoveries and answers exist somewhere in the middle, in that grey area that tends to make so many people uncomfortable. In fact, I see teaching and learning as ultimately about being uncomfortable. If you do not come away from any discussions in this class without ever feeling uncomfortable, then I do not think I'm doing my job.

Communicating with the Instructor

You can contact me in a number of ways: email, phone, Zoom or Blackboard, though the best way to contact me is by email. Regardless, I will try my best to respond to your emails and phone calls within 24 hours of receiving them. It may take me longer to respond if you contact me during the weekend, however.

About the Course

Course Description

This course and the questions we will address are relevant for understanding the political, economic and social climate for all racial and ethnic groups. Our job is not to establish whether racism and discrimination exist, but we will begin with the presumption that such inequalities exist and affect every one of us in this class. Building on this principle, we will (1) examine a variety of approaches to and explanations for racial and ethnic stratification in society; (2) explore the effects of social institution on our lives and the lives of others; and (3) discuss the consequences of race and ethnicity in our daily lives.

Course Delivery: Online Asynchronous

This course is online asynchronous, which means that all materials will be available online and we will not have any regularly scheduled meetings. I have established a number of opportunities for us to connect with material and one another, though. First, you can use the Discussion Board (1) to respond to the weekly prompts I have provided and (2) to engage with one another. Second, I have posted PowerPoint lectures and recorded lectures for each assigned chapter. Finally, I am happy to set up any Zoom sessions to discuss any questions with this course.

Course Objectives

Upon completing this course, you will be able to:

- Define race, ethnicity and racism;
- Apply classical and contemporary theoretical constructs for analyzing race and ethnic relations;
- Demonstrate the effects of racism and privilege on your personal lived experiences;
- Demonstrate a sociological understanding of race and ethnic relations;
- Propose appropriate solutions for racial and ethnic inequality;
- Comprehend methods of inquiry social scientists employ in their analyses of race and ethnic relations; and
- Develop analytical, critical thinking and communication skills to understand race and ethnic relations.

Course Expectations

The course goals that I outline below relate to both class materials and general professionalism. I intend for these goals to enhance your experiences in this course and in the proverbial real world.

- *Use analysis rather than morality to understand issues related to race and ethnic relations*
 - Use curiosity to ask questions
 - Avoid moral language like “should,” “bad” or “right and wrong”
 - Uncover the social and historical context of our behavior
- *Demonstrate professional behavior expected in class and other workplace environments*
 - Read syllabus, directions for assignments and readings carefully
 - Submit your assignments in a timely manner
 - Demonstrate respect for peers and instructors in correspondence and discussions
 - Modify behavior, if needed, based on my feedback
- *Practice problem solving*
 - Uncover important and relevant information
 - Organize time effectively
 - Take responsibility when you submit a late assignment

- You must figure out how to complete all course requirements effectively.

Course Textbooks

There is one required book for this course:

Desmond, Matthew and Mustafa Emirbayer. 2020. *Race in America*, 2nd edition. New York, NY: WW Norton and Company, Inc.

You will find the required chapters from this text listed in your Course Schedule.

This book is available for rent through [SIUE Textbook Rentals](#). Please visit the [Textbook Service website](#) for more information. You can also find this book online on sites such as [Left Bank Books St. Louis](#).

Course Requirements

Course Activities/Assessments

All course activities are available on Blackboard.

Introduction Post


This Blackboard discussion post will allow you to (1) get to know a little about who I am and (2) share a little about yourself. You can find it under either “Course Information” or Discussion Board.” Please post your response by 11:59 p.m. on 21 December. This post is worth 25 possible points.

Syllabus Quiz

After you review this syllabus, you must take a short (10-question) quiz to indicate that you have read and understand your expectations in this course. You can find the quiz under the “Quiz and Exams” tab on Blackboard. You must complete this quiz by 11:59 p.m. on 21 December. This quiz is worth 25 possible points.

Exams

There will be three exams this session, which you can locate in the “Quiz and Exams” tab on Blackboard. I will make each exam available over the weekend at the end of each week. (For instance, week 1 is 19-25 December, and exam 1 will be available online 24-25 December.) Each exam will be a combination of multiple choice and true/false, and will be worth 100 points.

	<p><i>There is a chance that some of you will be accidentally logged out of an exam before you have completed it. If you get logged out, do not panic. Email me and I will be happy to reset the quiz/exam for you as quickly as I can.</i></p>
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Theory to Practice Discussions

I will post three discussion prompts on Blackboard, which will give you an opportunity to apply the concepts we discuss in class to ongoing social events. You can find these prompts in the Weekly Content Folders or under “Discussion Board.”

You will respond with either a typed or a short (no more than 5 minute) recorded response (via TechSmith Knowmia or Zoom). After you respond to my prompts, then you can respond to your classmates' comments. You must respond to at least 3 classmates' posts.

Weekly responses are worth 50 possible posts. I have outlined the posts and deadlines for each discussion on your Course Schedule.

Submitting Work

You must submit your work through Blackboard.


Online Class Behavior

This course will be entirely online, so I feel it necessary to remind you about appropriate communication with me. Here are some helpful suggestions that will make for successful communications in this course.

- When you contact me, start your messages with a proper salutation such as Dr. Maätita or Professor Maätita. Starting an email with "Hey," "Flo," "Hi Lady," "Miss Maätita," "Mrs. Maätita" or some variation thereof is not appropriate and I am not likely to respond.
- Please spell my name correctly.
- Be sure to provide your name in all correspondences.
- Please proofread your communiqués. I reserve the right to edit your messages and return them with a grade. Treat our correspondences as an exercise in professional communication.

Technology Requirements

Technical requirements for students can be found in this [ITS Knowledge Base article](#).

	<i>The university will be closed 23 December 2022 – 2 January 2023. ITS will be available for you every day of this winter session, however.</i>
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Technology Capabilities

Students in an online course should be able to:

- Use a word processor, such as MS Word, to compose assignments and communicate with others in class
- Attach files to emails or course areas
- Navigate websites and course materials
- Reach out to tech support staff when issues arise and troubleshoot to resolve problems

Additional guidance for taking online courses can be found on the [Online at SIUE site](#).

Course and University Policies

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism

According to university policy, plagiarism is a serious violation of academic honesty. Plagiarism refers to the act of representing someone else's work as your own. Such offenses include copying from a book, article, the Internet or a paper written by anyone besides yourself directly or indirectly (i.e., paraphrasing) without acknowledging the work as someone else's.

I have no problem with you using someone else's ideas. There will be a problem if you fail to acknowledge whose work and ideas you are using, however. When you use someone else's work, be sure to cite, reference and use quotation marks where appropriate. *If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, contact either me or the Writing Center for further information.*

Grading

Requirement:	Possible Points:
Introduction Post: To be posted by 21 December at 11:59 p.m.	25 points
Syllabus Quiz: To be completed by 21 December at 11:59 p.m.	25 points
Theory to Practice Discussions: Each post will be 50 points	150 points
Exams: Each exam will be worth 100 points	300 points
	500 possible points

Grading Scale

Letter:	Point Range:
A	> 450 points
B	400-449 points
C	350-399 points
D	300-349 points
F	< 300 points

Feedback and Grading Timeline

You should be able to access your exam grade immediately after you complete it. You can find your grade by clicking the [My Grades](#) link on the left menu of the Blackboard course. If there is a rubric attached to the assignment, you can click your score to see my personal feedback on the rubric.

Late or Missed Assignments

Please do your best to adhere to all deadlines. I will not accept late assignments unless you have notified me before the due date and I consider your circumstance extreme.

Services for Students Needing Accommodations

It is the policy and practice of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville to create inclusive learning environments. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or to accurate assessment of achievement—such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content or the use of non-captioned videos—please contact Accessible Campus Community and Equitable Student Support (ACCESS) as soon as possible. In order to properly determine reasonable accommodations, students must register with ACCESS either online at siue.edu/access or in person in the Student Success Center, Room 1203. You can also reach the office by emailing us at myaccess@siue.edu or by calling [618-650-3726](tel:618-650-3726).

Diversity and Inclusion

SIUE is committed to respecting everyone's dignity at all times. In order to learn, exchange ideas, and support one another, our virtual and physical classrooms must be places where students and teachers feel safe and supported. Systems of oppression permeate our institutions and our classrooms. All students and faculty have the responsibility to co-create a classroom that affirms inclusion, equity, and social justice, where racism, sexism, classism, ableism, heterosexism,

xenophobia, and other social pathologies are not tolerated. Violations of this policy will be enforced in line with the SIUE Student Conduct Code.

The Center for Student Diversity & Inclusion <https://www.siue.edu/csdi> is an excellent resource for students for support and community. Any person who believes they have experienced or witnessed discrimination or harassment can contact Ms. Jamie Ball, Director in the Office of Equal Opportunity, Access and Title IX Coordination at (618) 650-2333 or jball@siue.edu. There is also an online form for reporting bias incidents at https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?SIUEdwardsville&layout_id=10.

Additional Support

Academic and Other Student Services

As an enrolled SIUE student, you have a variety of support available to you, including:

Support/Service:	Online Information:
Academic Success Sessions	https://www.siue.edu/retention/sass/index.shtml
ACCESS 1270 Student Success Center (618) 650-3726	www.siue.edu/access/ myaccess@siue.edu
Campus Events	https://www.siue.edu/events/
CAS Advising 1315 Peck Hall (618) 650-5525	www.siue.edu/artsandsciences/advisement/ casadvising@siue.edu
Counseling Services (618) 650-2842	https://www.siue.edu/counseling/
Financial Aid 2308 Rendleman Hall (618) 650-3880	www.siue.edu/financialaid/ finaid@siue.edu
Lovejoy Library (618) 650-4636	www.siue.edu/lovejoylibrary/
Service Center 1207 Rendleman Hall (618) 650-2080	www.siue.edu/registrar/about/service_center.shtml servicecenter@siue.edu
SIUE Academic Advising 1220 Student Success Center (618) 650-3701	https://www.siue.edu/advising/ advising@siue.edu
Testing Services 1246 Student Success Center (618) 650-1246	www.siue.edu/testing/ testingservices@siue.edu
Tutoring Resource Center	https://www.siue.edu/lss/tutoring-resource-center/
Writing Center 1254 Student Success Center (618) 650-2045	www.siue.edu/lss/writing/index.shtml

If you find that you need additional support, please reach out to me and let me know.

Cougar Care

Dealing with the fast-paced life of a college student can be challenging, and I always support a student's decisions to prioritize mental health. Students have access to counseling services on campus (Student Success Center, 0222). Make an appointment by visiting cougarcare.siu.edu or by calling 618-650-2842.

Technical Support

Since this is an online course, you are expected to have reliable Internet access on a regular basis. It is your responsibility to address any computer problems that might occur. Such problems are not an excuse for delays in meeting expectations or for missing course deadlines.

Contact ITS at 618-650-5500 or at help@siue.edu with any technical concerns. You can also check the functionality of University systems, including Blackboard, at the [ITS System Status page](#), or search the [ITS Knowledge Base](#) for various how-to and troubleshooting guides.

Tips for taking online assessments:

- Set up a wired (Ethernet) Internet connection on your computer
- Do not use a mobile device, such as a phone or tablet
- Read the instructions and directions carefully
- Be prepared to complete the assessment in the allotted time

Important Dates to Consider

Date:	Deadline:
19 December	Session begins Deadline to drop class(es) with a 100% credit of tuition and fees
30 December	Deadline to drop class(es) to receive W-grade
4 January	Deadline to drop class(es) with instructor permission (WP/WF)
8 January	Session ends
23 January	Grades due

Blackboard Course Shell

[image]	Element:	What You Will Find Here:
	Announcements	➤ I will post announcements and updates regularly and often. Check here frequently.
	Course Information	➤ My contact information ➤ Course syllabus ➤ Introduction video ➤ Course tour ➤ Information about Zoom and TechSmith Knowmia ➤ Bb Ally Information
	Calendar	➤ Check here for important dates.
	Weekly Content Folders	➤ An overview of each week's activities ➤ PowerPoint lecture notes ➤ Recorded TechSmith presentations ➤ Links to discussion forums ➤ Links to videos
	Quiz and Exams	➤ Syllabus quiz ➤ Weekly exams
	Discussion Board	➤ Introduction post ➤ Discussion 1-3 prompts ➤ Questions?
	My Grades	➤ Find your grades here. Check often to ensure your grades are there and posted correctly.
	Email	➤ Useful for emailing me or your fellow classmates: How to: https://kb.siue.edu/61551
	Zoom Meetings	➤ Links to Zoom meetings
	ITS Help/Resources	➤ How to contact ITS and additional resources such as advising, ACCESS, tutoring, etc.

Course Schedule

Week:	Content:	Assignments:
Week 1 (19-25 Dec)	➤ Read course syllabus ➤ Watch introductory video ➤ Watch course overview video ➤ "Race in the 21 st Century" (Ch 1; "Self-Identity and Identity Formation" and "The Problem of Identity") ➤ "The Invention of Race" (Ch 2) ➤ "Aesthetics" (Ch 8)	➤ Introduction post: Due 23 Dec (11:59 p.m.)
		➤ Syllabus quiz: Due 23 Dec (11:59 p.m.)
		➤ Discussion 1: Available until 27 Dec (11:59 p.m.)
		➤ Exam #1: Available 26 Dec (12:00 a.m.) – 27 Dec (11:59 p.m.)

Week:	Content:	Assignments:
Week 2 (26 Dec-1 Jan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Associations” (Ch 9) ➤ “Politics” (Ch 3) ➤ “Economics” (Ch 4; “The Family since Colonialism and Slavery”) 	➤ Discussion 2: Available until 3 Jan (11:59 p.m.)
		➤ Exam #2: Available 2 Jan (12:00 a.m.) – 3 Jan (11:59 p.m.)
Week 3 (2-8 Jan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Housing” (Ch 5) ➤ “Crime and Punishment” (Ch 6) ➤ “Education” (Ch 7) ➤ “Toward a Racial Democracy” (Ch 11) 	➤ Discussion 3: Available until 10 Jan (11:59 p.m.)
		➤ Exam #3: Available 9 Jan (12:00 a.m.) – 10 Jan (11:59 p.m.)

Subject to Change Notice

All material, assignments and deadlines are subject to change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor, review the Blackboard course site regularly and/or communicate with other students to keep track of any changes.