CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE SYLLABUS  
FOR SOCI 2319 MINORITY STUDIES  
INSTRUCTOR:  
OFFICE HOURS:

I. INTRODUCTION

A. This course studies minority-majority group relations, addressing their historical, cultural, social, economic, and institutional development in the United States. Both sociological and social psychological levels of analysis will be employed to discuss issues including experiences of minority groups within the context of their cultural heritage and tradition, as well as that of the dominant culture. Core concepts to be examined include (but are not limited to) social inequality, dominance/subordination, prejudice, and discrimination. Particular minority groups discussed may include those based on poverty, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or religion.

B. Through this course, students will prepare for contemporary challenges by developing and demonstrating critical thinking skills, communication skills, social responsibility, and empirical and quantitative skills.

   • Critical thinking skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
   • Communication skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
   • Social responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
   • Empirical and quantitative skills: to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.

C. This course satisfies three semester hours of the Social/Behavioral Sciences for the Associate of Science and Associate of Arts degrees. Please check your degree plan to determine the status of this course in your program of study.

D. Prerequisite(s): None

II. OVERALL OR GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
A. Explain how the concept of social inequality pertains to minority group status defined in terms of identities that may include: social class, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or religion.

B. Differentiate between important concepts and theories of prejudice and discrimination including the effects of prejudice and discrimination on the everyday lives of minority group members in the context of social institutions.

C. Analyze the history of culture, experiences of inequality, and current life opportunities of various minority groups in the United States with contrasting reference to other countries.

D. Analyze minority group interactions in the United States focusing on immigration and migration patterns, assimilation processes, and adjustments to American life.

III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Instructional Materials for this course may be found at www.ctcd.edu/books

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignment: your instructor will discuss the role of reading assignments for the course.

B. Projects, Oral Reports, Case Studies, Book Reports, Research Papers: Your instructor will assign one of these items for you to complete as a part of the requirements for this course. He/she will provide specific instructions regarding content, format, timelines, etc.

C. Class Performance: Your instructor will summarize and discuss CTC’s academic policies. You may refer to the CTC catalog for details. Your instructor will provide his/her policies on absences, make up work, etc.

D. Class Participation: Your instructor will explain how class participation affects your course grade, if applicable.

V. EXAMINATIONS

Your instructor will determine how many exams will be given during the course, their content, and when they will be administered.
There will be four ONLINE exams during the semester:

VI. **Written Requirement:** A research paper is required.

VII. **SEMESTER GRADE COMPUTATIONS**
A. It is the student’s responsibility to complete the course requirements as defined within this syllabus.

B. Your instructor will explain how to compute your semester grade based upon:
C. **Attendance is mandatory.** You must sign in each class period, failure to attend means loss of points.

D. Grades are computed as follows:
   - Point/percentage-to-Grade Ratio
     - > 90 - 100 A
     - > 79 - 89 B
     - > 69 - 79 C
     - > 60 - 69 D
     - < 59 F

V. **NOTES AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM COURSE INSTRUCTOR**

A. Withdrawal from Course: It is the student's responsibility to officially drop a class if circumstances prevent attendance. Any student who desires to, or must, officially withdraw from a course after the first scheduled class meeting must file an Application for Withdrawal or an Application for Refund. Please refer to the current CTC catalog for specific withdrawal requirements and processes.

B. Administrative Withdrawal: An administrative withdrawal may be initiated when the student fails to meet College attendance requirements. The instructor will assign the appropriate grade on the Administrative Withdrawal Form for submission to the registrar.

C. Incomplete Grade: An “IP” grade may be assigned by an instructor if a student has made satisfactory progress in a course but encounters extenuating circumstances beyond his/her control. The instructor makes the final decision concerning the granting of the incomplete grade.

D. Disability Support Services provides services to students who have appropriate documentation of a disability. Students requiring accommodations for class are responsible for contacting the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) located on the central campus. This service is available to all students, regardless of location. Review the
Reasonable accommodations, in accordance with federal and state laws, will be given through the DSS office.

E. Instructor Discretion: The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements.

F. Civility: Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive educational experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

COURSE OUTLINE

Part I: The History of the Idea of Race

1. The Origin of the Idea of Race
2. Race and Citizenship from the 1840s to the 1920s

Part II: Racial Ideologies

1. Racial ideologies from the 1920s to the present
2. The spread of ideology “controlling images” and racism in the media
3. Colorism and skin-color stratification
4. White privilege and the changing US racial hierarchy

Part III: Policy and Institutions

1. Understanding Racial inequality today: sociological theories of racism
2. Educational inequality
3. Income and labor market inequality
4. Racism and the criminal justice system
5. Health inequalities environmental racism and environmental justice
6. Racism, nativism and immigration policy

Part IV: Contesting and Comparing Racial Injustices

1. Racial justices in the US today
2. Thinking globally: race and racisms in France, South Africa, and Brazil