

Soci. 2820
RACE AND ETHNICITY IN AMERICA
Spring Semester, 2006

- Instructor: Dr. E.M. Beck, Professor of Sociology
- Office: Rm. 217B, Baldwin Hall
Office Phone: 542-2421
E-mail: wbeck@uga.edu (Do NOT use WebCT to contact the instructor)
Personal Web Page: <http://www.uga.edu/soc/Beck.htm>
- Office Hours: By appointment – send me an e-mail specifying when you can meet and I'll find a time that works for both of us
- Class Meetings: Tu-Th, 322 Baldwin Hall, 9:30-10:45a
- Class Format: Lecture and films
- Etiquette: The class begins promptly at 9:30a and you are expected to arrive in class and be seated by that time. The class will be excused promptly at 10:45a. **Reading newspapers, talking to your friends, arriving late, using cell phones, leaving class early are all very disruptive, distracting, and discourteous and are unacceptable.**
- Attendance: Attendance to all classes is required. By attending lectures regularly students can earn bonus points to be added to your final exam average according to this schedule:
- 0-1 Days Missed = 2 Points Added
 - 2 Days Missed = 1 Point Added
 - 3 Days Missed = 0 Points Added
 - 4 Days Missed = 1 Point Subtracted
 - 5 Days Missed = 2 Points Subtracted
 - More Than 5 Missed = Administrative Withdrawal from Class
- Attendance will be taken by sign-up sheet. Any one signing for someone else is guilty of academic dishonesty, and will be dealt with appropriately. It is your responsibility to see to it that you have signed the sign-up sheet. Further, there are no excused absences — if you miss a class on a day when attendance is taken, you will lose the bonus point regardless of excuse.
- Religious Holidays: During the semester, class may fall on one or more holidays celebrated by a variety of religious or other groups. Unless the University closes on those days, class will be held. No exceptions.
- Exams: There will be three examinations. The exams will cover all assigned reading materials, lectures, and films. The tentative dates are:
- First Examination: Thursday, 16 February
 - Second Examination: Thursday, 30 March
 - Third Examination: Thursday, 4 May, 8:00a-11:00a

The standard exam will consist of questions with multiple-choice answers. Optionally, students can take an essay-type exam, answering five questions out of ten. The exams are not cumulative in content. Scores on the exams will count for 80% of your final course score.

Exam grades will be posted on WebCT – click on the “Grades” icon.

- Missed Exams: There are no “make-up” examinations without written documentation of hospitalization or other serious difficulty. *Make-up exams will be of the essay-type.* Exams not made-up will receive a score of zero.
- Missed Films: There will be 8-9 films shown in this course. These are from my personal library and are not available for loan. If you miss class when a film is shown, you are responsible for getting notes from another student. *I will not loan out my personal copies of these films.*
- Other Requirements: In addition to the three examinations, you must write a critical review of a non-fiction book. The book review will count for 20% of your course score. The title of your book is due on **Thursday, 9 February** and the review is due **Tuesday, 25 April**.
- "Extra" Credit: None available, except for attendance bonus points (see above).
- Final Grades: The final grade will be based on the average performance demonstrated on the three examinations, the book review, plus any bonus points for attendance. The three exams will be weighted equally in determining the average exam score. The exams will count for 80% of the course score and the book review will count for 20%.
- The final grade cutting points are:
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|--|-----------------|
| If Course Score + Bonus Points \geq 90 | Final Grade = A |
| If Course Score + Bonus Points \geq 80 | Final Grade = B |
| If Course Score + Bonus Points \geq 70 | Final Grade = C |
| If Course Score + Bonus Points \geq 60 | Final Grade = D |
| If Course Score + Bonus Points $<$ 60 | Final Grade = F |
- Note: because it is so easy to earn bonus points, I will not “round-up” fractional points; that means, for example, that if a student has a final point score of 89.7, the student will receive a final grade of B.
- Withdrawal Withdrawals prior to the first exam will receive a grade of “W”. Withdrawals after the first exam but before **7 March** will receive either a “W” or “WF” depending on the 1st exam grade. Withdrawals after **7 March** will receive a grade of “WF” regardless of the 1st exam grade.
- Incompletes: Except under the *most serious and highly unusual* circumstances, no incompletes will be given.
- Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and would like to request classroom accommodations, please see me after class or make an appointment.

- Academic Dishonesty: Students are responsible for maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity. All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The penalties for academic dishonesty are severe and ignorance is not an acceptable defense. See *A Culture of Honesty: Policies and Procedures on Academic Honesty*. If you do not have this booklet, the policy is on the web at:
- http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm**
- Required Textbook: Richard Schaefer, *Racial and Ethnic Groups, 10th Edition* (2005).
- Textbook Web Page: **http://wps.prenhall.com/hss_schaefer_raceethnic_10**
- want Near the top of the page there is a list of chapters – just click on the chapter you to review.
- Charts: Copies of the charts presented in class can be found on WebCT (you must have Adobe Acrobat installed on the computer you are using). Go to:
- <http://webct.uga.edu>**
- and login using your UGA ID and password, and then click on this course.
- Grievances: The Department of Sociology has a Human Rights Committee for the resolution of student grievances. Any student registered for a sociology course at the University of Georgia who feels that he or she has not been treated in a fair or professional manner by an instructor is advised to follow these procedures:
- (1) The student should discuss his or her problems with the instructor of the course, unless extenuating circumstances prohibit this.
 - (2) If that discussion does not resolve the grievance, the student should then discuss the problem with the Head of the Sociology Department.
 - (3) If that discussion does not resolve the grievance to the student's satisfaction, the student may request the activation of the Human Rights Committee by submitting a letter to the Chair of the Human Rights I Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Georgia. This letter should be sent to the Head of the department (Head, Department of Sociology, Baldwin Hall)
- The Human Rights Committee will have the responsibility of investigating all charges in accordance with procedures on file at the Sociology offices, copies of which are available to students. The Committee will also have the responsibility of making recommendations in writing to the Head, copies of which will be made available to the student complainant and the instructor involved. The Department Head will review the recommendations, and make a decision, in writing, with copies to the student complainant and the instructor involved. Any appeal of that decision must be to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.
- About the Instructor: My position at UGA is Professor of Sociology, Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor, and former Head of the Department of Sociology. I have also

served as the Director of the UGA Study Abroad Program in Avignon, France. I have an AB degree in History from the University of Alabama, and MA and PhD degrees in Sociology from the University of Tennessee. Before coming to the University of Georgia, I held faculty positions at the University of Colorado and the University of Michigan, and worked as a Research Specialist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I have co-authored two books and published over 50 papers in scholarly journals or chapters in books, and have had multiple research projects funded by the National Science Foundation.

My current scholarly work concerns the political economy of white racism; in particular, the factors influencing the growth and spread of white supremacy in the South during the 1980s. My previous research project, along with colleague Stewart Tolnay, was a five-year study of lynchings in the American South from 1882-1930. That project produced an award-winning book, *A Festival of Violence*, and many papers published in scholarly journals.

At the personal level, I am married and have two stepsons, one of which just finished Law School in Washington DC and the other is employed in experiential education. My spouse, Ginger Davis-Beck is in charge of assessment for the Clarke County schools. My other passion is for aviation, and I feed and care for a 1973 Cessna Cardinal airplane.

TENTATIVE SYLLABUS, SPRING 2006

This syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Meeting	Day	Date	Activity	Reading Assignment
1	Tu	1/10	MINORITIES, RACE, AND ETHNICITY	Chapter 1
2	Th	1/12		
3	Tu	1/17	"THEM vs. US"	
4	Th	1/19	NATURE OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION	Chapters 2-3
5	Tu	1/24		
6	Th	1/26	THE GREAT MIGRATIONS	Chapter 4
7	Tu	1/31	Film #1: "Journey to America"	
8	Th	2/2	NATIVISM AND THE KU KLUX KLAN	
9	Tu	2/7	Film #2: "Ku Klux Klan: A Secret History"	
10	Th	2/9	TURN IN BOOK TITLE	
11	Tu	2/14	ETHNICITY AND RELIGION	Chapter 5
12	Th	2/16	FIRST EXAM	Chapters 1-5 and films
13	Tu	2/21	NATIVE AMERICANS	Chapter 6
14	Th	2/23	Film #3: "Spirit of Crazy Horse"	
15	Tu	2/28	AFRICAN AMERICANS, PART I	Chapter 7
16	Th	3/2		
17 ¹	Tu	3/7	Film: #4: "Ethnic Notions"	
18	Th	3/9	AFRICAN AMERICANS, PART II	Chapter 8
Meeting	Day	Date	Activity	Reading Assignment

¹ Withdrawal deadline

	Tu	3/14	SPRING BREAK	
	Th	3/16	SPRING BREAK	
19	Tu	3/21	Film #5: "Eyes on the Prize I, Part 1: Awakenings, 1954-56"	
20	Th	3/23	NO CLASS	
21	Tu	3/28	Film #6: "Eyes on the Prize II, Part 1: Time Has Come, 1964-66"	
22	Th	3/30	SECOND EXAM	Chapters 6-8 and films
23	Tu	4/4	THE NEW IMMIGRANTS: LATINOS	Chapters 9-10
24	Th	4/6	Film #7: "Immigrant Nation, Divided Nation"	
25	Tu	4/11	THE NEW IMMIGRANTS: ASIANS	Chapters 12-13
26	Th	4/13		
27	Tu	4/18	JEWISH AMERICANS	Chapter 14
28	Th	4/20		
29	Tu	4/25	Film #8: "America and the Holocaust"	BOOK REVIEW DUE
30	Th	4/27	ARAB AMERICANS (time permitting)	Chapter 11
	Tu	5/2	NO CLASS – READING DAY	
	Th	5/4	FINAL EXAM 8:00-11:00	Chapters 9-10, 12-14 (11) and films

Book Review Assignment

You are to read and write a critical review of a **non-fiction** (if you have any doubt as to what a “non-fiction” book means, ask) book dealing with some aspect of race and ethnicity, preferably focusing on the United States. There are literally hundreds of excellent books in the UGA library that would be suitable. Spend some time in the stacks and locate a book that looks interesting and then on **Thursday, 9 February** turn in the complete title to me.

A good book review should do two things. First, it should inform the reader what the book is about, describing the book's central ideas and concepts. And secondly, there should be a critical evaluation of the book; that is, is it valuable...does the work contribute to our understanding of poverty and/or discrimination...would you recommend the book to someone else....why? You should always cite evidence supporting your judgment of the book's value. In general, about 1/2 to 2/3rds of your review should deal with the book's content and about 1/2 to 1/3rd. should concern your evaluation of the work.

In regard to the “evaluation” portion of the review, it is not sufficient to say something like this: “I liked this book, and would recommend it to a friend, because I learned many new things.” Ugh! I'm looking for an evaluation that demonstrates that you are not a brick.

The length of your review will depend on the book itself as well as your writing style, but in general the review should no be shorter than 4 double-spaced typed pages, nor should it be any longer than 6 double-spaced typed pages. If it all possible, the review should be typed. If not, it must be written legibly.....I can't grade what I can't read.

Grading Scheme:

- | | |
|-----|--|
| A | A Well-organized and thorough description of the book's content that is eloquently presented. |
| The | critical evaluation is thoughtful, logically organized, and incisive. |
| B | A reasonably adequate discussion of the book's content but the critical evaluation lacks insight and sophistication. |
| C | A sketchy summary of the book's content, and a thin and superficial critical evaluation. |
| D | A sketchy summary of the book's content and virtually no critical evaluation. |
| F | No evidence that you aren't brain dead. |

The review is due no later than **Tuesday, 25 April**. Late reviews will be penalized one letter grade per day over due. This assignment will count for 20% of your final course score.

RECENTLY I HAD THREE CASES OF PLAGIARISM OF BOOK REVIEWS. I REPORTED ALL THREE CASES AND THEY WERE DEALT WITH SEVERELY BY THE UNIVERSITY.

IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBT AS TO WHAT CONSTITUTES PLAGIARISM, SEE < http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/sect05.htm >

AT THE END OF YOUR REVIEW, TYPE THIS SENTENCE AND SIGN YOUR NAME:

“THIS REVIEW IS 100% MY ORIGINAL WORK.”

**IN ORDER TO REMAIN IN THIS CLASS, YOU MUST READ THE SYLLABUS,
COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW, AND RETURN IT TO THE INSTRUCTOR**

Statement of Understanding Course Requirements

I have read the syllabus for Sociology 2820, and I understand the course requirements including the policies on class attendance, absences, extra credit, make-up exams, incompletes, and academic dishonesty.

Name: _____ (Print)

Signature: _____