

**Sociology 3310: 32-961  
Race and Culture  
Fall, 2006**

**I. Course Information**

Time: MWF 12:20P-01:10P

Place: Baldwin 311

**II. Instructor Information**

Bonnie Semora, M.A.

419 Baldwin Hall

[semora@uga.edu](mailto:semora@uga.edu)

phones: UGA 542-3208

Office Hours: MW 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. and by appointment

**NOTICE!!!**

**Students who do not attend class or contact the instructor by end of day  
Wednesday, Jan 10, will be dropped from the course!**

**III. Texts and Supplemental Readings**

Ronald Takaki. 1993. A Different Mirror. Boston, MA: Little, Brown, and Company.

Black Elk, John G. Neihardt. 2000. Black Elk Speaks. U of Nebraska Press.

Additional readings will be assigned as necessary.

**IV. Course Description and Rational**

As stated in the student manual, in this class students will examine the development of unique cultures among racial and ethnic groups and their functioning within Western civilization.

Particular attention is given to the ways race and culture intersect to provide styles, practices and patterns of living for individuals in contemporary society.

**V. Grades**

Grades will be based on the following:

A – 93% +     A- 90 – 92.5

B+ – 87-89, B – 84-86.5, B- 80-82.5

C+ – 77-79, C – 74-76.5, C- 80-72.5

D – 60% - 69%

F – 59% and below

**VI. Course Requirements**Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation are required. I will take roll each day. Please arrive in class on time. If you cannot stay until the end of class, please let me know **before** the class begins. Any

student who does not attend at least 75% (3/4) of classes before the midpoint of the semester may be dropped from the roll. Keep in mind that 5% of your course grade is based on attendance and participation. Any student who does not attend at least 75% (3/4) of classes after the midpoint of the semester will lose those points and may be dropped. I will consider excusing absences for which you provide a valid, documented reason.

If you have a personal emergency or illness which prevents you from attending class or from doing your best in class, you may certainly let me know. You may also notify the **Student Affairs Office**. They can verify your problem and notify your instructors while maintaining confidentiality concerning the reason for your absence.

I enjoy having lively discussions in class, but I expect you to make your comments to the whole class. We will discuss controversial subjects. Please respect the rights and feelings of others when forming your comments.

### Exams

All tests may include multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. On the final exam you may be asked to integrate material you have studied during the course of the class. That is, the short answer and short essay questions on the final exam will be **cumulative**.

If you must miss an exam, please notify me the day of the exam, preferably before class. You will have two (2) calendar days in which to contact me about a makeup IF you have a valid excuse such as a documented illness. You must take the makeup within seven (7) calendar days. Failure to do so will result in your being dropped from the course (before the midpoint) or receiving a 0 on the test with no opportunity to raise the grade (after the midpoint).

### Observations

During the course of the semester, you will be required to attend two (2) events involving social groups of which you are not a member based on race, ethnicity, or sexual preference. You must turn in a typed report of 1 (full) to 2 pages on each event. These observations may be incorporated into your class presentation or your final paper. One observation will be due at the time of each Tests 1 and 2. Observations must occur *during* the semester. Summer trips to Europe and lectures on campus will *not* meet this requirement.

### Group Project and Presentation

The class will be divided into groups of 4 to 5 students, based on students' interest in a common topic. Each group will prepare a presentation on a subject related to race and culture. I have specific topics I would like some of the groups to cover. I can assist you in choosing another topic. Presentations will take place during the classes after the first test. You will be given more specific information during class and on WebCT about how to prepare the presentations.

### Optional Research Paper

You may write a research paper of 8 to 12 pages on any issue relevant to the course to substitute for a low test grade, but NOT to replace a missed test. The paper may be a more detailed look at the subject of your group project, or you may examine another topic. You are expected to draw on literature from professional journals which use peer review. You may also use material from

the popular press. A handout with specific requirements will be provided during class and on WebCT.

Grades on your papers will be based on the quality of your research, your understanding of the material, the level of innovation you display, and the quality of your writing. If you want me to review a rough draft of your paper, you must turn it in to me by Wednesday, November 8. Completed papers are due on \_\_\_\_\_. You will be penalized for turning in late papers at the rate of 10% per class meeting.

**Warning!!!** Many students copy lines directly from the articles they are summarizing. Those lines which are copied must be marked with quotation marks or, if the material exceeds three (3) lines, indented and single spaced. Failure to indicate that material is quoted is plagiarism—use of the words or ideas of another without giving them credit. Plagiarism is a violation of academic honesty.

## VII. Student Evaluations: Course Requirements

### OBSERVATIONS

20%	Test 1 – _____
20	Test 2 – _____
25	Final Exam _____
[20	optional paper to replace low grade on test 1 or 2 only]
18	Group Presentation
12	Observations
<u>5</u>	<u>Attendance and Participation</u>
100%	Total

**You must complete ALL work in this class in order to pass.**  
**You may not omit any projects!**

**Important Dates:**

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

- Intro: What is race?  
lecture, readings, and Takaki Ch 1 **Jan 8-11 drop/add**
- Week 2: Race in the U.S.  
Takaki Ch 2, 3  
*The Tempest* **Jan 15 MLK Holiday**
- Week 3, 4: Native Americans  
Takaki 4, 9  
Black Elk
- Week 5: Black Elk cont'd  
**Test 1, Friday, Feb 9**
- Week 6, 7: African Americans  
Takaki 5, 13  
**Mid Term Feb 26(not a test day)**  
**Monday, March 1, last day to withdraw w/o penalty**
- Week 8, 9: White minorities  
Takaki 6  
Dimaggio
- Week 10, 11: Mexican Americans  
Takaki 7, 12  
**March 12-16, Spring Break**  
**Test 2, Fri, March 30**
- Week 12, 13: Asians  
Takaki 8, 10  
**Monday, April 9**  
**optional rough drafts of optional papers due**
- Week 14, 15: Jews  
Takaki 11  
**Friday, April 27**  
**optional papers due**
- Week 16: Gays and Lesbians  
Affirmative Action  
The 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Takaki 14 **April 30 – last day of class**

<p><b>FINAL EXAM</b> <b>Wed, May 2, 2007</b> <b>12:00 - 3:00 pm</b></p>
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