

SOC 038: Sociology of Race and Racism

Fall 2019 – UC Merced

Lecture: Tuesdays, 3:00-5:45pm COB2 170

Discussion Section: Wednesdays 11:30-12:20pm in GLCR 135 OR 12:30-1:20pm in GLCR 120

Professor Contact Information

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Teaching Assistant Contact Information

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 3:00-4:00pm

Course Description

Race is one of the most critical, divisive, and defining issues in the United States today. In this course, we will read and discuss materials that provide insight into how race and racism define our lives. The theoretical focus in this course is on racial ideologies, systemic and structural racism, racial categorization, ethnic identification, nativism, and intersecting oppressions.

Required Book Available for Purchase

Golash-Boza, Tanya. 2018. *Race and Racisms: A Critical Approach*, Second Edition. Oxford University Press. ISBN-10: 0190663782 ISBN-13: 978-0190663780

Please make sure you purchase the full edition, not the brief edition. If financial difficulties preclude you from purchasing the book, please speak with the Professor. Bring your textbook with you to class each day as we will refer to the textbook in class.

Course Learning Goals

1. *Understanding racism.* My primary goal for this class is that you gain a profound understanding of how racism and each of our racial statuses affect our lives. Race is important at the individual and the institutional level. On an individual level, your racial status affects how others perceive you; how you perceive others; and your social relationships and identity. In addition, your gender, sexuality, class, and citizenship status affect what your racial status means to you and to others. On an institutional level, your racial status is linked to your economic success, your educational success, your potential marriage partners, and the neighborhood where you reside. In this class, we will learn how race and racism shape our society and ourselves.
2. *Critical thinking.* One of the central goals of the course is for you to further develop your analytic abilities so that you evaluate the social construction of social practices and beliefs rather than take them for granted.
3. *Writing.* The assignments in this class are designed to help you build your writing skills.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

By the end of this course, students are expected to:

- Apply critical thinking and writing skills to written assignments.
- Evaluate how racism affects our society.
- Explain how race matters at the individual and the institutional levels.
- Apply sociological theories of race and racism to empirical data.
- Explain how racial oppression intersects with other forms of oppression.

To support student success coherently across Sociology coursework, the above CLOs help students to reach the expectations of the Sociology *Program Learning Outcomes* 1, 4 and 5:

PLO 1. Think critically about the causes and consequences of social inequality (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

PLO 4. Communicate orally and in writing about sociological concepts (CLO 1).

PLO 5. Use their sociological education outside of the undergraduate classroom, particularly in their careers or further education (CLOS 2, 3, 4)

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is vital in this class, and I expect you to come to class prepared each time class meets. Your participation grade will be calculated based on your attendance and participation in both lecture and discussion sections.

Teaching Methods

This class is organized around mini-lectures, films, discussion, and small-group work. The class is reading and writing intensive. To do well in this course, you must keep up with readings, attend class regularly, and turn in high-quality writing assignments. Class discussions will be based on weekly readings in addition to your experiences. Topics will be explored in small groups and then return to the large group for discussion of common themes, differences, and critical engagement.

Accessibility:

University of California, Merced is committed to creating learning environments that are accessible to all. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on a disability, please contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at (209) 228-6996 or disabilityservices@ucmerced.edu as soon as possible to explore reasonable accommodations. All accommodations must have prior approval from Student Accessibility Services on the basis of appropriate documentation.

If you anticipate or experience barriers due to pregnancy, temporary medical condition, or injury, please feel welcome to contact me so we can discuss options. You are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students for support and resources at (209) 228-3633 or

<https://studentaffairs.ucmerced.edu/dean-students>.

Participation and attendance grade (15%)

Students are required to attend our in-person meeting on Tuesdays and discussion section on Wednesday. If an assignment is given and graded in class on a day you miss class, you can make it up for a maximum of 50% of the grade. You must turn it in within one week and you may complete a maximum of two make-up assignments. You may ask the teaching assistant or one of your classmates for the assignment.

Tweets in response to short videos (10%)

Each week you will watch a number of short videos. After watching each video, compose and send out a tweet using the class hashtag, #SOC038 that responds to or explains one thing you learned in the video. Then, respond to at least one other tweet under the hashtag. After you

compose the tweet, post either the url for the tweet or upload a screenshot of the tweets to CatCourses to complete this assignment.

Twitter Accounts will be set up in the first day of class

- Each tweet earns a grade.
- Each response to classmates' tweets earns a grade.
- Any tweet that gets over 50 "likes" or "retweets" will earn extra credit. To receive credit, submit a screenshot of the tweet on CatCourses when you get 50 "likes" or "retweets."
- ALL tweets must have the hashtag #SOC038; any tweets without the hashtag will not count.
- If your tweet refers to a video that is publicly available online, include the link to that video.
- I must be able to see your tweets; thus, your account must be set to public.
- You must send out your tweets prior to class on Tuesday.

Film Reflections (20%)

In addition to watching short videos, you will watch longer films related to the class topics. You will be asked to respond to reflection questions after watching these films. These will be due prior to class on Tuesday.

Online reading quizzes and activities (20%)

Each week, you will have either an online reading quiz or an online activity related to the weekly readings. Please complete the readings for the week prior to completing the activity. The quizzes and activities will be due prior to class on Tuesday.

Weekly Writing Assignments (35%)

The culminating assignment for each week will be the weekly question. This question will involve an assessment of the primary learning goals for the week. These learning goals will be explored in-depth in lecture and discussion section to help you excel in answering these questions.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will be marked 50% off the earned grade.
There is no final exam for this course.

Schedule for Fall 2019 SOC 038

Every week will follow the same schedule:

Complete readings, quizzes, online activities, tweets, films, and videos before Tuesday lecture.

Lecture: Tuesdays at 3pm

Discussion Section: Wednesdays 11:30-12:20pm in GLCR 135 or 12:30-1:20pm in GLCR 120

Weekly Questions are due on Thursdays – the day after discussion section.

		DUE
Read	Textbook chapter and any other readings	Before lecture
Complete	Reading Quiz or Online Activity (varies)	Before lecture
Watch	Videos (1 to 3 short videos each week)	Before lecture

Tweet	Your response and response to one other student per video	Before lecture
Watch	Film (30 to 90 minute film)	Before lecture
Complete	Reflection questions in response to film	Before lecture
Write	Weekly Question response to weekly learning outcomes	Thursday at midnight

Module 1: The Origin of the Idea of Race 9/2-9/6

Lecture: Tuesday, September 3

Discussion Section: Wednesday, September 4

		DUE
Read	Chapter 1 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> "Origin of the idea of race" and complete reading quiz.	9/3, 3pm
Read	"There is No Such Thing as Race" http://www.newsweek.com/there-no-such-thing-race-283123	9/3, 3pm
Read	The Nib: "What is Race" https://thenib.com/what-is-race?t=default	9/3, 3pm
Complete	Reading quiz	9/3, 3pm
Watch	Videos	In-Class
Tweet	Your response to the video and response to one other student	In-Class
Watch	Film	In-Class
Complete	Reflection questions	In-Class
Write	Weekly Question response	9/5, 11:59pm

Module 2: Race, Immigration, and Citizenship, 9/9-9/13

Lecture: Tuesday, September 10

Discussion Section: Wednesday, September 11

		DUE
Read	Chapter 2 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> "Race and Citizenship from the 1840s to the 1920s"	9/10, 3pm
Read	"Three charts show every term the Census has used to describe America's racial groups since 1790"	9/10, 3pm
Complete	Online activity	9/10, 3pm
Watch	Videos	9/10, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	9/10, 3pm
Watch	Film	9/10, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	9/10, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	9/12, 11:59pm

Module 3: Racial Ideologies, 9/16-9/20

Lecture: Tuesday, September 17

Discussion Section: Wednesday, September 18

		DUE
Read	Chapter 3 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> "Racial Ideologies from the 1920s to the Present"	9/17, 3pm
Complete	Online activity	9/17, 3pm

Watch	Videos	9/17, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	9/17, 3pm
Watch	Film	9/17, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	9/17, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	9/19, 11:59pm

Module 4: Sociological Theories of Racism 9/23-9/27

Lecture: Tuesday, September 24

Discussion Section: Wednesday, September 25

		DUE
Read	Chapter 4 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> “Sociological Theories of Racism”	9/24, 3pm
Complete	Reading Quiz	9/24, 3pm
Watch	Videos	9/24, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	9/24, 3pm
Watch	Film	9/24, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	9/24, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	9/26, 11:59pm

Module 5: Controlling Images and Racism in the Media 9/30-10/4

Lecture: Tuesday, October 1

Discussion Section: Wednesday, October 2

		DUE
Read	Chapter 5 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> “Racism in the Media: The Spread of Ideology”	10/1, 3pm
Complete	Online Activity	10/1, 3pm
Watch	Videos	10/1, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	10/1, 3pm
Watch	Film	10/1, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	10/1, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	10/3, 11:59pm

Module 6: Colorism and Skin Color Stratification 10/7-10/11

Lecture: Tuesday, October 8

Discussion Section: Wednesday, October 9

		DUE
Read	Chapter 6 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> “Colorism and Skin Color Stratification”	10/8, 3pm
Complete	Reading Quiz	10/8, 3pm
Watch	Videos	10/8, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	10/8, 3pm
Watch	Film	10/8, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	10/8, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	10/10, 11:59pm

Module 7: White Privilege and the Changing US Racial Hierarchy 10/14-10/18

Lecture: Tuesday, October 15

Discussion Section: Wednesday, October 16

		DUE
Read	Chapter 7 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> “White Privilege and the Changing U.S. Racial Hierarchy”	10/15, 3pm
Complete	Online activity	10/15, 3pm
Watch	Videos	10/15, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	10/15, 3pm
Watch	Film	10/15, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	10/15, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	10/17, 11:59pm

Module 8: Educational Inequality 10/21-10/25

Lecture: Tuesday, October 22

Discussion Section: Wednesday, October 23

		DUE
Read	Chapter 8 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> “Educational Inequality”	10/22, 3pm
Complete	Reading Quiz	10/22, 3pm
Watch	Videos	10/22, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	10/22, 3pm
Watch	Film	10/22, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	10/22, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	10/24, 11:59pm

Module 9: Income and Labor Market Inequality 10/28-11/1

Lecture: Tuesday, October 29

Discussion Section: Wednesday, October 30

		DUE
Read	Chapter 9 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> “Income and Labor Market Inequality”	10/29, 3pm
Complete	Reading Quiz	10/29, 3pm
Watch	Videos	10/29, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	10/29, 3pm
Watch	Film	10/29, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	10/29, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	10/31, 11:59pm

Module 10: Inequality in Housing and Wealth 11/4-11/8

Lecture: Tuesday, November 5

Discussion Section: Wednesday, November 6

		DUE
Read	Chapter 10 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> “Inequality in Housing and Wealth”	11/5, 3pm
Complete	Reading Quiz	11/5, 3pm

Watch	Videos and Read Comic	11/5, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	11/5, 3pm
Watch	Film	11/5, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	11/5, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	11/7, 11:59pm

Tuesday, November 12: No lecture or discussion section, Veteran's Day Week

Module 11: Racism and the Criminal Justice System 11/18-11/22

Lecture: Tuesday, November 19

Discussion Section: Wednesday, November 20

		DUE
Read	Chapter 11 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> "Racism and the Criminal Justice System"	11/19, 3pm
Complete	Reading Quiz	11/19, 3pm
Watch	Videos	11/19, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	11/19, 3pm
Watch	Film	11/19, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	11/19, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	11/21, 11:59pm

Tuesday, November 26 – No lecture or discussion section – Thanksgiving week

Module 12: Health Inequalities 12/2-12/6

Lecture: Tuesday, December 3

Discussion Section: Wednesday, December 4

		DUE
Read	Chapter 12 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> "Health Inequalities, Environmental Racism, and Environmental Justice"	12/3, 3pm
Complete	Online Activity	12/3, 3pm
Watch	Videos	12/3, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	12/3, 3pm
Watch	Film	12/3, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	12/3, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	12/5, 11:59pm

Module 13: Racism and Immigration Policy 12/9-12/13

Lecture: Tuesday, December 10

Discussion Section: Wednesday, December 11

		DUE
Read	Chapter 13 of <i>Race and Racisms</i> "Racism, Nativism, and Immigration Policy"	12/10, 3pm
Complete	Reading Quiz	12/10, 3pm

Watch	Videos	12/10, 3pm
Tweet	Your response and response to one other student	12/10, 3pm
Watch	Film	12/10, 3pm
Complete	Reflection questions	12/10, 3pm
Write	Weekly Question response	12/12, 11:59pm

End of class. Enjoy your holiday break!

Please don't forget to fill out the online evaluation forms. We'd love to hear your feedback.