

# SOCI 2070: Introduction to Race and Ethnicity, Fall 2022

## BASIC INFORMATION

Instructor: Ronald Kwon

E-mail: ronald.kwon@unt.edu

Office: 288D Sycamore

Office hours: Thursday 11:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. or by appointment

Meeting Classroom: Wooten Hall 316

Meeting Time: Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:50 am

Course Number: SOCI 2070-001 (9956)

## COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Welcome to Race and Ethnicity (Sociology 2070)! This class focuses on the structural, global, and cultural components of race and ethnicity, with an emphasis on the U.S. Students will examine the social construction of race; the structural, institutional, and ideological components that underlie the construction of race and ethnicity; the impact of globalization and capitalism on race and racism; and the intersection of race with other systems of inequality. We will explore theoretical and empirical analyses of race and ethnicity through examining patterns of racial inequality such as residential segregation and labor market outcomes across racial categories. At the end of the course, students should understand the following:

- 1) Race is not biological
- 2) Racism is built into the structural components of society and not simply a problem of individual attitudes
- 3) Race is dynamic and takes different forms in different historical contexts
- 4) Race in the U.S. is currently under-going dramatic shifts as a result of globalization
- 5) Race is complicated by overlapping systems of inequality

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

*Between Fear and Hope: Globalization and Race in the United States*, Andrew Barlow, New York: Rowan & Littlefield, 2003.

Other required readings will be made available on the university's instructional web-based system or are downloadable articles using the library's website. **They are available under the "Readings" folder and are usually a shorten version of the original article. Because of this, I encourage student to read the articles from Canvas. I expect students to read these before class.** Occasionally, the readings will be start or end in the middle of a chapter and/or have omitted sections. Please only read the sections that are complete. The readings are designed to preview, overlap, as well as reinforce lectures and the other readings. The amount of reading is manageable and necessary to perform well in the class.

## COURSE GRADING BASIS

**In class participation, pop quizzes and attendance (15%)**

Students are expected to finish the readings before the start of class. I expect students to attend lectures, participate in in-class assignments, and use topics from reading materials to engage in in class discussions. These are given to students on random lectures and there are no makeups.

### **Research Paper (20%)**

Students will conduct a research paper that utilizes concepts learned in class to examine race/ethnic relations in a film or documentary. Students may choose the film or documentary, but race/ethnic relations must be THE CENTRAL theme in the film or documentary. Students may not use films that we view in class. Students will upload a draft before it is due in mid-October, so I can get a sense of progress on the paper. A rubric will be posted closer to the due date. The final paper is due finals week on December 8 midnight.

### **Midterm Examination (30%):**

The midterm will cover topics covered in lecture, the assigned readings, and films shown in class. The test will be composed of multiple-choice questions and short answers. We will have a midterm review before. Please bring a scantron and a blue book for the exam.

### **Final Exam (35%)**

The final exam will consist of multiple-choice questions and short answers in a format that very much resembles the midterm. Topics for the exam will predominantly focus on the latter part of the course. We will have a final review before. Please bring a scantron and blue book for the exam.

The grading breakdown is as follows below:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Below 60%	F

I will do my best to be straightforward and fair. **However, final grades are final and IS NOT OPEN FOR DEBATE. I will not consider last minute late assignment as a means to boost a student's grade.** I will calculate grades at the end of the course. If you have a pressing desire to know what your grade is after each assignment, you can easily calculate your grades by weighting the posted grades. For example:

if quizzes are worth 15% and you have an average grade of 100% on quizzes, you will get 15 points.

if the midterm is worth 30% and you received a 90%, you will get 27 points.

if the research paper is worth 20% and you received a 90%, you will get 18 points.

Combined this puts you at 60 points out of a possible 65 points or a 92.3% going into the final.

## **CLASSROOM GUIDELINES**

**Attendance:** I cannot overemphasize the importance of regular class attendance. A substantial amount of exam questions is based on lecture materials, which may not be covered in the readings. This is still fair game for the exam. Moreover, class is (by far) the optimal time to ask questions to clarify. Please arrive to class on time. It is incredibly disruptive for other students and the instructor.

**COVID related class procedures:** Individuals who test positive for COVID should follow current CDC guidelines for quarantine/isolation and follow the treatment advice of their primary care physician. I will make alternative arrangements for you on assignments. Please visit <https://healthalerts.unt.edu/> for a full description of UNT's policy.

**Electronic use:** Please keep electronic use during the class period confined to class materials. It is distracting for me as well as other students when it is not. I will ask students to leave the classroom if I see that they are using their electronic classes for non-class reasons. All students are expected to take their own notes and students are not permitted to record lectures in any format.

Please turn off all cell phones or put them on silent. In the event of a distraction, I have the authority to change a student's seat or request a student to exit the classroom. One-day suspensions will be reported to appropriate departmental and collegiate personnel.

**Make up exams and/or incompletes:** I generally do not give make-up exams or give incomplete grades, except under the most extreme emergencies. If you encounter an emergency, you should contact me **before** the test is administered.

**Classroom decorum:** A great deal of this course involves class discussion. Please respect the "rules of good discussion". In particular, please consider the following: a) be good listeners to your fellow students (a democratic and open classroom necessitates a respectful environment); b) try to focus your discussion on course material; c) discussion is usually more stimulating when many people are involved, thus I ask for your help in trying to get everyone to contribute.

Respect the UNT guidelines for academic integrity: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>  
I appreciate the majority of students are honest. To the few students who do not hold such ideals, I want to stress that cheating and plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. Students are encouraged to work together and discuss problem sets. However, I expect each student to complete their own work. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the assignment in question. A second offense will result in a failure of the course.

**Accommodations:** Students with disabilities that may affect their ability to participate fully in the class or to complete all course requirements are encouraged to bring this to my attention promptly so that appropriate accommodations can be made. Students must register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. For additional information, please visit the ODA website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>.

**Lectures and other classroom documents:** Many of the classes key materials can be found under files. Lectures will be posted after class. They will be organized by week headings and contain under FILES>LECTURES. The syllabus will also be contained under FILES>SYLLABUS. The rubric for the research paper will be under FILES>RESEARCH PAPER. Materials for exam reviews will be under FILES>EXAM MATERIALS.

## **CALENDAR:**

**WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION**

**WEEK 2: BASIC CONCEPTS, THE ORIGINS OF RACE & THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF RACE**

**WEEK 3: PATTERNS OF ETHNIC RELATIONS; FROM JIM CROW TO COLOR-BLIND RACISM**

**WEEK 4: RACIAL ATTITUDES, MULTIDIMENSIONALITY IN ATTITUDES**

**WEEK 5: THEORIES OF IMMIGRATION & SELECTION EFFECTS; MINORITY THREAT NARRATIVES & THE SQUEEZING OF THE MIDDLE CLASS**

**WEEK 6: THE SPATIAL ASSIMILATION MODEL & RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION; SPLIT LABOR MARKETS & NEW MIGRANTS**

**WEEK 7: MIDTERM REVIEW, MIDTERM WEEK 8: PAPER PROGRESS SUBMISSION; RACIAL INCOME & WEALTH GAPS**

**WEEK 9: INTERMARRIAGE & DATING, RACIAL IDENTITIES**

**WEEK 10: INTERSECTIONALITY, RACE AND THE MEDIA**

**WEEK 11: RACE AND SPORTS, RACE AND PLASTIC SURGERY**

**WEEK 12: RACE FROM A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE CANADA & SOUTH AFRICA**

**WEEK 13: THANKSGIVING BREAK (No classes)**

**WEEK 14: RACE AND COLORISM, RACE AND ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM**

**WEEK 15: FINALS & RESEARCH PAPERS**

\*\*These are tentative dates and I reserve the right to alter assignment given sufficient notice.