

## Race/Ethnic Identities, Experiences, and Relations

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ANSO 343  
Spring 2005  
TTH 12:30-1:45pm  
Class: Clough 102

Office Hours: MW 2-3pm; TTH 2-3pm; or By Appointment

### Course Description and Course Objective:

We will use fundamental sociological concepts and theoretical perspectives to examine immigration and multiple race/ethnic identities, experiences, and relations, primarily within the United States. The course will survey a broad range of topics, with many touching on controversial debates that surround social stratification issues. By the end of the course, students should have the conceptual and theoretical tools to apply sociological perspectives of race/ethnicity to their everyday lives, to the lives of "others," and to American society.

### Required Readings

Gallagher, Charles A. 2004. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Rethinking the Color Line: Readings in Race and Ethnicity

Parrillo, Vincint N. 2003. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Strangers to These Shores: Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States

Reskin, Barbara F. 1998. Realities of Affirmative Action in Employment

### Grading

Participation	20%
Commentaries	40%
Research Paper	40%

### Grading Scale

A+ 99-100	B+ 87-90	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F 59 or lower
A 95-98	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
A- 91-94	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

### Course Requirements

1. **Attendance:** You are expected to attend and participate every class period. However, you can miss up to *2 days of class for emergencies or illnesses* with no penalty. For *every class missed after two absences*, your *final grade will be reduced a third of a letter grade* (e.g. four absences, grade reduced from a B+ to a B).
2. **Class Participation:** Class discussions are an important element in this course. What

you get out of the course is as much dependent upon the preparation and participation of you and your classmates as it is upon my instruction. What you learn from one another can be as valuable as the lecture and reading materials. Thus, everyone is expected to actively participate in class. You will be *graded on the level and quality of your participation*.

3. **Commentaries:** Students are required to do *6 out of 12 possible commentaries*. You must *complete half of the commentaries before midterm*. See the class schedule for due dates. I will give you an assignment for each commentary, but generally they will focus on analyzing the readings, raising questions, and making connections to your personal experiences and to current social issues. Each commentary should be *3-4 pages typed (double space)*. There will be *a letter grade reduction for every day a commentary is late* (e.g. one day late, grade reduced from a B to a C).
4. **Research Paper:** Students will choose a topic related to race/ethnicity and will develop a research question that they want to investigate. Students will use scholarly sources to address and analyze their questions. You will meet with me periodically throughout the semester to report on your progress. A one-page topic description is due in class **February 1<sup>st</sup>**. Guidelines for the paper will be handed out in class. Students will turn in a *12-15 page paper on May 2<sup>nd</sup> by 8pm*.

### Course Guidelines

1. Please avoid disrupting class by arriving late or leaving early.
2. Do not disrupt me or your classmates by talking amongst your neighbors while other people are speaking.
3. You are responsible for all announcements and assignments made in class.
4. You are required to check your e-mail once a day for any updates from me.
5. If anyone has special needs that require modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements, please contact me in the beginning of the semester and provide documentation from disability services, so that suitable accommodations can be made.
6. Make-up exams will only be allowed in the event of a documented emergency. If you cannot take the exam for any reason, you must contact me prior to the exam. Failure to do so may mean that you will not be able to take a make-up exam.
7. Academic misconduct and dishonesty (such as cheating or plagiarism) will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to the Honor Code.
8. The following reading and lecture schedules are subject to revisions, however, the exam dates and the assignment due dates will remain the same.
9. This class will require you to look at your life and the lives of others through many different perspectives. This can be a very challenging experience. Although I want you to feel free to share your ideas, I expect you to respect one another when listening to other viewpoints.

### Class Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
January 13	<b><i>Introduction</i></b>
	<b>CONSTRUCTIONS AND THEORIES OF RACE/ETHNICITY</b>
January 18, 20, 25,	Parrillo 1, The Study of Minorities
	Gallagher, Introductions, pp. 1-6
	Gallagher 1, "How Our Skins Got Their Color"
	Gallagher 2, "Racial Formations"
	Gallagher 6, "Placing Race in Context"
JANUARY 25	COMMENTARY 1
FEBRUARY 1	RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC DUE
January 27, February 1, 3	Parillo 2, "Culture and Social Structure"
	Gallagher 3, "Theoretical Perspectives in Race and Ethnic Relations"
FEBRUARY 8	COMMENTARY 2
February 8, 10	Parrillo 5, Northern and Western European Immigrants
February 15	COMMENTARY 3
February 15, 17	Parrillo 6, Southern, Central, and Eastern Europeans
	Gallagher 9, "Optional Ethnicities: For Whites Only?"
	Gallagher 35, "Why Irish Became Domestic and Italians and Jews Did Not"
February 22	COMMENTARY 4
February 22, 24	Parrillo 7, Native Americans
	Gallagher 7, "A Tour of Indian Peoples and Indian Lands"
March 1	COMMENTARY 5
March 1, 3	Parrillo 8, East and Southeast Asian Americans

	Gallagher 8, "Asian American Panethnicity: Bridging Institutions and Identities"
	Gallagher 23, "Race, Gender, Work: The History of Asian and Asian-American Women"
March 8, 10	Spring Break
March 15	COMMENTARY 6
March 15, 17	Parrillo 9, Other Asian and Middle Eastern Americans
	Gallagher 36, "The Arab Immigrant Experience"
March 22	Parrillo 10, Black Americans
March 24	Easter Break
March 29	COMMENTARY 7
March 29, 31	Gallagher 15, "The Continuing Significance of Race: Antiblack Discrimination In Public Places"
	Gallagher 16, "Savage Inequalities"
	Gallagher 21, "Race and Criminalization: Black Americans and the Punishment Industry"
	Gallagher 28, "Residential Segregation and Neighborhood Conditions in U.S. Metropolitan Areas"
April 5	COMMENTARY 8
April 5, 7	Parrillo 11, Hispanic Americans
	Gallagher 32, "Distorted Reality: Hispanic Characters in TV Entertainment"
	Gallagher 34, "The Changing Face of America: Immigration, Race/Ethnicity, and Social Mobility"
	Gallagher 38, "Hispanics in a Multicultural Society: A New American Dilemma?"
April 12	COMMENTARY 9
April 12	Whiteness: Handouts
April 14	Parrillo 3, Prejudice and Discrimination
April 19	COMMENTARY 10
April 19	Gallagher 10, "Race Prejudice as a Sense of Group Position"
	Gallagher 11, "Discrimination and the American Creed"
April 21	Reskin, <u>Realities of Affirmative Action in Employment</u>

Gallagher 25, “‘We’d Love to Hire Them But. . .’: The Meaning of Race for Employers”

April 26 COMMENTARY 11

April 26, 28 Parrillo 14, Trends and Possibilities

Gallagher 34, “An Overview of Trends in Social and Economic Well-being, by Race”

Gallagher 42, “Color Blind Privilege: The Social and Political Functions of Erasing  
The Color Line in Post-Race America”

Gallagher 45, “Ten Simple Things You Can Do To Improve Race Relations”

May 2 Research Paper due by 8pm