

Humanities 3030, Multicultural Studies
Fall 2006
Monday & Wednesday 1:00-1:50pm
Dixie State College of Utah

Matthew Smith-Lahrman, Instructor

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Office Hours: Tuesday 2-5pm
Friday 1-3pm
Or by appointment

The Course

This course examines the social constructions of race, ethnicity, gender and class within United States society. We examine these constructions as processes of identity formation, stratification and social change. We will also look at prejudice and discrimination as key ingredients to understanding race, ethnicity, gender and class. Along the way you will come to a better understanding of the cultural milieu that is the United States.

Texts

Roberta Fiske-Rusciano & Virginia Cyrus. 2005. *Experiencing Race, Class and Gender in the United States*. 4th Edition. McGraw Hill Publishers.

Mitchell Duneier. 1992. *Slim's Table: Race, Respectability, and Masculinity*. University of Chicago.

Evaluation

Grades will be based on five experiential journals, three in-class essays, and two papers. The weight of the assignments upon your overall grade is as follows:

Journals:	4% each * 5 = 20% total
Essays:	20% each * 3 = 60% total
Paper:	20%

Experiential Journals

You will hand in five journal entries during the semester. They should address concepts from the course and apply them to your everyday life. Journals will not be graded for grammar or style or presentation. I simply want to see that you are recognizing the applicability of the course content to our real lives. Journal entries are due on September 13, October 4, October 25, November 15, and December 11.

In-class Essays

You will write three in-class essays in which you will be asked to bring together theoretical concepts from my lectures and examples from the readings in Fiske-Rusciano and Cyrus. You will write these essays on September 27, November 1 and December 11. Please come to class on these dates with a Blue Book (which can be purchased inexpensively from the bookstore).

Papers

You will write a paper applying concepts we discuss and read in Fiske-Rusciano and Cyrus to *Slim's Table* by Mitchell Duneier. I will hand out a paper assignment on October 2, the paper is due on November 29.

Attendance:

Attendance is NOT mandatory. However, I lecture on material that is not in the text. There will be elements of the in-class essay questions that are not from the text. If you miss class you risk missing information needed for the essays.

NOTE: Your final grade is based on your letter grades, not on your accumulation of points.

ANOTHER NOTE: You must complete all assignments to pass this class.

FINAL NOTE: I reserve the right to (a) adjust individual grades based on my evaluation of your participation and enthusiasm in the course and (b) make changes to the syllabus during the course if I feel it will benefit the class.

ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE POLICY: Academic dishonesty in any form, including, but not limited to, plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes will not be tolerated at Dixie State College of Utah.

Teachers at Dixie State College of Utah have the right to manage their classroom environments to ensure a good learning climate.

If you are a student with a physical or mental impairment and would like to request accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center (652-7516) in Room 201 of the Student Services Center. The Disability Resource Center will determine your eligibility for services based upon complete professional documentation. If you are deemed eligible, the Disability Resource Center will further evaluate the effectiveness of your accommodation requests and will authorize reasonable accommodations that are appropriate for your disability.

Course Schedule

Week & Topics

Week #1

August 23

Introduction to course

Week #2

August 28 & 30

RACIAL AND ETHNIC IDENTITY

Read: "Experiencing Race, Class and Gender in the United States," "Identity," 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 13, & 17

Week #3

September 4 & 6

No Class, Monday, September 4

GENDER IDENTITY

Read: F-R & C "Gender Identity," 18, 20, & 24

Hand out Experiential Journal Assignment, Wednesday, September 6

Week #4

September 11 & 13

GENDER IDENTITY

Journal #1 due, Wednesday, September 13

Week #5

September 18 & 20

CLASS IDENTITY

Read: F-R & C "Economics and the American Dream," 34, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 45, & 46

Week #6

September 25 & 27

CLASS IDENTITY

In-class Essay #1, Wednesday, September 27

Week #7

October 2 & 4

RACISM

Read: F-R & C "Power," "Power and Racism," 49, 53, 54, 57, 59, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, & 72

Hand out *Slim's Table Paper Assignment*, Monday, October 2

Journal #2 due, Wednesday, October 4

Week #8

October 9 & 11

RACISM

SEXISM

Read: F-R & C "Power and Sexism," 78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 86, & 88

Week #9

October 16 & 18

SEXISM

Week #10

October 23 & 25

CLASSISM

Read: F-R & C "Power and Classism," 96, 98, 100, 101, & 106

Journal #3 due, Wednesday, October 25

Week #11

October 30 & November 1

CLASSISM

In-class essay #2, Wednesday, November 1

Week #12

November 6 & 8

TAKING ACTION

Read: F-R & C "Change," "Taking Action," 108, 110, 113, 114, 117, & 120

Week #13

November 13 & 15

TAKING ACTION

Read: Leblanc

Journal #4 due, Wednesday, November 15

Week #14

November 20 & 22

TAKING ACTION

No Class Wednesday, November 22

Week #15

November 27 & 29

CHANGE MAKERS

Read: F-R & C "Change Makers," 123, 124, 126, 128, 130, & 134
Slim's Table Paper due, Wednesday, November 29

Week #16

December 4 & 6

CHANGE MAKERS

Week #17

Monday, December 11, 12:00 - 2:00

Journal #5 due

In-class essay #3