

Course Objectives/Course Outline
Spokane Community College

Course Title: Race and Ethnic Relations
Prefix and Course Number: SOC 221

Course Description:

A study of the distinctive characteristics of ethnic groups. This course includes focus on the stratified aspects connected to the perceived differences, including wealth, power, and prestige. The course will include theories of prejudice and discrimination, patterns of dominant and minority interaction, and the history of America as a nation of immigrants (with special emphasis on Asian-Americans, African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Native Americans, and white-ethnic-Americans). Patterns of contact, (assimilation and pluralism) will be explored from a global perspective. Countries such as South Africa, Northern Ireland and Canada may be discussed.

Course Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, a student should be able to:

- Students (who successfully complete this course) will understand basic sociological theory regarding racial/ethnic issues and will have an appreciation for and understanding of diversity in America and globally.

Course Outline:

- I. Sociological Framework
 - A. Overview of the course - Introduction
 - B. Overview of studies in Race and Ethnic Relations - Theoretical Perspective
 1. Ethnic Stratification: Power and inequality
 2. Techniques of Dominance: Prejudice and discrimination
 3. Patterns of Ethnic Relations: Assimilation and Pluralism
- II. Historical and Cross Cultural Perspectives
 - A. European Americans-Foundation of the American Ethnic Hierarchy
 1. Northern and Western Europeans
 - B. People of Color - United States
 1. The Native Americans
 2. Asian Americans
 3. African Americans
 4. Hispanic Americans
 - C. Ethnic Relations in Comparative Perspective
 1. Other Asian and Middle Eastern Americans
 2. Southern, Central and Eastern Europeans

- 3. Other countries of study (i.e. South Africa and Canada)
- III. Other minorities
 - A. Religious minorities
- IV. Current Trends in Race and Ethnicity
 - A. The Changing Face of Ethnicity
 - B. Current Ethnic issues
 - C. Racial and Ethnic diversity in the future