

Psychology of Cultural & Gender Diversity

PSYC 3313-001

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Office Hours: Thursday, 11:00 – 12:30 p.m. or by appointment

Class time: TR 9:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. in LS 122

Course content: Theory and research regarding psychological underpinnings of social differences and inequality. Topics include cultural and gender viewpoints of stereotypes, racism, sexism, weightism, moral prejudice, social stigma, and social inequality. Prerequisite: PSYC 1315.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to describe cultural and gender diversity as a social construct and as social influence.
2. Students will be able to explain categorizations, stereotypes, prejudices, and discrimination of minorities.
3. Students will be able to identify racism, sexism, weightism, moral prejudice, ageism, social stigma, and social inequality.

Requirements: Prerequisite PSYC 1315

Required textbook: Blaine, B. E. (2007). *Understanding the Psychology of Diversity*. 1st Edition. LA: Sage.

Attendance & Participation: Class attendance is vital to grasping course content. As a result, attendance is required. Students who have emergencies and need to miss class are required to provide university-approved documentation to excuse their absence(s). Students will earn a total of 25 points for attendance by being present in class on the five unannounced days I take attendance.

Research has clearly demonstrated that those students who are involved in the learning process are more likely to retain information and have greater success in class than those who do not. Therefore, students are encouraged to participate in class discussions and should respect other students' opinions and contributions, regardless of whether these beliefs are contrary to their own beliefs.

If students are absent from class, they are required to find out what they missed from another student before the next class period. I encourage students to exchange e-mails and phone numbers with at least two other students the first day of class.

Regarding punctuality, students need to be on time to class as they will miss important announcements and discussions but will still be held responsible for any material and announcements covered in class. Be courteous, be on time, and do not socialize during class. Socializing in class is disruptive to other students and to me.

Drop Policy: No grade will be assigned if students drop before the census date, January 30, 2008. March 28, 2008 is the last day to drop classes with an automatic "W." If students are dropped from this class for non-payment of tuition, they may secure an Enrollment Loan through the Bursar's Office. Students may not continue to attend class until their Enrollment Loan has been applied to outstanding tuition fees.

Examinations: Students will take three non-comprehensive examinations and a non-comprehensive final examination. Exams will cover text material as well as material presented via class lectures, audio/visual media, exercises, class discussions, and/or handouts. On examination days, students will NOT be permitted to wear ball caps or any other head covering that prevents my seeing their eyes.

Students who wish to find out what questions they missed on examinations may meet with me in my office up to one week after the examination. In the event students wish to dispute their exam grades, they may do so in my office **for one week only after that examination**. Once the week after the exam has passed, examination grades will be **undisputable**.

Diversity Project: Students will apply cultural and gender diversity issues to the real world by researching a current event which corresponds to a topic discussed in class or in the text. This project is worth 75 points. More details will follow.

Grade Distribution: The three examinations and the final exam will be computed based on the percentage of correct answers: 90-100% = A, 80-89% = B, 70-79% = C, 60-69% = D, and 59% or below = F. The diversity project and attendance points will be combined into one score and will be equivalent to a test grade. All five grades (4 exams and 1 project/attendance grade) will be averaged for the final grade.

Communication: For anyone having a difficult time comprehending text or class material, please meet with me to discuss ways to be successful in this course. I also welcome student feedback and suggestions as to ways to improve this class.

E-mail Protocol: When sending me an e-mail, put the class name in the subject line of the email and provide your name inside the e-mail. I will do my best to respond to e-mails in a prompt manner; however, please realize that I do not always have access to a computer.

Academic Resources: The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabi. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. Classes are held as scheduled during this week and lectures and presentations may be given.

Course Schedule & Required Readings

Ch. 1 – Introduction to the Psychology of Diversity

Ch. 2 – Categorization & Stereotyping

Ch. 3 – Stereotypes Expressed

Exam 1 – Thursday, Feb. 7

Ch. 4 – Prejudice

Ch. 5 – Understanding Race, Racial Stereotypes, & Racism

Ch. 6 – Understanding Gender Stereotypes and Sexism

Exam 2 – Thursday, March 6

Ch. 7 – Understanding Obesity Stereotypes & Weightism

Ch. 8 – Understanding Moral Prejudice

Ch. 10 – Social Stigma

Exam 3 – Thursday, April 10

Diversity Project due – Thursday, April 17

Supplement – Development & Socialization among Cultures

Supplement – Interpersonal Attraction among Cultures

Supplement – Emotions among Cultures

Final Exam