Metropolitan State University

ETHS 305 : Major Issues in U.S. Race Relations

A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Lab Hours/ Weeks: Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/ Week :

MnTC Goals: Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies , Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci , Goal 07 - Human Diversity

Will race matter in this millennium? This course explores major issues currently impacting race relations in the United States, such as affirmative action, immigrant education, employment, housing, health and welfare, and so on. This course takes historical and interdisciplinary approaches to help students understand the interrelationship between social structure, public policies, race and ethnicity. Videos and movies are shown as part of class discussion on these issues. Significant focus is given to issues of race and racism.

B. Course Effective Dates: 08/01/1998 - 09/05/1999 09/06/1999 - 05/12/2019 05/13/2019 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Analyze major issues affecting race relations in the United States and their contributing factors.
2. Compare similarities and differences of the U.S. experience of the four major racial groups, i.e. African Americans, American Indians, Asian Americans, Latino American with White Americans.
3. Critically examine the meaning of race and how race operates in individual and societal lives.
4. Recognize and assess the interrelationship between social structure, public policies, race, ethnicity and culture.
5. Respectfully engage in classroom and in group discussions consistent with the complexity of the subject of the course and sophistication that are characteristic of upper division courses in a comprehensive university.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies

None

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
3. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
4. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.

Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
2. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
3. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
4. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.

G. Special Information