Instructor: Scott Thompson BA, MAT, MPA  
E-mail: scott.thompson@gcmail.maricopa.edu  
Message: Social Science Secretary; Brigida Banfelder @ (623) 845-3685

Class Meeting Days and Time: TR 8:30 - 9:55 A.M.  
Room Number: CL-13

Required Book(s):


Course Objectives: This course is designed to examine contemporary/historical racial and ethnic intergroup relations emphasizing cultural origins, developments, and problems of minority groups in the United States. The goal of this class is to help students learn about sociological issues beyond the scope of popular culture and mass media reporting with the aim of achieving deeper personal understanding regarding today’s world and what the future might hold. My expectation is that you will be able to develop and utilize critical thinking skills which challenge common assumptions and be able to demonstrate sound reasoning for your conclusions. For more information regarding the goals and content of this class go to http://www.dist.maricopa.edu/cgi-bin/cpr.pl?trm=20036&crs=soc140&inst=99.

Course Requirements: Attendance is mandatory. I do not teach or test solely from the textbook. Therefore, attendance is vital to your ability to achieve success in this course. The instructor therefore reserves the right to withdraw a student from the course at my discretion after two absences. It is vital that your attendance remains in good standing in order to pass the course. My policy regarding attendance requires that you miss no more than eight classes without an official excuse (such as school athletic events or a medical excuse; see student handbook) Note that the instructor in most cases is the judge of what is a valid and legitimate excuse; personal, family and/or work problems are not a valid excuse. In a nutshell, if you miss nine classes or more you will need to see me. You will also need to see me if you miss two consecutive weeks of class. Failure to see me regarding excessive absences will result in the grade of an F for the course. It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. This class is a college level course that fulfills a general university requirement in social/behavioral sciences. Therefore, it is important that you take the class seriously and show up attentive and eager to learn. I look forward to working with you and learning more about social issues. If you are having problems with the course please see me so we can determine a course of action. Your assignments for the semester are listed on the next page.

Assignments:                                                                 Points
• 3 exams 300 pts
(100 pts each)

• 2 Critical thinking papers 100 pts
(The content of these papers will be discussed in detail at a later date)

• Ethnic Timeline Presentations (We will discuss this in detail later) 100 pts

Total Points Possible: 500 pts

Grade scale:

89.5 - 100% A
79.5 - 89.4% B
69.5 - 79.4% C
59.5 - 69.4% D
59.4% or Below F

Class Format: The class will be mostly a mix of lecture material and group discussions regarding race and ethnic social issues. My hope is that you all are eager to participate in class discussions. Many of the issues we will be discussing will challenge common perspectives and should arouse a great deal of interest.

Course Expectations: You are responsible for all course material. Anything being discussed in the course can be used for testing purposes. This includes lectures, class discussions, and student presentations. As previously mentioned, I do not teach just from the textbook. It is my expectation you will attend a vast majority, if not all classes during this course. It is mandatory that you be present for the tests. I will not give a make up test without an extremely valid explanation for not being able to take the test when scheduled. (A doctors written order is such an example). The alternative to a missed test without a valid excuse usually involves a very long take home essay test or a score of “0”. If you have a time conflict with the tests please let me know in advance so the matter can be dealt with.

Late Assignment Policy: My policy is to grade any late work down one letter grade per class period from the grade that would normally receive. I generally will not accept late work after one week when it was normally due without valid mitigating circumstances. Note: the instructor reserves the right to refuse any late work. Exceptions to this policy require a written statement from a doctor or a very reasonable and valid exception. Do not E-mail me assignments late or not. Assignments are due in paper form at the beginning of class on the date due unless otherwise stated. Students will also be penalized one letter grade if papers are not stapled or held together by a paper clip.

Attendance: I take attendance everyday. As mentioned above, if you are absent for more than two class the instructor reserves the right to withdraw you from the class. If
you miss nine classes or more you will need to see me. You will also need to see me if you miss two consecutive weeks of class. Failure to see me regarding excessive absences will result in the grade of an F for the course. It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Please refer to your student handbook concerning withdraw dates. If you are having difficulties with the course please see me.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** In a nutshell: **DON’T DO IT.** I will spend some time defining plagiarism and how do avoid it. Regarding my policy for cheating and plagiarism; any student caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an “F” for the course, be expelled from the class, and will be referred to the Dean of Students.

**Pagers and Phones:** Please turn these items off to minimize disruptions. Repeated violations will result in removal from the class.

**Audio Taping:** Please ask permission to audio tape class lectures and discussions. No video taping is allowed.

**Text Messaging:** **Do not text message during class.** Students who text messaging in class will be asked to leave for the remainder of the class.

**Ipods and Music Devices:** Do not listen to music or wear headphones during class. Violations will result in removal from the class.

**Disruptive Students:** Students who are disruptive, rude, and/or display a bad attitude toward the instructor or other students will be removed from the class and may be subject to student misconduct disciplinary action.

**Failing Students:** Students who are failing the course may be withdrawn from the class at any time at the discretion of the instructor.

**Food and Beverages:** In general, I do not mind if people bring a water as long as it is not disruptive and students do not make a mess. No food or other drinks other than water are allowed.

**Readings:** Please plan on having your readings completed before the class session in which it will be discussed.

**Special Needs:** It is a college policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request accommodations due to a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the Disability Resources & Services office at (623) 845-3080. If you require special learning needs because of a disability, please speak with me as soon as possible. **Note:** This is a tentative schedule subject to change. I will inform you about any changes that will be made.

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignments Due/Tests</th>
<th>Chapter(s)</th>
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I will inform you about any changes that will be made.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1:</th>
<th>8/26 &amp; 8/28</th>
<th>1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2:</td>
<td>9/2 &amp; 9/4</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3:</td>
<td>9/9 &amp; 9/11</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4:</td>
<td>9/16 &amp; 9/18</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1st Critical Thinking paper due(9-18)</td>
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<td>Week 5:</td>
<td>9/23 &amp; 9/25</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1st test over Chapters 1-4 (9-23)</td>
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<td>Week 6:</td>
<td>9/30 &amp; 10/2</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Week 7:</td>
<td>10/7 &amp; 10/9</td>
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<td>Week 8:</td>
<td>10/14 &amp; 10/16</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Week 9:</td>
<td>10/21 &amp; 10/23</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>2nd test over Chapters 5-8 (10/21)</td>
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<td>Week 10:</td>
<td>10/28 &amp; 10/30</td>
<td>9 &amp; 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11:</td>
<td>11/4 &amp; 11/6</td>
<td>Ethnic Timeline Presentations</td>
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<td>Week 12:</td>
<td>11/13</td>
<td>Ethnic Timeline Presentations (tentative)</td>
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<td>Week 13:</td>
<td>11/18 &amp; 11/20</td>
<td>10 &amp; 11</td>
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<td>2nd Critical Thinking paper due(11/20)</td>
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<td>Week 14:</td>
<td>11/25</td>
<td>Note: Thursday 11/27: Thanksgiving-No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15:</td>
<td>12/2 &amp; 12/4</td>
<td>12 &amp; 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16:</td>
<td>12/9 &amp; 12/11</td>
<td>14</td>
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**Final Exam Week** 12/15 - 12/18  Cumulative Final Exam (time and day TBA)

**MCCCD Official Course Competencies:**  SOC140 19926-99999

**Racial & Ethnic Minorities**

1. Explain how the ideologies of assimilation, cultural pluralism and conflict theory have
influenced the experiences of ethical and culturally diverse populations. (I)

2. Describe the development of a subordinate group status relationship and the consequences of minority group status. (I)

3. Describe the structural, economic and personality effects of prejudice and discrimination and how these factors perpetuate social inequalities among racial/minority groups. (II)

4. Explain the concepts of institutional discrimination and its impact on minority groups. (II)

5. Identify the social issues and problems that perpetuate ethnic and religious conflict. (III)

6. Explain the concept of religious pluralism. (III)

7. Identify cultural elements that are unique to racial/ethnic minority groups. (IV)

8. Trace the histories of each of the minority groups in the United States. (IV)

9. Discuss common barriers faced by minority groups in accessing various social systems. (IV)

10. Distinguish between sexism and racism. (V)

11. Describe major ethnic/racial changes that have occurred internationally and nationally. (VI)

MCCCD Official Course Outline: SOC140 19926-99999

Racial & Ethnic Minorities

I. Culture, ethnicity and class
   A. Characteristics of a minority group
B. Sociology and study of minority groups  
C. Subordinate group status  
D. Assimilation  
E. Pluralism

II. Prejudice and discrimination  
A. Theories  
B. Stereotypes  
C. Black self-hatred: myth or reality?  
D. Institutional discrimination  
E. Affirmative action

III. Ethnic and religious source of conflict  
A. Immigration and the United States  
B. The anti-Catholic crusade  
C. Ethnic diversity  
D. Religious pluralism  
E. Social class

IV. Racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States  
A. Native Americans  
B. Black Americans  
C. Hispanic Americans  
D. Asian-Americans  
E. Jewish-Americans

V. Other patterns of dominance  
A. Gender roles and gender identity  
B. Women: the oppressed majority  
C. Multiple jeopardy: minority women and aging

VI. Beyond the United States:  
A. Comparative cultures  
B. Contemporary trends

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I have read the Syllabus for Sociology 140, Course # 34060 for Fall 2008 at Glendale Community College. I affirm that I understand and accept the conditions of the course.

Name: (Please Print)______________________________

Signature:________________________   Date:________________________
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Name: (Please Print)______________________________

Signature:________________________   Date:________________________