Sociology 077.237 (L01) Ethnic Relations

Department of Sociology
University of Manitoba
Fall 2004
3 credit hours

CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Lori Wilkinson
Office: 331 Isbister Building
Phone: 474-8491
Email: Lori_Wilkinson@umanitoba.ca
Website: http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/sociology/lori/index.htm
Office hours: Tuesdays 2-3:30, Wednesdays 12-1, or by appointment

Class meeting: 11:30-1:00 Tuesdays and Thursdays
Class location: Room 235 Isbister Building

Teaching Assistant: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

How did science contribute to the spread of racism in our society? Has racism increased or decreased in the past 10 years? Have recent government initiatives helped or hindered ethnic relations in Canada? What is the current state of relations between Aboriginal Peoples and the federal government? Will Quebec hold another referendum on independence? What is the impact of immigration to Canadian society? These and other related questions are topics discussed during this course.

The objective of this class is to better understand race and ethnic relations in Canada through understanding sociological theory and government policies. The lectures are focused on three themes. Other topics will be discussed, but with less focus. First, we investigate a number of different social theories that explain the existence of racism and other social inequalities based on racial or ethnic affiliation. Second, Canadian government policies such as the Multiculturalism Act, the Official Languages Act, and the Immigration Act are examined for their influence on social equality and inequality based on ethnic background. Finally, immigration is used as an example of the history of racial and ethnic inequality in Canada. Throughout the course, we will examine Canada’s First Nations Peoples, the relationship between Quebec and English Canada and the impact of migration as an introduction to race relations in Canada. By the end of the course, students should be able to identify and explain major sociological theories on race and racism, have an understanding of some of the causes of ethnic inequality in Canadian society, and to critically examine media reports related to race and ethnicity.
REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

There are two required textbooks for this course.


In addition, there are additional required readings available in the textbooks on reserve in the Dafoe library. A reading list will be distributed on the first day of class.

TEXTBOOKS ON RESERVE IN DAFOE

Some of the following textbooks contain required readings for the course while others may be useful in preparing for your term papers. All are on reserve in the Dafoe Library under this course.


COURSE SCHEDULE AND REQUIREMENTS

In-class Assignment (Tuesday, September 28) Students are expected to complete most of this assignment during class time and will submit the finished assignment on Tuesday October 5. Students are required to attend this class. No “make-ups” are available for this assignment. Details of the assignment will be distributed and discussed prior to this date.

Scheduled Film (Thursday, September 30). Several films will be shown throughout the semester. Student attendance is mandatory and questions based on the film and discussions will appear on the final examination.
**Mid-term Examination** *(Thursday, October 14)*. The mid-term exam is 80 minutes and consists of multiple choice questions and essay questions. Study questions for the essay portion are provided one week prior to the examination.

**Scheduled Film** *(Tuesday, October 18)* Several films will be shown throughout the semester. Student attendance is mandatory and questions based on the film and discussions will appear on the final examination.

**Term Paper outline** *(Thursday, October 28)*. An outline of your term paper should include the thesis statement or research question. Additional details to follow.

**Scheduled Film** *(Tuesday, November 8)* Several films will be shown throughout the semester. Student attendance is mandatory and questions based on the film and discussions will appear on the final examination.

**November 11, Remembrance Day, Civic Holiday. No Classes.**

**Term paper** *(Thursday, November 25)*. A term paper of 8-10 double spaced pages, including bibliography (12 pt font) will be graded on grammar, spelling and punctuation, structure, content and style of writing. Additional information on the term paper will follow. TERM PAPERS MORE THAN ONE WEEK LATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

A **Term Examination** *(Tuesday, December 7)* of 80 minutes will be held during the last day of classes. All questions are based on readings, lectures, guest lectures and films. The examination consists of multiple choice and essay questions. Study questions for the essay section are provided prior to the examination.

**Grade Weights**

- In-class assignment: 10%
- Term paper outline: 10%
- Essay: 35%
- Mid-term examination: 25%
- Term examination: 20%

*Please note that all components of the class must be completed before a final grade is assigned.*

**Grade Distribution:**

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<th>Grade</th>
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<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>91-100%</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>Exceptional</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-90%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>75-79%</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Very good</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-74%</td>
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<td>Good</td>
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<td>C+</td>
<td>65-69%</td>
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<td>Satisfactory</td>
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• Late term papers and term paper outlines will be penalized 5% per day late (including weekends) to a maximum penalty of 35%. In the event of a medical emergency or other serious problem, extensions to the term paper may be granted but only if I am contacted prior to the deadline.
• Papers more than ONE WEEK LATE will not be accepted under any circumstances.
• Any student who submits an assignment or term paper that the professor suspects is plagiarized must submit to an oral examination based on the material in the assignment/paper. Should the professor find that the paper is plagiarized as a result of this examination, the student will face immediate disciplinary action. (please see Academic Dishonesty, next page)
• The mid-term must be made up within one week of the examination (i.e., on or before October 21, without exception). Students failing to complete the examination at this time risk failing the course. Responsibility for initiating a make-up test lies with the student.
• The term examination must be made up within three days of the last day of the class (i.e., on or before, December 10, without exception). Students failing to complete the examination at this time risk failing the course. Responsibility for initiating a make-up test lies with the student.
• Note: make-up tests will vary from the tests assigned to the class. No study questions are provided for make-up tests
• Students are not permitted to re-schedule midterms, assignments, term papers, and term exams regardless of the scheduling of examinations and assignments in other courses.
• The University of Manitoba acknowledges the right of students to observe recognized Holy Days of their faith that fall within the academic year. The instructor should be notified in writing of a student’s intended absence at least three weeks in advance.
• Students with special needs (who require aids, other supports or require extra time to write a test) should introduce themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the term in order to arrange suitable testing arrangements.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence. Students should acquaint themselves with the University’s policy on “plagiarism and cheating” and “examination impersonation” found in the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

• Copying all or parts of papers from Internet web-pages
• Plagiarizing from books, journal articles and research reports
• Copying all or parts of other students’ papers
• Having someone else write your paper
• Submitting a paper you have previously submitted to another professor for another course
• Working with other students in completing assignments
• Paraphrasing an author’s ideas without proper referencing
Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in this course. The instructor uses a variety of methods to check for academic dishonesty and has access to software geared to uncover plagiarism on the Internet. **The penalties are severe and range from failing the course to expulsion from the university.** Guidelines for properly referencing your papers and assignments will be distributed in class. We will be discussing plagiarism in class as necessary. If you would like further clarification regarding plagiarism and academic integrity, please arrange an appointment to see me.

**Important Notice:** The Faculty of Arts also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

### OBJECTIVES

This class is intended to introduce students to the basic theories and principles behind race and ethnic research in Canada. By the end of the class, students should be able to:

- Understand the sociological and historical processes affecting selected racial and cultural minority groups in Canada
- Have knowledge of the concepts and controversies in social science research on race and ethnicity
- Evaluate the relative strengths and weaknesses of the political economy, functionalist and other theoretical approaches to the study of ethnic relations
- Learn about various cleavages in ethnic relations in Canada such as: the relationship between Aboriginal Peoples and the Canadian government, Quebec/English Canada relations, and the composition of migration to Canada

### WHAT CAN THIS CLASS DO FOR YOU?

In addition to the knowledge gained in learning about ethnicity and racism in Canada, this class has applications outside the course including the development of skills to:

- Critically evaluate journal articles, books and media reports
- Prepare professional research papers
- Work in collaborative groups

**The VW date for this class is November 17, 2004**