

Please print this so you can refer to it throughout the semester.

HIS 211: Minority Groups in America Syllabus

Note From the Professor:

Thank you for taking HIS 211 – Minority Groups in America!

The discipline of history is as wide as it is deep. In this class, because we will be exploring the history, life, and experiences of people and groups who have made their way to the US by choice or force (as well as those who were the original inhabitants such as the Native Americans), it is critical to take an interdisciplinary approach to our work.

Specifically, because we will be looking at the US migration experience through the eyes of so many groups and people, it is necessary to look through a sociological as well as historical lens. History helps us understand what happened as people came to the US and made their lives here, and sociological helps us understand what their experience was like, how the "dominant" group at the time did or did not accept them/treat them, and their response.

To tell this multifaceted story, we will be using material that can speak with a sociological as well as historical voice. I believe this will give you the fullest perspective on what it means to come to America "back then," and now. Understanding and empathy is critical in these times and this dual lense can help optimize our chance to better understand ourselves and others.

So, please know going into this course that we will touch on some sociology but it is in fact, at its base, a history course and the story of how the US came to be who it is today. Thank you and enjoy the journey!

Sincerely,

Professor Kambin-Timms

Semester	HIS 211.I52. WN 2018 (Dates:3/19-5/6) 8 Weeks
Instructor	Shirin Kambin Timms
Office	JM 232
Email	stimms@jccmi.edu
Phone	517-796-8646
Office Hours	<u>Mondays:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10am - 2pm (Central Campus) <u>Tuesdays:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8:30 - 9:30am (Central Campus)• 11:30am -5pm (Central Campus)• 5:30-6pm (Maher)

Online:

- MWF 6am-7:30am

AND – for 24/7 assistance

Please log onto the office hours forum any time and ask your questions. Any student who can successfully answer a question of his/her peer will receive 2 extra credit points (first correct student receives the points).

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

HIS 211 Minority Groups in America (3 CR)

The history of dominant-minority relations in contemporary American society. Attention to specific ethnic, religious, and racial minorities in terms of prejudice, discrimination and the historical backdrop that informs today's reality

Prerequisites: ENG 085 and ENG 090

General Education Outcomes (GEO) 7: Diversity

GEO 7: Understand and respect the diversity and interdependence of the world's peoples and cultures

Outcome	The Student
Knowledge of and regard for groups with which one identifies	Identifies characteristics, values, and hallmarks of the groups to which one belongs.
Knowledge of and regard for individuals from groups other than one's own	Identifies characteristics, values, and hallmarks of groups other than one's own. Articulates benefits of interacting with individuals from groups other than one's own.
Knowledge of the importance of	Defines various institutional systems and personal barriers that inhibit diversity such as racism, sexism, classism,

diversity	<p>ethnocentrism, privilege, etc...</p> <p>Classifies behaviors and structures that promote diversity and encourage global thinking.</p> <p>Recognizes the ways in which, historically, cultures have mutually informed and enriched each other.</p>
Cultural Sensitivity	<p>Utilizes vocabulary, behaviors, and practices that are culturally appropriate.</p>

Learning Objectives

This course will

- Expose students to the wide tapestry of communities living within the United States
- Expect students to identify and delineate the social, historical, political, economic and cultural experiences of ethnic, racial, and religious groups living within the U.S.
- Ask students to explore and discuss the dynamics which define the relationship between minority and majority groups and how immigration can provide a lens through which the above may be examined.

Before You Get Started: The Bird's Eye View of JetNet

You will be using Jetnet for all your online work this semester. While this software is quite comprehensive and offers much, you will be using the announcements page, discussion forum and quizzes link in this class. The software is designed to show you activities (in this case announcements, quizzes and discussion forums) by week and so, as you scroll down the page, the course will progress from beginning to end. Please note that while the quizzes are turned on for the duration of the semester, all announcements and discussion forums (where you will submit your essays) will appear each week as we move through the class. In short, when you first open the class up, all you will see are the assignments for the first week of the class and quizzes for subsequent weeks. For details on how things work from here, please refer to the below syllabus. Thank you!

REQUIREMENTS:

Summary:

I. Quizzes

II. Writing Assignments / Participation

Quizzes:

Each week you will read your assignment and, during certain weeks, take a corresponding quiz on that chapter. These quizzes consist of **10 questions**, are untimed, and it is assumed you are using your book for assistance. All quizzes are located in this Jetnet site and you can access them by clicking on the "Quizzes" link the week they are assigned.

Because this is a condensed course, all quizzes for the term will be turned on during the first week of the course. You may take the quizzes at any time and you **may retake them twice** if you wish to score a higher grade. While I highly recommend you take the quizzes the weeks they are assigned, the absolute deadline **is 5/4 at 6:30 AM.** There will be no allowances for late work and this date has been chosen so that students can schedule appropriately throughout the course. **Please note: if you were not able to take a particular quiz by this deadline, you will not be able to make it up under any circumstances.**

Once again, I do not, under any circumstances, suggest that you wait until the end of the class to take these quizzes. They are extremely detailed in nature and should you wait, you are less likely to receive a favorable score. As mentioned, because the class is a condensed one, I think opening up the test dates makes sense this term.

A few quick notes about taking quizzes:

- 1) *You will be able to take each quiz twice and the system will log the highest of your two scores.*
- 2) *Once you have taken the quiz and clicked the "submit" button don't hit the "back" button on your browser - - in some cases this can cause you to undo your submission. Just to be safe, if you want to see your quiz grade click on your "grades" button and go to your grade-book. Clicking on the "back" button isn't detrimental to everyone but why take the chance- - who wants to take a quiz again just because it unsubmitted!!! (note: some students hit the "back" button to see what questions they missed. In fact, the system is not set to show you the questions you answered incorrectly - - if you want more information regarding this please log onto the "office hour forum" and I can fill in the details.*

Writing Assignments / Discussion:

This semester you will be asked to log onto the discussion board and write a mini-essay (approximately one page of single spaced text). A topic will be assigned to you and you will have one week to write an essay and also reply to the postings your peers have made. Please have your essay posted by the Friday before the Monday they are due. This will allow your peers to have the weekend to read and reply to what you have written.

Just a quick note on writing: as I mention so often in class, everyone has an opinion but far fewer have an actual *position*. If you have an opinion and are searching for a position then you need evidence, research and reasoned arguments (personal anecdotes, stories and experiences

are not enough - they can be used to illustrate a point but not MAKE the point). Maybe you don't have a position yet but you have questions - that is good too. In short, this forum is set up to encourage thoughtful and insightful conversation - academic conversation. As the semester progresses I will offer input on how it is all progressing and give you pointers if needed. For starters, however, please visit the document titled "Tips for Discussion Essay Assignments" This should give you a sense of what on-line participation is all about. From there, be sure to check your email in Jetnet as that is where I will leave you follow up messages/feedback regarding your progress.

All discussion board responses are due by the date and time indicated on the course calendar. Grades will be levied on a student's initial post as well as the quality of his/her responses to classmates' posts). **Assignments posted past the due date will not be counted (dates listed below). If you are encountering problems in the course or gaps in your participation, please contact me asap. Thank you**

How to Use the Discussion Board

Once you log onto Jetnet and get into the course you will find a list of weeks corresponding to the course calendar. During the weeks Discussion Essays are assigned, you will find the forums in those blocks of weeks. The most important place to start each week is with your syllabus - it is your roadmap for the course. From there, please read the announcement for that week and check the announcements page once a day for any updates. From there you will know if you have a writing assignment as it will appear in that week's block.

History Links & Videos to Support Your Reading & Learning

Each week a list of historical references will be posted that you may use to supplement your reading. They are designed to highlight a particular historical aspect of your reading/study. For history to be "true" it must be told from multiple perspectives. These videos and links strive to offer this opportunity.

Communicating with the Instructor:

Through your internet course you are able to communicate with me via email. Please note that incoming messages to me do not automatically contain your name and the course in which you are enrolled. That said, when you contact me PLEASE include your name and the title of the course (SOC 235, PLS 141, PLS 262, HIS 235 etc) in the subject line. This will help me help you much faster. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and be sure to check your Jetnet regularly for messages (sometimes messages can go into your Spam Box - we are taking every precaution to avoid this but please check that box for any legitimate email that may wind up there)

Please contact me with any concerns/questions as the course progresses and please let me know if any significant gaps in your participation. Thank you

On Line Office Hours and Extra Credit:

Any time of day or night you are welcome to log on to the Discussion Forum called "office hours" and ask questions about the class or what is going on. To speed up the response process, I will reward the first person who answers a student's question correctly with extra credit points. In short, I will offer 2 extra credit points per correct reply (per subject). This will help all of us work together to meet each other's needs and for those of us who are not up a 3AM to answer questions, maybe there is someone out there who is! :)

One request - - when you submit a question please provide a subject title so someone looking for information can easily scan the threads and find the information he/she is looking for. Thanks in advance to all of you willing to answer your classmates' questions!

Course Extra Credit:

Extra credit is offered at the discretion of the instructor and will only be considered when a student has completed all other course work and this course work, for specified reasons, does not represent the effort and work the student is putting into the course. In short, extra credit is not intended to replace other work in the class, but rather, it is intended for RARE situations that have been discussed with the instructor. So, please feel free to contact me about extra credit towards the end of the semester and only if you have completed 100% of the assignments to date.

On another note, I also recommend making use of the all the resources JC has to offer. The *Center for Student Success* (located in Walker hall) not only offers peer tutoring in political science, but also provides assistance with internet research, writing and study skills.

For peer tutoring in political science contact the *Center for Student Success* at: 796. 8415.

GRADING SCALE:

Quizzes (on line)	50 points Total, (5 quizzes, 10 points each)
Writing Assignment / Participation	40 points
Final Reflections Assignment	10 points
Total	100 total points available this semester

Calculating Your Grade:

I will enter all your grades in your grade book in JetNet. At any point during the semester you can log onto the site and calculate your grades by dividing the number of points you have received by the total points possible thus far. After you do this division, multiply the number by 100 to see your grade in terms of a percentage. If you want to know what the percentage means in terms of a point grade, see the below scale.

Please note: I am making the assumption that, because all grades are in JetNet, students are aware of their marks throughout the term. If you have any questions regarding your grade, please feel free to contact me.

Grade Point Scale:

4.0	92 – 100
3.5	86 – 91
3.0	80 – 85
2.5	76 – 79
2.0	70 – 75
1.5	66 – 69
1.0	60 – 65
.5	56 – 59
0.0	0 – 55

TEXT:

Vincent N. Parrillo. **Strangers to These Shores**. 11th edition. Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-0-205-97040-7 or ISBN-10: 0-205-97040-0

This text is available in a digital format from the book store.

Plagiarism Policy:

Under NO circumstances are students permitted to plagiarize (**THIS INCLUDES COPYING AND PASTING INFORMATION FROM WEB SITES INTO THE DISCUSSION BOARD**). If you take more than four words from a textbook or other published material (including web sites) you must use quotation marks and cite the source appropriately (using footnotes/endnotes/parenthetical noting etc. AND a bibliography or works cited page).

Plagiarism is considered academic dishonesty and students whose work is plagiarized will receive a zero for their assignment/paper.

Incomplete Policy:

According to the JCC Student Handbook, "The incomplete is designed for passing students with extenuating circumstances to allow them to complete the course requirements after the semester or session has ended. You may receive an "I" if, in the opinion of the instructor, your work is sufficient in quality but is lacking in quantity to meet the course objectives specified in the course syllabus. The course objectives must be satisfactorily completed during the next full-length semester or within a shorter period of time as designated by the instructor. If you have not finished the course within the designated time period, the "I" will remain permanently on your transcript. You will then have to register and repeat the course to receive a grade and credit for degree purposes.

The grade of "I" is not awarded to students who did not attend or seldom attended, or to those who simply are not pleased with their final grades. An "I" grade may be changed only upon the written request of the instructor who awarded the Incomplete."

The above is copied from: <http://www.jackson.cc.mi.us/Catalog/CATALOG.HTM#Drop>

In short, incompletes will be given at the discretion of the instructor. In the very least, to be eligible for an incomplete a student must have completed 2/3 of the required work for the semester and be in "good standing" in the course (2.0 or better).

Course Calendar (note: each week "starts" with the Monday of that week)

As noted above, this course is a history class that uses sociology as a mechanism to better understand the life and experiences of newcomers to America, as well as our development as a people all claiming a right to live in this land. With that, we will travel through the text book in a sequence different than the chronology offered by the text book authors. In other words, we will jump around the chapters to best tell the story of minority groups to America. Thank you

Week 1: 3/19

- Read pages 2-3: Introduction & the Stranger as a Social Phenomenon.
- Read pp. 19-22. These three sociological perspectives will appear throughout your coursework this semester. Please become familiar with them
- Read Chapter 5: Northern and Western Europeans
- Introductory Discussion Board Assignment: What part of history most interests you when it comes to American migration? Why? Please answer this in the discussion forum in the first week block.

Week 2: 3/26

- Read Chapter 6: South, Central, and Eastern Europeans
- Read Chapter 7: Native Americans
- **Discussion Essay** (please have your main essay posted by Friday 3/30 so you and your peers can take the weekend to review what has been posted and respond. Grades are assessed on both the main essay as well as thoughtful replies. Assignment due 4/2 at 6:30am).

Week 3: 4/2

- Read Chapter 8: Asians Americans
- Read Chapter 9: Middle Eastern and North African Americans
 - Take Chapter 9 Quiz

Week 4: 4/9

- Chapter 10: Black Americans
- Chapter 11: Hispanic Americans

Week 5: 4/16

- **Reflections Essay: Due 4/23 at 6:30am**
- Chapter 12: Religious Minorities
 - Take Quiz Chapter 12
- Read Chapter 2: Culture and Social Structure
 - Quiz: Chapter 2: Culture and Social Structure

Week 6: 4/23

- Read Chapter 3: Prejudice and Discrimination
- Read Chapter 4: Intergroup Relations
 - Take Chapter 4 Quiz: Intergroup Relations
- All quizzes due 5/4 at 6:30am

Week 7: 4/30

- Chapter 15: The Ever Changing Mosaic
 - Take quiz on chapter 15
- All quizzes due 5/4 at 6:30am
- Wrap up
- Check that all grades in JetNet are correctly recorded and contact the instructor immediately with any questions/concerns

**** Students are expected to take quizzes the week they are assigned. The final quiz deadline for the course is 5/4 at 6:30 AM and no quizzes will be accepted after this date (this means that if you leave all your quizzes until the end of the course and something happens to prevent you from completing them, you will not be permitted to make them up).**