Texas A&M University
Departmental Request for a New Course
Undergraduate • Graduate • Professional
• Submit original form and attach a course syllabus.

1. This request is submitted by the Department of Sociology

2. Course prefix, number and complete title of course: Soci 663, Black and Latino Americans

3. Course description (not more than 50 words): This seminar focuses social science theory and research about African Americans and Latinos. We will emphasize historical backgrounds, social science theories applied to these groups, patterns of immigration, cognitive framing, patterns of racial-ethnic discrimination, and racial/class/gender intersections. We will review critically important research books dealing with these and related U.S. racial-ethnic issues.

4. Prerequisite(s): Cross-listed with
Graduate Classification
Cross-listed courses require the signature of both department heads.

5. Is this a variable credit course? ☐ Yes ☑ No If yes, from _________ to _________.

6. Is this a repeatable course? ☐ Yes ☑ No If yes, this course may be taken _________ times. Will the course be repeated within the same semester/term? ☐ Yes ☑ No

7. Has this course been taught as a 289/489/689? ☐ Yes ☑ No If yes, how many times? _________ Indicate the number of students enrolled for each academic period it was taught. (taught as Soci 667: 06c-12; 04c-20)

8. This course will be:
   a. required for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., B.A. in history)
   b. an elective for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., M.S., Ph.D. in geography)

9. If other departments are teaching or are responsible for related subject matter, the course must be coordinated with these departments. Attach approval letters.

10. Prefix | Course # | Title (excluding punctuation)
    SOC 1 6 3 B l a c k a n d L a t i n o A m e r i c a n s

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Approval recommended by: Mark Fowles 4/16/2008
Head of Department Date

Chair, College Review Committee Date

Dean of College Date

Dean of College Date

Submitted to Coordinating Board by:

Director of Academic Support Services Date

Effective Date

Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845-8836.
OAR/AS – 04/07

1 of 4 C16
SOCILOGY 663  
BLACK AND LATINO AMERICANS  

Professor: Joe R. Feagin  
Office: 431 Academic Building.  
Office Hours: Wednesday, 9:30am-noon, 1:15-2pm, and by appointment.  
Seminar Time: Wednesdays, 2-5pm (Academic 307)  

Purpose of Course: This seminar focuses on social science theory and research about two major groups, African Americans and Latinos, in the United States. We will compare and contrast their experiences, emphasizing these topics: historical backgrounds; social science theories applied to both groups; patterns of immigration; cognitive framing and stereotyping; patterns of racial-ethnic discrimination and their costs; racial/class intersections; and conflict and cooperation. We will review critically important books dealing with these and related racial-ethnic issues. The seminar will be discussion oriented.  

Course Requirements:  

Twelve comment/critique papers (about 3-4 pages each) on readings as scheduled below. Your final grade will consist of an average of the twelve paper grades.  

Grades will be based on the following scale:  
A=90-100%  
B=80-89%  
C=70-70%  
D=60-69%  
F=59% and below  

In other words you must earn 90 points to receive an A, 80 points to receive a B, 70 points to receive a C, 60 points to receive a D, and 59 points or less will result in an F.  

The Analytical Comment-Critique Papers:  

Students will prepare twelve comment-and-critique papers on the reading assignments and bring papers to the seminar for discussion. These papers should analyze critically one or two important issues in the reading assignment, issues which you find thought-provoking or problematical. Analyze in some detail an issue of interest. Stay focused on that issue, and present your analysis logically. (Outlining is recommended.) Some suggested approaches: 1) Develop a logical critique of the arguments you analyze (e.g., Does the evidence support the arguments?); 2) Compare and contrast material in one reading assignment with that in another; 3) Compare material in readings with theoretical or research material presented in class; or 4) Use material in reading assignment to assess other significant research you have studied, including your own. The point of the papers is to demonstrate that you've thought through and analyzed important one or two important issues in the reading assignment. Your papers also provide a basis to support your participation in class discussions.
Books for Class Analysis and Discussion (Books should be available in bookstores or online):


Schedule of Reading Assignments and Papers:

By Sept. 5 - Theory and Practice of Systemic Racism. Feagin, pp. 1-136. First comment paper is due.

By Sept. 12 - Theory and Practice of Racism and Anti-Racism. Feagin, pp. 137-257 (Mid-page). (Unassigned pages in books are optional reading.) Second comment paper is due.

By Sept. 19 - Class Issues and African Americans. Bowser, pp. 1-152 (to heading). Third comment paper is due.


By October 3 - Inheritance, Wealth, and Racial Costs. Shapiro, pp. 105-204. Fifth paper is due.

By October 10 - Latino History and Immigration. Gonzalez, Introduction and pp. 3-116. Sixth paper is due.


By October 24 - Contemporary Latino Issues. Suárez-Orozco and Páez, pp. 1-30, 45-56, 110-
142, 150-183. Eighth paper is due.


By Nov. 7 – Racial Metaphors and Public Views. Santa Ana, pp. 1-138 (to heading). Tenth paper is due.


By Nov. 21 – No class and no paper assignment. Read ahead.

By Nov. 28 - Relations among Americans of color. Mindiola, Niemann, and Rodriguez, pp. 1-131 (to heading). Twelfth paper is due.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities, in Cain Hall or call 845-1637.

**Aggie Honor Code**

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System.