

Course Outcomes Guide

Directions: Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

Course/Program Title: Race and Ethnic Relations SOC-106 **Date:** JANUARY 2014

Course/Program Team: Daniel Beckett Ryan

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Use sociological perspectives and theories to analyze and discuss several major issues pertaining relationships between racial and ethnic groups in society.
2. Acquire knowledge of sociological concepts and skills used in the categorization of racial and ethnic groups in society.
3. Understand the differences between majority and minority groups in society and how power relations are associated with such categorizations.
4. Be able to apply knowledge derived from course content towards various disciplines and careers.

Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome?)

The assessment for SOC 106 is in the form of a final paper/project that covers all the major topical areas in the course (Learning Outcomes). Students are expected to complete the final project/paper to demonstrate their comprehension/application of Learning Outcomes.

Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

The assessment constitutes 20% of the overall grade in the course. Comparative data from each semester are analyzed to see what outcomes are being met consistently and where modifications need to be implemented.

Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

Common Assessment Results: Fall 2013

At the end of the Fall 2013 semester, the common assessment was administered to the single section of SOC 106-01. The overall average score for paper was 83% (B-). The sample size was 26 (28 students were enrolled in the class, 2 did not complete the final). The common assessment project is pasted below.

Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

Data will be collected again in Spring 2014 and compared with data from previous semesters.

Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

N/A

Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States

Final Exam

The Browning of America

Since the early days of the American Republic up through the last decade, a large percentage of Americans could trace their ancestry to the European continent. In 2010, 66% of the American population was categorized as “White/Non-Hispanic,” 12% Black, 16% Hispanic, 5% Asian, and 1% Native American (Parillo 2014). Based on current immigration trends combined with the increasing number of interracial relationships/marriages, demographers project that by the year 2050 the majority of residents in the United States will no longer be white/non-Hispanic, while the Asian and Hispanic populations are projected to double (see pages 523-527 in the textbook). America is quickly becoming a more multiracial, diverse society.

FINAL ESSAY ASSIGNMENT

Read Chapter 15 in the textbook and the article “The Decline of Bigotry in America” (posted on Moodle). Think about the future of race and ethnic relations in the United States and answer these questions in your essay:

1. Will the changes in the demographic make-up of America change popular/public perceptions of what the “Dominant Culture” constitutes? In other words, will white culture, as an ethnic norm, become less (or no longer) relevant as society becomes more diverse?
2. Are we becoming a more racially/ethnically tolerant society when it comes to institutions like work, education and politics? Does the success of prominent African American and other minority politicians and celebrities reflect a growing tolerance?
3. How does Globalization—specifically modern technology, the internet, transnational travel, and the growing diversity/internationalism in the workplace—impact/change ideas about multiculturalism and tolerance?

Writing Guidelines:

1. Your essay must be a minimum of **three** pages and should incorporate concepts, themes and terminology derived from the textbook and course.
2. Critical and thoughtful thinking is the key to this essay. Give yourself sufficient time to complete the assignment.
3. Please cite your references in the textbook using either MLA or APA citation guidelines. MLA and APA citation guides are available on Moodle. You may also use the articles/handouts from class.