

SOCIOLOGY 318 – RACE, CLASS, & GENDER

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COURSE CREDIT: Three Semester Hours

PREREQUISITES: Sociology 201 (Introduction to Sociology)

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Rothenberg, Paula S. (2004). *Race, Class, and Gender in the United States*. New York: Worth Publishers. ISBN: 0-7167-5515-7

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The focus of this course is on the interrelated, ascribed statuses of race, social class, gender, and sexual orientation in American society, how they are perceived and reinforced, the social tensions that result, and the dynamics of change.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The goal of this class is to explore and clarify the differences between the concepts: race, ethnicity, and minority group; upper, middle, and lower classes; sex and gender; heterosexual and homosexual orientations; prejudice and discrimination. Students should become acquainted with the nature of both personal and institutional responses to race, class, and gender. In addition, the course will focus on contemporary and historical responses to the social tensions resulting from conflict over race, class, and gender such as affirmative action, the welfare system and other entitlement programs, and multiculturalism and diversity programs.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Since there are three exams, I have divided the reading for the course into three sections. As noted above, you are required to take three proctored exams and the Each exam is multiple choice and is worth 100 points, for a total of 300 points. In addition, you will be required to write five (5) essays on the information from each part of the text that is on the exams. These writing assignments are a way for me to evaluate your progress through the course. Each writing assignment is worth 20 points, thus they add up to 100 points, or the equivalent of one exam. They are one-fourth of your final grade.