Department of SOCIOLOGY and ANTHROPOLOGY
Women of Color
SOCI 4373.001
Syllabus
Spring 2024

INSTRUCTOR: Dianne Dentice, Ph.D.
EMAIL: In BrightSpace (preferred method of communication)
OFFICE LOCATION: LAN330
PHONE: 936-468-2241
OFFICE HOURS: Online and/or F2F on M, T, W, TR from 2:00 PM until 3:30 PM or by appointment
CLASS LOCATION: ONLINE

Required Books for the Course:


*Select ONE of the following books for the book review assignment:*


*Email me in BrightSpace with your selection for the book review assignment. Only choose one book to review and it must come from the assigned list.*

Course Description:

This course adopts an interdisciplinary approach to the exploration of the experiences of women of color in the United States. Readings, discussions, and writing assignments focus on indigenous/feminist/ethnic issues directly related to conflict, racism, personal agency, survival, resistance, intervention, and
transformation. Topics are contained in diverse texts that include novels, letters, essays, poetry, and film that include feminist theories, cultures, and biographies of notable women of color.

This course, fully online, spans 16 weeks. The course contains extensive written content that includes the same information students in a face-to-face lecture course receive, requiring students to engage the online modules for at least three hours per week. Primary source readings are woven into the content to support key concepts or provide perspective on contemporary and historical issues about women of color in American society. In addition, students are required to read various scholarly articles that are embedded in the Learning modules during the semester, complete quizzes/exams over the course, and complete multiple discussion assignments that evaluate their ability to think critically, interpret primary sources, and consider multiple sides of arguments dealing with minority women and their experiences in education, at work, and as activists for social change. Students also write a biography about their selected woman of color and do a book review as part of the course requirements. For every hour a student spends engaging with the content, he/she spends at least two hours completing associated activities and assessments.

Program learning outcomes include the following:

1) The student will be able to identify, compare, and contrast sociological classical and contemporary theories.
2) The student will be able to identify the principles of good social scientific research design. Such principles include validity, reliability, precision in measurement, and sampling methodology.
3) The student will possess sociological knowledge as evidenced by the identification of the major concepts involved with gender inequality, immigrant status, race and ethnic relations, stratification, poverty, and food insecurity.
4) The student will be able to apply sociological knowledge and skills to a variety of settings, including border crossings.
5) The student will recognize the implicit assumptions behind claims of knowledge about the social world, will be able to evaluate and distinguish between strong and weak arguments, and will be able to draw conclusions from a set of premises.
6) The student will read theoretical arguments and to identify their major strengths and weaknesses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLOs</th>
<th>Supported Course Objective SLO # or NA (not applicable)</th>
<th>Skill Level Basic, Intermediate, Advanced</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLO1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO5</td>
<td>4,5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student learning outcomes for this course include the following:

1. Students will compare and contrast feminist theories associated with women of color in U. S. society.
2. Students will differentiate between biological, social, and cultural constructs of gender.
3. Students will define and discuss gender inequality within the framework of women of color.
4. Students will be able to identify gender stratification within social institutions.
5. Students will identify gender diversity and discuss it within the framework of social hierarchies.
6. Students will identify ways in which gender changes throughout the life course and is impacted by things such as race and ethnicity.

ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

The SFA policy for Acceptable Student Behavior can be accessed at the following link http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct-10.4.pdf

ATTENDANCE POLICY

An Institutional Absence may be granted to a student who participates as a representative of the University in academic (including research), extra- or cocurricular, or athletic activities. Students will be excused for institutional purposes from otherwise required academic activity only when a valid Institutional Absence is approved by the appropriate administrative unit or official and the documentation of approval is provided to the faculty member at least five (5) days in advance.

Institutional absences will not be approved for keystone events, defined as: a special or unique assignment, test, project, experience, or other academic exercise identified by the faculty member as critical for successful completion of standards of the class and unable to be missed. These events must be identified on the syllabus at the beginning of the semester and communicated to the students. Events added to the syllabus at a later date will not qualify for Keystone Event status. Keystone Events where the date/time is changed will no longer be considered a Keystone Event. Students should make themselves aware of any Keystone Events identified in the syllabus to ensure there are no conflicts.

For keystone events where the assignment dates vary, it is incumbent upon the students to work with their faculty member to not select a conflicting date.

More information on Institutional Absences, including how to apply, can be found at https://www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents/student-resources/institutional-absences.
ADDING/DROPPING A COURSE

Click on the following link for directions about how to add or drop a course during the semester [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-add-drop-6.10.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-add-drop-6.10.pdf)

EXAMS

You will have a total of four exams in this course. The exams are worth 100 points each. They will all be administered online, including the final. The final exam is cumulative and will be posted online @ 8:00 AM on Date and it will close on Date @ 5:00 PM. Since all these exams are online and there is a window of time to complete them, **there will be no makeups on the first three exams unless you have a documented absence. There will be no makeup for the Final Exam.**

GROUP DISCUSSIONS

You will participate in four discussion assignments during this semester. The guidelines include submitting one original discussion prompted by my questions about the material included in each Learning Module. Next you will respond to a classmate’s post of your choice. Your original post must follow these guidelines: (1) respond to each of my questions that deal with the reading of the week; (2) number each of your answers to correspond with my questions; (3) you may cut and paste your answers directly into the discussion thread but do not submit attachments – I do not accept those in your discussion assignments; (4) refer to your course calendar for due dates; (5) use good grammar and watch your spelling in order to get full credit for your posts; (6) post your initial answers to my questions prior to reading other students’ posts (7) your original post is worth 20 points; the response to a classmate is worth 5 points. If you do everything you are supposed to with your weekly discussions your grade = 25 points total. I dock points for poor grammar and spelling. **There is no makeup for a missed discussion.**

BOOK REVIEW

Refer to the beginning of this syllabus for a list of books for review. Select one of those books. Email me in the course as soon as you select your book. Your guidelines for writing a book review are in a PDF document in Getting Started. If you have any questions about the guidelines, shoot me an email and I'll respond to the whole class or post an announcement on the BrightSpace homepage.

BIографICAL ESSAY

Papers for this assignment should be 4 double-spaced pages in length (no more, no less). Biographical essays are all about an individual’s experiences in life.
With this assignment I expect you to select a notable woman of color – either one of the women who was discussed in this course or someone you admire that we did not discuss. You will write a good paper if you follow the tips outlined in a PDF in Getting Started. Remember, do not cut and paste from the Internet. Turnitin will be activated for this assignment in the drop box and it knows if you are using someone else’s work. I do expect you to cite references for this paper and submit a separate reference page. I am not really picky about your sources, as long as they come from reputable books, articles, online sites. Email me when you decide who you want to write about. Guidelines are posted in Getting Started.

**GRADING SCALE**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams x 4 (100 pts each)</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions x 4 (25 pts. each)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book review</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biographical essay</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>800</strong></td>
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Your final grade is based on a total accumulation of points. The Grading Tool is a good way to follow your grade during the semester.

**WITHHELD GRADES POLICY**

*The Grade of WH.* Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor and with the approval of the department chair, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work due to unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Note that a grade of WH is given at the discretion of the course instructor and department chair. Both must agree that a WH is appropriate. Furthermore, only students who have completed almost all of the course work will be considered for a grade of WH.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Participants in this course will adhere to Policy 10.4: Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity. The policy can be found at the following link: [https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/policies/10_4.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/policies/10_4.pdf).

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.
Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or resumes; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

**DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS**

Check with the Office of Disability Services to determine any necessary course adaptations or accommodations. Please make an appointment with me via email during the first week of class to discuss your needed accommodations. “The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights 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 Office of Disability Services, Human Services Building, Room 325, Voice: 936-468-3004, TDD: 936-468-1004; FAX: 936-468-1368 or online.
Mental Health Issues

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support student’s mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services • www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
Health and Wellness Hub (corner of E. College and Raguet) • 936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic • www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202 • 936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus represents a “best” plan for the course; but, as with most plans, it is subject to change. A copy of your syllabus and course calendar is posted in the Getting Started Module in BrightSpace/D2L. Follow my date designation for quizzes and other assignments since BrightSpace dates on the homepage calendar may change or even disappear if there is a power outage of upgrade. A copy of the course calendar follows. A separate calendar is also posted in Getting Started in the BrightSpace course.

COURSE CALENDAR

SOCl 4373.001 Semester Calendar – SP 2024

Dates may change at the discretion of the instructor. Should a date change be required, it will be announced in the course news or on the discussion board. All times listed are Central Standard Time (CST).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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| Week of January 15 | Getting Started Module | • Read Getting Started module content, notably syllabus and Semester Calendar.  
• Navigate the course and troubleshoot any technical issues with the Student Help Desk at extension 1919 |
| Week of January 22 | Module 1: Minority Women | - Read Learning Module 1 and begin reading your book, *From Out of the Shadows: Mexican Women in the Twentieth Century*
- Discussion 1 due on Sunday, January 28 @ 11:30 PM. |
| Week of January 29 | Module 2: Immigration and Women of Color | - Read Learning Module 2
- Continue reading *From Out of the Shadows* |
| Week of February 5 | Module 3: Colonization and Women of Color | - Read Learning Module 3 |
| Week of February 12 | | - Exam 1 opens on Wednesday February 14 @ 8:00 AM and closes on Sunday February 18 @ 11:30 PM. It covers Learning Modules 1, 2, & 3. Hint: Always read everything in your Modules and watch embedded videos as well. |
| Week of February 19 | Module 4: American Indian Women | - Read Learning Module 4
- Continue reading *From Out of the Shadows* which will be covered in the first book exam, coming up |
| Week of February 26 | Module 5: Black American Women | - Read Learning Module 5
- Discussion 2 due on Sunday, March 3 @ 11:30 PM |
| Week of March 4 | Module 6: Hispanic/LatinX Women | - Read Learning Module 6 and finish reading *From Out of the Shadows* – your first book exam is coming up.
- Discussion 3 is due on Thursday, March 7 @ 11:30 PM. Due date is early because of Spring Break. |
<p>| Week of March 11 | No readings this week | - Happy and Safe Spring Break!!! |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of March 18</th>
<th>No readings this week Prep for your first book exam</th>
<th>Your first book exam over From Out of the Shadows by Vicki Ruiz opens on Monday, March 18 @ 8:00 AM and closes on Sunday, March 24 @ 11:30 PM.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week of March 25</td>
<td>No readings this week because of Easter Break but Exam 2 is due on Wednesday by 11:30 PM</td>
<td>Exam 2 opens on Monday, March 25 @ 8:00 AM and closes on Wednesday, March 27 @ 11:30 PM. It covers Learning Modules 4, 5 and 6. It is open for a short time due to the Easter break</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Week of April 1  | Module 7: Asian American Women                   | • Read Learning Module 7  
• Begin reading your second book titled *The Unending Hunger* |
| Week of April 8  | Module 8: Middle Eastern Women                   | • Read Learning Module 8 and continue reading *The Unending Hunger* which will be the subject of your second book exam for the semester.  
• Book review due on Friday, April 12 @ 11:30 PM. |
• Your fourth and final Discussion is due on Sunday, April 21 @ 11:30 PM. |
| Week of April 22 | No readings this week.                           | Your second book exam over *The Unending Hunger* by Megan Carney opens on Monday, April 22 @ 8:00 AM and closes on Sunday April 28 @ 11:30 PM. |
| Week of April 29 Dead Week | Module 10: A Final Reflection | Biographical Essay due on Sunday, May 5 @ 11:30 PM. |
| Week of May 6   | Finals Week                                      | Final opens on Monday, May 6 @ 8:00 AM and closes on Thursday, May 9 @ |
11:30 PM. It covers Learning Modules 7, 8, 9, and 10.