

# COMMON COURSE SYLLABUS

American Minority Studies  
Instructor and Course Information –  
HUMA 2319

## Instructor and Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Armida Rosiles  
Office Location: RC 402A  
Office Phone: 885-3048, ext. 2944  
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 9:00-11:00  
Tues./Thurs. 8:30-11:00  
Fridays 10:00-12:00  
Email: [arosiles@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:arosiles@southplainscollege.edu)

**NO TEXTBOOK .**

**ALL READINGS and VIDEOS are on BLACKBOARD**

If you cannot access the readings or videos on Blackboard, please contact Blackboard support. Email: [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu)/Phone: 806-716-2180

### (Optional) Textbook:

Text: Ferber, A., Jimenez, C.M., Herrera, A.O., & Samuels, D.R. (2009). The Matrix Reader: Examining the dynamics of oppression and privilege (1<sup>st</sup> edition). Boston: McGraw Hill.

### WARNING

This course involves controversial topics which may challenge or conflict with your existing beliefs and may require you to go outside your comfort zone. We will examine oppression privilege and inequality from a variety of expert, academic, and research perspectives. Although you are not expected to accept or concur with the perspectives, attitudes, and beliefs of the instructor, authors, or fellow classmates, you must at least consider other perspectives and interact with others respectfully.

*My door is always open to any concerns you have during this course. Confidentiality is guaranteed.*

### DOUBLE WARNING

The level of readings for this course ranges from short and sweet to difficult and demanding. You must be prepared to read, read, read, read, read, read . . . and, most importantly, think. If you don't like to read period, you may want to rethink this class. On the other hand, you may find that some of the readings, although challenging, are not incomprehensible and you may even find them fascinating.

## CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

**Course Description:** This interdisciplinary survey examines the diverse cultural, artistic, economic, historical, political, and social aspects of American minority communities. Topics may included race/ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability and gender.

### Student Learning Outcomes

- Analyze the history, culture, and struggles for equality of American minority groups.
- Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works by minorities in the arts and humanities.
- Demonstrate awareness of multiple cultural perspectives representative of diverse minority groups.
- Describe the impact of discrimination on the everyday life of minority groups in the context of social, political, and economic circumstances.

- Analyze minority group interactions in the United States focusing on immigration and migration patterns, assimilation processes, and adjustments to American life.
- Formulate an understanding of shifting societal perceptions and self-identifications of minority group cultural identities.

**ATTENDANCE:** The instructor has the right to administratively drop students for excessive absences or inappropriate class behavior. It is important that you arrive to class prepared to take notes and participate in class discussions and activities. If you arrive class 10 minutes late or leave 10 minutes early, you will be credited with an absence.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY.** See college catalog, pp. 22-23. If a student cheats on exams, papers, or assignments, or plagiarizes, the student grade for the infraction will be zero.

**PLAGIARISM:** In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source.

- **If you do not know what plagiarism (copying someone else's words) is go to this website: <http://plagiarism.org/>**
- **It is your responsibility to know what is or is not cheating/plagiarism.**
- **If you plagiarize or cheat, you will lose a full a letter grade off of your final grade.**
- **A second offense will result in your being dropped with an F.**

**STUDENT CONDUCT.** See student handbook, pp. 12-13, and/or college catalog, p. 23. A student can be asked to leave class for inappropriate conduct that is disruptive to the learning environment. I do NOT allow cell phone usage in the classroom. Student caught using their phones during class will be asked to leave the classroom and credited with an absence. If you need to have your phone available for an emergency situation, you should put it on mute and place it on the table in front of you.

#### 4.1.1.1. Diversity Statement

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

#### 4.1.1.2. Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

#### 4.1.1.3. Non-Discrimination Statement

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated

to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

#### 4.1.1.4 Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Chris Straface, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [cstraface@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cstraface@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

#### **Evaluation/Grade:**

1) **Quizzes:** (100 points) There will be 11 quizzes to determine your competency in this class. Quizzes will be a combination of multiple choice, fill in the blank and essay. Each quiz will be worth 10 points. I do not give make up quizzes, therefore, it is important that you arrive on time to class in order to avoid missing a quiz. I will drop the lowest score of the 11 quizzes.

2) **Cumulative Final :** (50 points) – A cumulative final will be administered during finals week.

3) **Assignments:** (50 points) (I hear and I forget. I see and I believe. I do and I understand. - *Confucius*)

A) **Critical Analysis Project:** Choose from one of the list of projects listed below. I do NOT accept late work and all papers must be submitted electronically by the assignment due date. Everyone must present a brief version of their project during the last week of classes. You must be present for all your classmates presentations in order to maximize your point total on the project.

##### **Option 1: Movie Analysis**

This assignment requires you to view 2 current TV shows and critically analyze them using classroom terminology. Details will be provided during classroom time. You will turn in your paper by the assigned due date and present your findings during the last class week of the semester.

##### **Option 2: Song Analysis**

This assignment requires you to analyze 1 song and critically analyze it using classroom terminology. The song will then be re-written to eliminate prejudice, discrimination, sexism,....Details will be provided during classroom time. You will turn in your paper by the assigned due date and present your findings during the last class week of semester.

##### **Option 3: Community Involvement**

This assignment requires you to participate in a community event that highlights a topic covered in class. More information will be provided in class on this project.

You can earn a total of 200 points in this course.

11 Quizzes (Drop your lowest score for a total of 10)	= 100 points
Classroom Project/Presentation	= 50 points
<u>Cumulative Final Exam</u>	<u>= 50 points</u>
	200 points

200-180 = A  
179-160 = B  
159-140=C  
139-120=D  
119=F

I am here to help you succeed in this course. It is important that you come to class ready to engage in the material.