Contemporary Issues in Race
Learning Through Teaching Using a Sociological Perspective

In this course you, as a member of a group, will help to lead a class session through the presentation of a contemporary racial issue. The goals of this project are to help you become critical consumers of information, analyze all sides of an argument about a racial issue, and to show me that you can apply a sociological perspective in your final analysis. Another goal is to help you learn about one topic in-depth; one of the best ways to learn is through teaching! This project is designed to address the following learning outcomes for the course:

- Apply sociological concepts of prejudice and discrimination in individual and institutional situations.
- Evaluate the various institutions and forces that create and maintain various racialized patterns.
- Develop skills to examine and assess divergent ideas and perspectives of racial issues.

Overview

The final product for this project will be a final presentation in addition to a portfolio to be submitted on the same day.

- The group presentation must last for one hour. At least half of this time must be spent presenting information to the class. The remainder can be used for videos, fun activities, games, or other interactive ways to get the class engaged. Be creative!
- A pre-presentation meeting with me is required. Meetings with me should be scheduled at least one week prior to your presentation. You must bring a copy of your presentation and any handouts for my approval.
- You must include at least one scholarly source per member of the group in your presentation and portfolio. You may use other non-scholarly sources, as well. In addition to using sources in your presentation, all of these will also be included in an annotated bibliography submitted in your portfolio.
- Your presentation must address main points from the required class reading assigned for the day. I suggest using the reading quiz questions in Brightspace as a way to encourage class participation.
- All materials, including scholarly and non-scholarly sources, will be cited using APA style and included in an annotated bibliography.
- You will provide a study guide for all members of the class, since information from your presentations will appear on exams. Consider what you like in study guides you use as you construct yours for the class. You can also distribute additional materials if you want. If you want me to make copies, I can with sufficient notice.
Presentation Details

I expect your presentation to be polished and well-practiced. I anticipate that group members will distribute work to complete as individuals but expect you to complete a practice-run all together before your presentation. While group members will each work independently on their portions, everyone should help by making suggestions to improve the overall quality of your work. Your presentation should be assembled using software like Powerpoint or Google Slides. I will be looking for the following:

- Slide 1: Title slide, which should include a unique title and all group members’ first and last names.
- Slide 2: this slide should include a purpose and thesis statement. For example: “The purpose of this presentation is to…” & “In this presentation, we will argue that…”
- Slide 3: this slide should be a preview/overview of what the presentation will cover. For example (following from slide 2): “In order to argue this, first we will examine… Then we will address… Finally, we will consider…”
- Main body slides (as many as you need). These slides should clearly follow the outline from slide 3. All information should be cited in-text, as you would in a paper, using APA-style. All of the following must be cited in-text:
  - Peer-reviewed sources.
  - Non-peer-reviewed sources, including videos.
  - The required class reading for the day of your presentation (see me if you need more information).
- Conclusion slide: wrap up your presentation, as you would with a paper. A good conclusion will restate the purpose, thesis, and make concluding observations or recommendations.
- References slide: all references should be presented in APA style.

Portfolio Details

All of the materials listed below should be printed and assembled in a professional-looking portfolio at the beginning of class on the day of your presentation. I will be looking for the following:

- Title page: including the same unique title as your presentation and all group members’ first and last names.
- Copy of the presentation: printed in a “handout” format, with three slides per page. If your group needs a printed copy of the presentation, be sure to print an additional one for yourselves.
- Annotated bibliography: must include all sources used in presentation, including peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed sources. An example entry will be provided.
- Study guide and any other handouts distributed.
- Detailed list of group member contributions, signed by each group member.
Grading

All group members must be present and participating on the day of the presentation to receive a grade other than 0. In the event of an emergency, you should ensure that all members of the group have access to your materials.

Grading will be at the group and individual level. 1/3rd of your grade is individual, and will be calculated based on quality of individual submissions prior to the presentation as well as on the quality of your portion of the presentation itself. The other 2/3rds of your grade is based on the overall quality of the group presentation and the quality of the portfolio that you submit. Thus, your overall grade does depend, in part, on the work of your fellow members and everyone coming together as a team. But exceptionally good (or poor) work can also sway your grade up or down.

Individual

The individual portion of your grade (1/3rd) will be comprised of:

- The quality of the annotated bibliographic entry that you provide for the peer-reviewed source you find,
- Illustrating to me that you have come prepared for our second library session by turning in at least one additional, non-peer reviewed source you plan to use for the project, and
- The quality of your portion of the presentation, including delivery, preparedness, quality, and organization of the content.

Group

The group portion of your grade (2/3rds) will be based on adherence to the details described above in the “presentation details” and “portfolio details” sections of this assignment; your preparedness at the group meeting prior to the presentation; the quality of the work submitted; your ability to creatively engage the class through activity, discussion, or any other means; and on your demonstration that you are able to view your topic through a sociological perspective, using concepts and theories discussed in class.