

SPC  
AMERICAN MINORITY STUDIES  
COMMON COURSE SYLLABUS

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**Department:** Behavioral Sciences

**Discipline:** HUMANITIES

**Course Number:** HUMA 2319

**Course Name:** AMERICAN MINORITY STUDIES

**Credit:** 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes – Language, Philosophy and Culture

**Prerequisites:** none for campus; TSI reading for Internet

**Available Formats:** Conventional and Internet

**Textbook:** “See Individual Instructor’s Syllabi”

**Supplies:** Computer and Internet access for Internet courses and campus classes.

**Course Description: (3:3:0)** : This interdisciplinary survey examines the diverse cultural, artistic, economic, historical, political, and social aspects of American minority communities. Topics may include race/ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, and religion.

Semester Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Lab Hours: 0 (This course covers the historical, economic, social, and cultural development of minority groups, including African-American, Mexican-American, Asian-American, and Native-American issues)

**Course Purpose/Rationale/Goal:** American Minority Studies provides a multidisciplinary analysis of the subordinate/dominant statuses of individuals and groups by recognizing the impact of race/ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic class of individuals and groups in relationship to American society. The course is designed to foster critical analysis of the issues of difference in our society and to prepare students to understand and interact with people from diverse backgrounds and cultural perspectives throughout their lives. Art, literature, historical analysis, economic analysis, and/or music will be utilized to understand the cultural differences.

**Learning Outcomes/Competencies:**

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Analyze the history, culture, and struggles for equality of American minority groups.
2. Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works by minorities in the arts and humanities.
3. Demonstrate awareness of multiple cultural perspectives representative of diverse minority groups.
4. Describe the impact of discrimination on the everyday life of minority groups in the context of social, political, and economic circumstances.
5. Analyze minority group interactions in the United States focusing on immigration and migration patterns, assimilation processes, and adjustments to American life.
6. Formulate an understanding of shifting societal perceptions and self-identifications of minority group cultural identities.

**Core Objectives:**

- **Communication skills-** to include effective written, oral and visual communication.

- **Critical thinking skills-** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Social Responsibility-** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.
- **Personal Responsibility-**to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Texas Coordinating Board Approval Number..... 45.1101.53 25

**Course Requirements:** To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class session, complete all homework assignments, and complete all examinations. The specific course requirements are listed on the individual instructor’s course information sheet.

**Course Evaluation:**

Please see the instructor’s course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student’s responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first-class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

**Academic Appeals Procedure**

**INFORMAL APPEAL**

1. The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or discipline action.
2. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate department chairperson to discuss the situation. (The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.)
3. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. (The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.)
4. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should be advised of the formal appeal process.

**FORMAL APPEAL**

1. If the student is not satisfied with the results of the Informal Appeal, he/she should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:

a. A request for a formal appeals hearing. b. A brief statement of what is being appealed. c. The basis for the appeal. d. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.

NOTE: The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter.

2. The Vice President for Academic Affairs of South Plains College, will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.

### THE HEARING

1. Composition of the appeals committee:

a. Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing. b. Faculty member of the student's choice. c. Faculty member and student of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. d. President of the Student Body/Student Advisory Council. e. Vice President of Student Affairs.

2. Other persons who should be available at the hearing:

a. The student who requested the hearing. b. The faculty member involved. c. Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case. d. Chairperson and Divisional Dean.

3. Hearing Procedure: The Committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy, and such representatives as desired, will present all facts relating to the case. Consequently, the committee will recommend appropriate action by majority vote.

4. The termination of the hearing finalizes the academic appeal procedure.

### APPEAL RESTRICTIONS

1. Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. 2. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. 3. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed.

### Standard Written English REQUIREMENT:

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus **expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays.** Each instructor may also add additional requirements regarding written assignments that are contained in your syllabus.

IF YOU ARE ON CAMPUS .....

#### **Campus Concealed Carry Policy:**

South Plains College permits the lawful carry of concealed handguns in accordance with Texas state law, and Texas Senate Bill 11. Individuals possessing a valid License to Carry permit, or the formerly issued Concealed Handgun License, may carry a concealed handgun at all campus locations except for the following.

Natorium. For a complete list of campus carry exclusions zones by event, please visit <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the **open carrying** of handguns **is prohibited** on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

**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 Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**Equal Opportunity /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.

**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.

**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.

**Course Information Sheet**  
**HUMA 2319 – American Minority Studies**  
**Spring 2022**

**Elaina Fitzgerald**

**Office:** Levelland – AD 147

**Phone:** 806.716.4656

**E-mail:** [efitzgerald@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:efitzgerald@southplainscollege.edu)

**Preferred Contact Method:**

My preferred contact method is to email me at [efitzgerald@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:efitzgerald@southplainscollege.edu). Please email me through your SPC official email.

For phone calls to my office (806.716.4656), if I am not able to answer, leave a message with your name, course section/time, call-back number, and a detailed message.

**Course Sections:**

HUMA-2319-003	T/Th	1:00 PM - 2:15 PM	Administration Building, 149
HUMA-2319-271	M/W	11:00 AM – 12:15 PM	Lubbock Center, 129A

**Office Hours:**

Day	Time	Location	Office/Room
Monday	2:15pm to 3:15pm	Lubbock/Video Chat	LC 116
Tuesday	2:15pm to 4:15pm	Levelland/Video Chat/Phone	LVL AD 147
Wednesday	2:15pm to 3:15pm	Lubbock/Video Chat	LC 116
Thursday	2:15pm to 4:15pm	Levelland/Video Chat/Phone	LVL AD 147
Friday	10:00am to 12:00pm	Levelland/Video Chat/Phone	LVL AD 147

**How this Course is Conducted:**

This course is a blended course, which means you will attend the regular classroom for general instruction and lectures, **and** you will access Blackboard for a portion of your course work and for your grades.

Since this is a blended course, you **must** have access to a computer. More information about technology for the course is below.

**Logging into Blackboard:**

To access your course, go to <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/> or go to the SPC Homepage and click on the “Login to” link in the top right-hand portion of the page and then click on the Blackboard link on the pull-down or you can type or copy the address into the address window of your computer. I recommend that you bookmark Blackboard on your computer for quick access. You can

also log into MySPC and there is a Blackboard link there. Once you reach the site you will click "Log In". The log-in screen will come up asking for your user name and password. Simply follow the instructions on the screen.

#### **OTHER INFORMATION concerning Blackboard:**

- **Minimum technology requirements:**

- Word Processing Software – Microsoft Word, Google Docs, WordPerfect. **Microsoft Word is available for FREE as an SPC student through your Office 365 account.**
- Web Browser – Firefox or Google Chrome
- Antivirus software

- **Open Computer Lab:** There is an Open Computer Lab located on the Levelland campus in the Technology Center. It is available to all students. Computers are also available on the Reese Center, Lubbock Center, and Plainview Center campuses. Check with libraries and labs for hours.

- **Technical Problems/Support:** If you are having computer problems, you have to let me know. I will try to help you in any way that I can. Please remember that it is your responsibility to have a backup plan if your computer goes down. Please have this plan in place now and do not wait until it is a crisis situation. If you lose your course work due to bad flash drives, Internet service down, computer crash, or your dog ate your homework, there is nothing I can do about it. **THIS IS YOUR WARNING TO HAVE A BACKUP PLAN IN PLACE.**

- **IMPORTANT:** Most technical issues are related to using the incorrect internet browser (try using Google Chrome or Firefox instead of Internet Explorer). Please note that I do NOT recommend use of any handheld devices for taking this course. **Cellphones are wonderful but not for course work done on the Internet.**

- Reminder - **bookmark** the Blackboard login page on your computer.

- **SPC Technical Support:**

- SPC Help Desk/Information Technology: Call (806) 716-2600 or email [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu)
- SPC Blackboard Support: Call (806)716-2180 or email [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu) for student technical support
- I am your course work support contact. Only call or e-mail technical support with questions about Blackboard or computer functioning. There is Technical Support information in the Course Resources area of your Blackboard course. It contains links to Student Tutorials for Blackboard. Contact me for any course content information.

- **PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO TURN COURSE WORK IN OR YOU MAY HAVE PROBLEMS!** Remember the saying "**TECHNOLOGY HAPPENS!**"!

- **Anti-virus Software:** Please make sure that your computer has an up-to-date antivirus software program installed.

**Academic Integrity:** In addition to the policy in the Common Course Syllabus, it should be understood that students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism will earn a zero on the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an 'F' should a second offense occur. Any amount of dishonesty is subject to these consequences, whether a lot or a little; this can include but is not limited to one copied sentence of a written assignment, a missing citation, an entire paper copied from someone/somewhere else, one plagiarized post on a discussion board, one copied exam item, looking at the scantron of another student during an exam or an exam or other coursework completed by someone other than yourself. You have also committed academic dishonesty when sharing

course content/items/answers. This includes sharing course content with classmates or future students as well as sharing course content on websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, or similar “study applications.” For further information and examples please see the Catalog, Student Guide, or refer to [www.plagiarism.org](http://www.plagiarism.org).

**Guidelines for Classroom Behavior:** The following is in addition to the Common Course Syllabus: I would like to welcome all students into an environment that creates a sense of community, pride, courtesy and respect; we are all here to work cooperatively and to learn together. In order to create a smooth and harmonious learning community, please make every attempt to come to all the class sessions, to come to class on time, and to stay until the end of the class unless you have informed the instructor that you must leave early. There may be a time when you are unavoidably late for class. In that case, please come into the room **quietly** and choose a seat **closest** to the entrance. See me after class to record your attendance; otherwise you will be marked absent.

Once the class session has begun, please do not leave the room and then re-enter unless it is an emergency. If you have an emergency, inform me on your way out and take your things with you. **My starting a video is NOT a signal for students to leave the class for a break or to get on your cell phone.** You will have questions on exams that are taken from video information so it is important that you pay attention (**no cell phones**) during the videos. If you need to leave the classroom, take your things with you and come back the next class.

If you miss a class meeting for any reason, you are responsible for all material covered, for announcements made in your absence, and for acquiring any materials that may have been distributed in class. I do NOT give out my notes so you will need to get those from another student.

It is important that we are all able to stay focused on the class lecture/discussion and not have disruptive behaviors\* in the class. This includes cell phones. Cell phones have become very commonplace but are inappropriate in class. Please turn them off or mute them prior to class. If you have a special circumstance, talk with the instructor prior to class. In addition, cell phones, laptops, tablets, etc. are not allowed in the classroom except for document-approved cases. **The class is an “electronic free zone” and if you choose to use a device, you may be asked to leave the class.** In addition, it is very rude to read papers or sleep in class. If you feel the need to do any of these things you may leave and return the next class.

**\*To further classify: Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to being rude to an instructor or other students, walking out of class before class ends, using an electronic device, making "side comments" to other students, or any other non-adult behavior as defined by the instructor.** For additional information on student misconduct, refer to the *Student Guide*. Failure to abide by policies may result in expulsion from the class and an "F" for the semester.

- Any student that is called for any disruptive behavior in class may be asked to leave the class for the day and counted as absent for that day. Repeated offenses may result in the student being administratively dropped from the course with a grade of X or F.

## **Statement from SPC regarding COVID-19:**

Consistent with the latest CDC recommendations, we have revised our guidance for students, faculty, and staff who have a known exposure or have tested positive. Anyone with a known exposure should wear a mask for 10 days and should seek a COVID-19 test on day five after exposure. If you test positive or develop symptoms, you should immediately self-isolate and seek a COVID-19 test. Please immediately notify your instructor, supervisor, and DeEtte Edens, Associate Director of Health and Wellness, any time you test positive for COVID-19. Anyone who tests positive is required to self-isolate for five days. Following the five-day isolation period, if you are asymptomatic or your symptoms are resolving, you may return to work or class but should wear a mask for five additional days. If you are still symptomatic, please contact DeEtte Edens at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2376 prior to your return date.

## **Institutional Policies:**

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**Campus Concealed Carry (Rev. 7/28/2021):** Texas Government Code 411.2031 et al. authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings by individuals and in accordance with



Texas Government Code 411.209 (a). All holders of a valid Texas License to Carry may carry on their person a handgun that is concealed in accordance with Texas Penal Code 46.03 (a-2).

Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy. Individuals may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

### **COURSE POLICY AND REQUIREMENTS**

This is what you need to do to earn your grade:

**Inform your instructor by February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 of any religious holiday that you have that conflicts with class dates so that other arrangements can be made.** This applies to in-class course work such as in-class activities earned for a grade or exams. If the course work due on a religious holiday is in Blackboard, you have that available to you online and you may submit that before the religious holiday.

#### **Class Materials:**

This course does not require a textbook. Everything that you need for this course will be provided to you in Blackboard. You do not need to purchase a book for this course.

**You are required to come to class prepared to learn.** This includes reviewing the module slides and outlines within Blackboard that is to be covered in class before coming to class, completing the module quizzes and assignments prior to the deadlines, coming into class with an open mind, and being alert and ready to learn and participate in the classroom.

#### **Introduction Module:**

This module includes a course agreement quiz and a syllabus quiz. All will be found in the Week 1 folder in Blackboard.

#### **Exams:**

- There will be three (3) exams. To avoid scheduling problems, the exam dates are "set in stone," therefore do not schedule conflicts. ***If there is a conflict with a religious holiday let me know by February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 or you will be expected to complete the exam on the scheduled date.***
- All exams will be delivered **in class**, and you will have one attempt to complete the exam. If you miss an exam, a grade of "0" will be recorded for that exam grade and you may take a make-up comprehensive exam at the end of the semester.
- The make-up exam will be a comprehensive exam given during the time of your final exam. Any student needing to take the make-up exam will first complete the final exam and turn it into the instructor. At that time, the student will be given the make-up exam to take.

**Journal Assignments:**

There will be four journal assignments for this course on various topics that we will cover. Instructions for each will be found in Blackboard.

**Discussion Boards:**

There will be four discussion board assignments for this course. Instructions for each will be found in Blackboard.

**Essays:**

You will write two short essays for this course. Details regarding this will be provided in Blackboard.

**Quizzes:**

There will be 10 quizzes throughout the semester for this course. All information for these quizzes will be found within the content and materials provided for each week that a quiz is assigned.

**Break down of points for the course:**

Introduction Module =	50 points
3 Exams @ 100 each =	300 points
4 Journal Assignments @ 25 each =	100 points
4 Discussion Boards @ 25 each =	100 points
2 Essays @ 50 each =	100 points
<u>10 quizzes @ 25 each =</u>	<u>250 points</u>
Total =	900 points

**All grades will be posted in Blackboard under the My Grades link.**

Total Possible Points 900 points. In addition, grades are NOT automatically rounded up.

**Grading scale:** A = 810 – 900; B = 720 – 809.99; C = 630 – 719.99; D = 540 – 629.99; F = 0 – 539.99.

This scale is the typical: A = 90%-100%; B=80%-89.99%; C=70%-79.99%; D=60%-69.99%; and F=0%-59.99%.

If you have any questions about any of the course work or anything about the course material do not hesitate to speak to me during office hours, before/during/after class, or via e-mail or Blackboard messaging.

**Study materials are provided** under each module link on your Blackboard menu panel. Study tools include Power Points, Course Outlines, and Module Key Words to help students study the materials for the course and prepare for exams.

**Participation & Attendance:** Attendance will be recorded each class. In addition, it is important that you come to class **PREPARED**. That means that you need to have reviewed the material that will be covered in class that day. If you miss class, take responsibility to find out what you have missed. Remember, if you are tardy, you are responsible for seeing me to have your attendance recorded on the attendance sheet before you leave the classroom.

**Drop Policy:** In addition to the catalog policy of the General Catalog, a record of attendance will be maintained. **It may be considered that a student may be dropped from the course with an X if they miss a minimum of 3 weeks of class/BB assignments with no communication and/or is earning an F. If absences occur after the final drop date you will not be dropped and will receive the grade you have earned.** Attendance will be taken every class period beginning the first day of class and will be used to document attendance.

**Extra credit opportunities will be made available during the semester.** I recommend that you take advantage of those opportunities as they become available, as I will not make extra credit available on individual requests.

Remember that the **official deadlines** are when the work is **due**, but I recommend that you set your **personal deadlines** for when you **do** your work a couple of days before the official **due** date.

**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.