CJC 311 – Race, Ethnic & Gender Issues in Criminal Justice

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Office Hours: (scheduled appointments only via "Conferences" through our Canvas site)

Course Description

Examination of racial, ethnic, and gender issues regarding criminal justice offenders, victims of crime, and employees of the criminal justice system

Course Objectives:

1. Interpret and use media to assess various multicultural issues
2. Describe the relevancy of multiculturalism based on race/ethnicity, religious affiliation, gender identity, physical and mental disabilities as well as socioeconomic issues, in relation to the development of stereotypes
3. Describe the applicability of the findings, conclusions and implications for a criminal justice topic and/or specific criminal justice problem being investigated
4. Provide well-reasoned and empirically grounded arguments from several positions given a multi-faceted issue in criminal justice

Department Outcomes/Objectives

1. Discussion of the impact of race, gender, and ethnicity on the various topics in the course
   1. Evaluate strengths & weaknesses of arguments & actions
2. Discussion of the changing nature of race, gender and ethnicity with its emphasis on the importance of diversity
   1. Explain others’ values as well as their own
3. Discussion and illustration of ethics in race, ethnic and gender research
   1. Cite multiple, diverse sources of information and knowledge to evaluate completing hypothesis
4. Discussion of morality and decision making in relation to race, ethnic and gender issues
1. Cite multiple, diverse sources of information and knowledge to form judgments about ethical dilemmas
2. Cite multiple, diverse sources of information and knowledge to provide rationales or explanations for judgements that are made
3. Describe effective decision making strategies

Required Course Materials Text

Title: Multiculturalism and the Criminal Justice System
Authors: Robert Hanser & Michael Gomila
Publisher: Pearson (2015)
Class information, handouts and assignments are found at the course website in Canvas

Online Classroom Environment

We will discuss issues in this class upon which individuals may disagree. Everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion, and disagreements about all issues are to be addressed in a respectful manner. The use of derogatory and/or discriminatory comments is unacceptable.

Course/Student Requirements

1. Students are responsible for all material covered in the text, lecture, videos, and any other supplemental material provided by the instructor. According to ICHE, students need to spend 2-3 hours out of class in preparatory for each hour in class.
2. Final grades are awarded based on the following: discussion forums, chapter quizzes and written assignments
3. **Discussion Boards**: (25% of final grade) You will engage in multiple discussion boards throughout the semester. The boards will open each applicable week on Monday morning at 12:00am. By the end of the day on Thursday (11:59pm), the initial post is due. You are then required to post 5-6 response posts to other class members’ posts by the end of the day (11:59pm) Sunday night.
4. **Quizzes**: (25% of final grade) Chapter quizzes will be included with each chapter review. The quizzes are a combination of multiple choice and short answer essay.
5. **Writing Assignments**: (50% of final grade) At various points throughout the term, you will have short writing assignments due. The criteria for these writing assignments are outlined on our canvas site within the chapter materials folder. This also includes your final semester project > Implicit Bias Challenge.
Grade Distribution:

Grading Scale: A 94-100%  A- 90-93%
B+ 87-89%  B 84-86%  B- 80-83%
C+ 77-79%  C 74-76%  C- 70-73%
D+ 67-69%  D 64-66%  D- 60-63%
F 59% and below

Technical Information

Become familiar with the class interface before the semester begins and seek help if necessary. BSU provides resources to help you. A lack of Canvas knowledge is not an acceptable excuse for late or incomplete work.

Technical Equipment: In order for you to be successful in this type of course (e.g. online delivery, distance education), you will need the technology listed in the "Technology for Online and Distance Education Students."

Technical Assistance: If you have technical questions, you can contact Ball State’s Help Desk. In addition, the Help Desk staff has put together many how-to video clips in its Tech Clips section that can guide you through many of the most common questions. The helpdesk can be contacted at: 1765-285-1517 or email at helpdesk@bsu.edu.

Instructors Responsibilities

- Assistance is offered to the student during the on-line office hours. If there is a change to the on-line office hour schedule, the students will be notified via email and through the announcements page on the canvas site one week in advance.

- Assignments/discussion boards will be reviewed and grades will be posted on a weekly basis (Mondays & Fridays). Weekly emails will be sent to the students to serve as a notification to check the canvas site for reviewed materials.

- Questions of a personal nature, such as questions about your grade or anything personal intended for the instructor, please use your BSU email. The instructor will typically respond to messages within 48 business hours of receiving them. When emailing please include Course Number and Section Number.
Student Responsibilities (See Student Code of Conduct for additional guidelines)

- Students are required to review text and canvas material before participating in the canvas discussion forums and completing assignments/exams.

- Students must maintain a professional level of communication (avoid popular abbreviations) when participating in the canvas discussion forums, email, Canvas IM/Skype on-line office hours. In addition, students must:
  - Be mindful to not use language that could be considered strong or offensive.
  - Keep all writings and correspondence as professional as possible.
  - Keep writing to a point and stay on topic.
  - Double-check all writing to make sure that it clearly conveys the exact intended

Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to adhere to University guidelines as presented in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities as outlined in the student handbook. Results of academic dishonesty may include a failing grade for a particular quiz or assignment, or for the course, or your removal from the university.

Disabilities

Some elements of this course may not be accessible to persons with some types of disabilities. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact Ball State’s Disability Services (DS) office. DS coordinates services for students with disabilities. Documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu. Further online information for students may be found at the BSU web page.