

**CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**MAXINE GOODMAN LEVIN COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS**

**Summer Semester 2004**

**Second Six Week Session**

**UST /PSM 302**

**Contemporary Urban Issues**

July 6 to August 13, 2004

Instructor: Frances Hunter

Time: 6:00-10:00 Monday & Wednesday UR106

Office Hours: Monday 4:00-5:00 or by Appointment

Urban Affairs Building 213

Phone (216) 687-2388

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**Required Text:**

- Steinberg, Stephen, 2000 **Race and Ethnicity in the United States** Issues and Debates Malden, MA. Blackwell Publishers Ltd.
- Electronic Course Reserve Articles

**Course Description:**

This course exams race and ethnic minority issues in the urban setting. We will explore the dynamics of race and class in American cities. The instructor will use an interdisciplinary approach to study contemporary issues such as poverty, education, crime economics, racism, and immigration: and analyze the problems and prospects of diversity from a sociological, organizational, political and other aspects of life.

The purpose is to impart the students with scholarly and practical skills. By participating in the course, the student is expected to gain a better understanding of:

- Issues and challenges to Urban America
- Public Policy and politics relevant to race and ethnicity
- Appreciation of Diversity
- Appreciation for the city
- Build communication skills through class participation and classroom presentations
- Enhance writing, research, critical thinking, and analytical skills through writing assignments and a final paper.

## **General Education Requirements:**

### **Writing across the curriculum**

Students must earn a grade of C or better in the class in order to count it toward this requirement. The emphasis in this class is on improving your composition skills through feedback. This means that assignments must be submitted on time for instructor review, comments, and pre-grade. You will be able to revise and resubmit your work to take advantage of an improved grade. As usual, plagiarism or copying other people's work in Any form, without proper reference and citation is prohibited (and grounds for a grade of "F").

Special Summer Session: It is a six week session. Turn in work on time, Attend Class and use time management. Late assignments will drop one letter grade.

### **Special Needs**

Students with special needs: In accordance with University policy, if you have a disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please contact me at the beginning of the six week session and/or when an assignment is given which would require an accommodation. Students with disabilities must verify their eligibility through the university.

### **Attendance Policy**

Attendance will be taken each class. It is your responsibility to sign the attendance sheet.

### **Examination Policy**

Midterm Exam: This exam will be a take home exam (July 19) to be handed back to the instructor on the following Monday (July 26). You will be presented with one required question and three questions from which to choose one to answer. The answers will be in essay form requiring approximately three pages of 12pt. Type(double spaced) Hand written essays will not be accepted by the instructor. Your answers should be well argued and properly supported by citing and noting from the assigned readings. Each day your midterm paper is late I will deduct one letter grade

Final Exam; The final will be given on August 11, 2004. You will bring a “blue book” to class for this exam. The final will consist of several questions to be answered by essays. No books will be allowed at this exam.

Writing Assignment: This course sets a premium on the writing of a paper.

There are three deadlines to be met:

1. Preliminary draft of proposed paper July 14
2. Final proposal for paper to be approved by instructor. July 22
3. Finished paper to be handed in on August 2

We will discuss the requirements for the paper in class. The following rules will apply:

1. The paper will be no more than eight pages of writing(12 point type &double spaced)
2. You will include an abstract of 100-150 words.
3. Citation of sources will be properly noted( see class handout)
4. Plagiarism may result in a failing grade depending on the degree of offense.
5. Keep quotes short.
6. Your grade will be based on your sources, the use of those sources to develop your argument, clarity of thought and grammar.

### **STUDENT PRESENTATION:**

On August 4th, 9th students will give a 10 minute class presentation based on their paper

### **GRADING**

Midterm 20 points

Proposal: 10 (Draft and Final)

Paper: 30 points

Final 20 points

Presentation 10

Attendance 10 points

Total 100 points

## **Grading:**

**A 90-100**

**B 80-89**

**C 70-79**

**D 60-69**

**F 0-59**

## **Assigned Readings:**

### **Week 1**

**July 7 Introduction** to course Contemporary Urban Issues/Urban Studies

The City, Class exercise Values

Reading Racial Equality: Public Policies for the Twenty-First Century

### **Week 2**

**July 12, Civil Rights Movement**

Electronic Course Reserve Articles on Civil Rights

Race and Ethnicity in the United States Steinberg

The Kerner Commission Report in Retrospect

John Charles Boger pp8-36

Film

**July 14, 2004 Paper Topic Due**

- July 14 Race, Gender and Age Inequality  
 Guest speaker  
 Race and Ethnicity in the United States Stephen Steinberg  
 The Racial Division of Labor  
 Occupational Apartheid and the origins of Affirmative Action p. 64  
 Bursting the Bubble: The Failure of Black Progress p.74  
 Sharon Collins
- Week 3  
 July 19 Poverty and Inequality  
 Take Home Midterm Due July 26  
 Assigned reading to be passed out
- July 21 Crime, Violence and Education **Final Paper Proposal Due**  
 Guest Speaker Course reserve Broken Windows James Wilson  
 Race and Ethnicity in the United States Steinberg  
 School Desegregation Gary Orfield pp. 135  
 Understanding Self Segregation on the Campus Troy Duster  
 pp. 317  
 The Black Gender Gap Course Reserve Ellis Cose Article 22  
 Black America's Real Albatross: The Schooling Gap Course Reserve  
 Article 23, School Choice
- Week 4  
**Take home midterm due July 26**
- July 26 Interpreting and Understanding Immigration  
 Article on Reserve Emerging Issues: National Origin  
 Discrimination Article 11 Joanna Carey Smith  
 Race and Ethnicity in the United States Steinberg  
 The Immigrant Contribution to the Revitalization of Cities p. 234  
 Thomas Muller  
 Immigration Policy and the U.S. Economy: An Institutional  
 Perspective Vernon Briggs Jr.
- July 28 Urban Policies and Politics  
 Guest Speaker  
 Course reserve Article 38 Where We Stand on Issues  
 Race and Ethnicity in the U.S. Steinberg  
 The Rise of Identity Politics Todd Gitlin p321  
 Identity Politics and Class Struggle Kelley p. 328
- Week 5  
 August 2 **Research Paper Due**  
 August 4 Class Presentations
- Week Six  
 August 9 Class Presentation Review for Final  
 August 11 Final Bring Blue Book to Class 3 Essay questions

