McGill University
Department of Sociology
SOC 230: Sociology of Ethnic Relations
Lectures: MTR

Professor Zoua M. Vang
Email: zoua.vang@mcgill.ca
Office: Peterson 340
Phone: 398-6854

Office Hours: Mondays 3:00-5:00 PM. Office hours are on a drop-in basis. No sign-up necessary. Students “wait” in the waiting room and will be let in. Zoom link for office hours will be posted on MyCourses.

Time: 1:35 to 2:25 PM
- Mondays: Pre-recorded lectures (available on MyCourses)
- Tuesdays: synchronous lectures via Zoom; Zoom link will be sent to students via email and also posted on MyCourses.
- Thursdays: 5 scheduled conferences throughout the term; Zoom link for conferences will be sent to students via email and also posted on MyCourses.

1Students who cannot attend the synchronous lectures because of time zone issues should contact Dr. Vang via email to work out an alternative plan.

COURSE SUMMARY
This course is designed to provide students with a theoretical and empirical grounding on race and racism. This will be achieved through a comparison of race relations in Canada and the United States. The course is divided into two interrelated sections. The first section will introduce students to key theories and concepts in the study of race relations. Material in the first section will provide students with the necessary foundation to understand and analyze issues discussed in the remainder of the course. Attention will be given to the consequences of race and racism for individual life chances and group stratification.

REQUIRED TEXT
All required and recommended readings will be available as either electronic course reserves via the Humanities and Social Sciences Library or as PDFs from MyCourses.

ASSIGNMENTS, DUE DATES, AND EVALUATION
Conference assignments: 60%
Final exam: 40%
**Conference Assignments (60%)**: There will be a total of 5 conferences in which students will have the opportunity to engage in small-group discussions in Zoom break-out rooms.

For each conference, students will have an assignment (worth 12% per assignment). Assignments must be submitted on MyCourses by the specified deadlines. See detailed reading list below for due dates.

See grading rubric on MyCourses.

**Final Exam (40%)**: The final exam will consist of multiple-choice questions. You will be evaluated on your knowledge of key terms, theories, and findings from empirical studies covered in the readings and lectures.

**PLAGIARISM**
McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see [www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/) for more information). (approved by Senate on 29 January 2003.)

**SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK**
In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. (approved by Senate on 21 January 2009 – see also the section in this document on Assignments and evaluations.)

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**REGRADE POLICY**
Students who want a regrade of an assignment must submit a 1-page (double space, 12-point font) **written request** to the instructor no later than 2 weeks from the date the graded assignment is returned to students and/or when the grade is posted on MyCourses. The written request must include a clear justification for the regrade, and if necessary, a point-by-point rebuttal.
POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS
A full grade will be deducted for every 24 hours that the assignment is late. For example, if your conference assignment is submitted anytime between, and inclusive of, 12:01 (on the due date) and 11:59 on the following day, and you earn a B- on the assignment, then your adjusted grade will be C+. 
DETAILED READING LIST

**Historical Conceptions of Race & Racism**
January 7
   Introduction (no readings).

January 11 & 12:


**Historical and Contemporary Conceptions of Ethnicity**
January 18 & 19:


**Critical Race Theory & Colorblind Racism**
January 25 & 26:


**Prejudice, Stereotypes and Implicit Bias**
February 1 & 2: *(Conference starts this week)*


**Conference #1 (February 4, 2021): Unpacking Our Implicit Biases**

Assignment: There are two components to this assignment:

**Part 1.**
1) Go to https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/demo/
2) Click on “Project Implicit Social Attitudes”
3) On Preliminary information page, click on “I wish to proceed” (blue text) at the bottom
4) This will bring you to a page with a bunch of IAT tests. For your assignment, choose ONE of the following: Race, Skin-tone, Arab-Muslim, Asian, or Native
5) When you finish, save a copy of your results summary as a PDF. You will need to upload your results (along with the essay, see Part 2 below) to MyCouress.

**Part 2.** Write a 750-word reflection essay on your IAT results. Be sure to address (i) whether or not you are surprised by your results and why, (ii) the extent to which the results reflect or do not reflect your “true” attitudes about the target group. Essays must go beyond merely critiquing the IAT test itself.

Written assignment & IAT results due 12:00 PM February 4, 2021. Must submit documents to correct folder under Assignments tab on MyCourses.

**Immigration & Demographic Diversity in Canada**
February 8 & 9:

**Multiculturalism & Belonging for Racial/Ethnic Minorities**
February 15 & 16:


**Indigenous-Settler Relations**
February 22 & 23:


**********STUDY BREAK (March 1 to 5********
NO CLASSES

**Reconciliation & Decolonization**
March 8 & 9:


**Conference #2 (March 11, 2021): Unpacking Reconciliation**

**Assignment:** Write a 750-word essay on (i) what reconciliation means to you and what you as an individual can do to work towards reconciliation; (ii) how does your own racial/ethnic background influence your perspectives on reconciliation; and (iii) what should be the responsibility of higher education institutions, such as McGill, in the reconciliation process.

**Written assignment due 12:00 PM March 11, 2021. Must submit Word document to correct folder under Assignments tab on MyCourses.**

**Whiteness & White Privilege**
March 15 & 16:


**Conference #3 (March 18, 2021): Understanding White Privilege**

**Assignment**: Come up with one form of white privilege NOT identified by McIntosh. Write a 750-word essay explaining (1) why you think your chosen item constitutes white privilege, and (2) how the form of white privilege you have chosen may produce racial inequality, if any.

**Written assignment due 12:00 March 18, 2021. Must submit Word document to correct folder under Assignments tab on MyCourses.**

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**Systemic Racism**

March 22 & 23:


**Blackness, Anti-Black Racism, and BLM**

March 29 & 30:


Recommended:


**Conference #4 (April 1, 2021): Anti-Black Racism and BLM**
Assignment: TBD

Written assignment due 12:00 PM April 1, 2021. Must submit Word document to correct folder under Assignments tab on MyCourses.

**COVID-19 & Impacts on BIPOC Communities**
April 5 & 6:


**Racial Microaggressions in Higher Education**
April 12 & 13:


*Recommended:*


https://csl.sog.unc.edu/node/1036

**Conference #5 (April 15, 2021): Racial Microaggressions in Post-Secondary Education**

**Assignment:** Write a 750-word essay answering the two following questions: (1) To what extent are racial microaggressions an issue that needs to be addressed at McGill? Please explain your answer. (2) Are there structural/institutional components to racial microaggressions on university campuses? Or are microaggressions strictly operating at an interpersonal level?

*Written assignment due 12:00 PM April 15, 2021. Must submit Word document to correct folder under Assignments tab on MyCourses.*

**Anti-Racism**
April 15

Anti-racism workshop (no readings).