

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**ANTH/SOCI 3020 A  
FALL 2026  
STUDIES IN RACE AND ETHNICITY**

**Instructor:** Carieta Thomas

**Office Hours:** By appointment (virtually)

**Email:** CarietaThomas@cunet.carleton.ca

**Brightspace course page link:** <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/452736>

**Pre-requisites & Precluded Courses:** Third-year standing

**Method of Delivery:** In-person on Tuesdays at 11:35am to 2:25pm

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In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other, but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your fellow classmates, or with the Professor in the different participation fora that are available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behavior towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated.

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

Race and ethnicity are two of the defining and divisive features of society today. This course will provide a sociological understanding of how race and ethnicity shape our identities, experiences, and outcomes. The course will explore the historical, economic, political, and social factors shaping and being shaped by race and ethnicity. It will begin by looking at the key definitions, concepts, and theories of race and ethnicity. Students will then be encouraged to apply these concepts to understand and discuss “new racism” in contemporary society through experiences of race and ethnicity in institutions and everyday practices. The course will look at racism on the

individual, institutional/system, and structural levels. Particular attention will be given to the Canadian context.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Understand how the social constructs of ethnicity and race shape identities and life experiences
- Apply sociological theoretical concepts to explain real-life experiences with ethnicity and race
- Understand the link between ethnicity/race at the individual and institutional levels
- Critically evaluate the social construction of social practices
- Communicate sociological knowledge in a concise and clear manner in writing and discussions.

### **READING(S)/TEXTBOOK(S):**

Students are not required to purchase textbooks or other learning materials for this course. Required readings will be listed in the course outline under the reading schedule and embedded in Brightspace.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS & METHODS OF EVALUATION**

Assessment of learning outcomes will take place through a variety of methods. Below are the assessment components, required assignments, and the percent value of each assignment for determining your course grade.

| <b>Assessment Component/Assignment</b>   | <b>Due Date</b>                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Weight</b>          |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Participation                            | Ongoing                                                                                                                                                                                           | 5%                     |
| Structured Reading Response (3 out of 5) | September 25 <sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm<br>October 9 <sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm<br>October 23 <sup>rd</sup> at 11:59pm<br>November 27 <sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm<br>December 4 <sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm | 30%<br>(3 at 10% each) |
| Midterm Exam                             | November 10 <sup>th</sup> at 11:35am                                                                                                                                                              | 25%                    |
| Research Project Topic & Outline         | November 20 <sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm                                                                                                                                                              | 5%                     |
| Final Research Project                   | December 11 <sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm                                                                                                                                                              | 35%                    |