Brookhaven College  
HUMA 2319 – American Minority Studies  

Edleeca Thompson, Humanities  
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DIVISION OFFICE (D-123) 972-860-4730  

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  
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. 

Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 45.1101.53 25.  

THEME: Women and the American Dream  
An exploration of women's cross-cultural contributions in American history, culture, society, the fine and performing arts, and media.  

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:  
No textbook required. Reading material provided by instructor and through eCampus.  

Student Learning Outcomes  
Upon 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 CURRICULUM INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCIES (CCIC) *Humanities 2319 satisfies the following Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.  
1. *READING: the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials - books, documents, and articles - above 12th grade level.  
2. WRITING: the ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience - above 12th grade level  
3. SPEAKING: the ability to communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience - above 12th grade level.  
4. LISTENING: analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication, possess sufficient literacy skills of writing, reading - above 12th grade level.  
5. *CRITICAL THINKING: think and analyze at a critical level.  
6. COMPUTER LITERACY: understand our technological society, use computer based technology in communication, solving problems, acquiring information.  

VERY IMPORTANT  
Financial Aid Certification of Attendance:  
You must attend and participate in your on-campus or online course(s) in order to receive federal financial aid. You must complete what is required by the first due date or you will not be certified. Your instructor is required by law to validate your attendance in your on-campus or online course in order for you to receive financial aid.
HOW YOU ARE GRADED IN THIS COURSE:
All class work, projects and exams are designed to measure student progress toward the performance objectives. Categories are as follows:

EVALUATION TECHNIQUES
LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
HANDWRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
I. UNIT ASSIGNMENTS – 5 points each
Each Unit Assignment is worth 5 points for a total of 25 points toward your final grade. You will be prompted at the end of each Unit to complete an assignment based on eCampus course material, readings, and course links.

II. DISCUSSION BOARD – 5 points each
Discussion Board prompts encourage student discussions on a particular topic for each unit. Each Discussion Board Assignment is worth 5 points for a total of 25 points toward your final grade.

III. ARTIST PROFILE – 25 points
The purpose of this assignment is to have students develop a Power Point (PPT) presentation featuring the life and work of an established American (US) woman artist working in the visual, literary, performing, cinema, or multi-media arts. The PPT should include a brief biographical sketch of the artist, her influences, and discussion of stylistic development throughout her career. The PPT should include examples of major works with discussion of medium, technique, symbolism, and meaning of the works. In addition, students should discuss the importance of the artist’s work and its contribution to the arts, humanities, and society. Please have your artist approved by your instructor. **NOTE: This assignment focuses on American (US) women in the arts and humanities. Politicians, political activists, Pop-artists from Rock, Country and Western, Gospel, Funk, R&B, Rap, Comedy, News, Entertainment Media, Tattoo artists, Sports or Gymnastics are not included for this assignment.**

IV. REFLECTION PAPER – 25 points
Since this class focuses on women and women’s issues specifically, consider thinking about “women’s culture” as a sub-culture group of American culture in general. Following the prompts below, write a 750-word (minimum) reflection paper on what we have studied in this class. Discuss the following areas in the context of the course content and theme. You are supposed to use your textbook (if you have one for the course), lecture notes, and any assigned readings or eCampus content as your sources. You are not supposed to do other research. Parts of the paper are subjective, so you may use “I” in your paper.

- Discuss now the course has affected your world view of the term “culture/community.”
- Compare and contrast two different cultures/communities discussed in the course.
- Connect what you have learned in the course to previous learning and life experiences. Include how you used to interact with another culture/community and how you would now.
- Argue for or against the value of learning about other cultures/communities as part of your education. **Be sure to discuss both sides of the argument.** Identify the consequences of studying other cultures/communities and of not studying other cultures/communities as part of your argument.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Course Grading Scale</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit Assignments</td>
<td>25 pts.</td>
<td>90 – 100 = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>25 pts.</td>
<td>80 – 89 = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist Profile</td>
<td>25 pts.</td>
<td>70 – 79 = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper</td>
<td>25 pts.</td>
<td>60 – 69 = D</td>
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</tbody>
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Total – 100 points
SAFEASSIGN – Prior to handing in any written papers, you will need to submit your papers to SafeAssign for evaluation. Go to the eCampus website and look for the ASSIGNMENT tab. You will see EVENT REVIEW, click on VIEW/COMPLETE and you will see a space where it lets you browse your paper. Click ENTER and the assignment will be submitted. After a few minutes, you can log back into eCampus, click on the ASSIGNMENT tab, VIEW/COMPLETE, and it will show your report. NO PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THIS PROCESS. You must have submitted your paper before the due date. Follow these guidelines in writing your papers: For proper writing format consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 6th ed., by Joseph Gibaldi, or you can go to http://www.mla.com.

You are required to submit all written materials to SAFEASSIGN for analysis. No paper will be accepted with a score above 10%. You need to READ your papers before you turn them in. Do not rely on the spell/grammar check program to check your mistakes. We do count off for grammar and spelling errors.

INSTRUCTOR’S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
The instructor reserves the right to establish the guidelines for the ONLINE setting. The instructor reserves the right to maintain ONLINE decorum and to remove from class anyone who behaves in a manner that disturbs the instruction process. The instructor is charged by the college with the responsibility for maintaining the online environment and the instructor's decision is final. Any student having problems with a course should consult the instructor. Rudeness, disrupting the class, or disrespecting other students or the instructor will result in the student being removed from the online class. If that occurs, the student will be required to have a personal conference with the instructor. You are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. See ACADEMIC HONESTY below.

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO AMEND THIS SYLLABUS AS NECESSARY.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Just as in a face-to-face course, attending your online course is important. In fact, it may be even more important. In a face-to-face course, sometimes a student is physically there, but mentally "somewhere else." In an online course, there is little social pressure to be there or pretend to be there, but if you don't visit the course site regularly, you won't get much from the course and will find it difficult to get a good grade.

Here are some ideas to keep in mind:
Check the course site regularly. Even if you don't have specific assignments to complete, check the course site and your email regularly. Your instructor will make announcements, new postings will appear in discussion forums, and other plans may undergo subtle changes. Regular checks will help you remember all that you need to get done.

Plan on spending at least two hours of work time for every credit hour that the course receives. As a general rule of thumb, a course assumes that you will attend for as many hours are listed in the credit hours, then do homework and prepare in an equivalent number of hours during each week. In an online course, the distinction between attendance and study hours is removed, but the same amount of time is necessary. This is a minimum amount of time. In actual practice, many courses will take many more hours of study.

Your instructor can tell if you are visiting the course site. There are tools in Blackboard Course Info that allow your instructor to get general statistics about how often you visit the course site. Sometimes, they can even tell you have visited specific parts. You will have to show your instructor the quality of your participation. Statistical tools in Blackboard won't let your instructor know if you understand what you read, if you enjoy or dislike aspects of the course, or if you are succeeding as a student. That is up to you. Your assignments, postings, and instructor communication will show the quality of your work.
You are expected to communicate with both the instructor and your classmates.
Don't wait to be asked to communicate. Send your instructor questions. Post messages to other students. Ask
questions and share your ideas.

ONLINE CLASSROOM POLICIES
Discussion Board responses, emails, and all other correspondence among faculty and students enrolled in this
class are expected to conform to the level of conduct that would be expected in a regular classroom. Students
should feel free to express disagreement with the instructor and other students but it must be done in a manner
which is not verbally abusive, threatening, or harassing. Communication among students is encouraged but
must end if one of the parties requests that it be terminated.

Students will not send unsolicited email espousing a cause, religion, or activity to other class participants and
will not add other class participants to any list serves or other entity which distributes unwanted email or
material. Violation of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action against the offending student. This
action can include termination of the student's participation in the class and a grade of F.

DISCUSSION BOARD POLICIES
COMMents BY USERS ARE NOT ENDORSED BY DCCCD: DCCCD does not necessarily endorse, support,
sanction, encourage, verify, or agree with the comments, opinions, or statements posted on the Discussion
Board. Any information or material placed online, including advice and opinions, are the views and
responsibility of those who post the statements.

USE OF THE DISCUSSION BOARD:
In this online course, your right to use the Discussion Board is limited to class activities. You may not give or
supply your password or ID to others to use. You may not authorize others to use the Discussion Board, and
you are responsible for all use of the Discussion Board in your name. You agree not to use any obscene,
indecent, or offensive language or to place on the Discussion Board any material that is defamatory, abusive,
harassing, or hateful. Further, you may not place on the Discussion Board any material that is encrypted,
constitutes junk mail or unauthorized advertising, invades anyone's privacy, or encourages conduct that would
constitute a criminal offense, give rise to civil liability, or that otherwise violates any local, state, national or
international law or regulation. You agree to use the Discussion Board only for lawful purposes of this online
course and you acknowledge that your failure to do so may subject you to academic, civil and criminal liability.
You are responsible for ensuring that any material you provide to or post to the Discussion Board, including but
not limited to text, photographs, and sound, does not violate the copyright, trademark, trade secret or any other
personal or proprietary rights of any third party or is posted with the permission of the owner(s) of such rights.
Music files etc. may not be distributed in this Discussion Board or within this course. Material on the Discussion
Board is for your academic course use only. The Discussion Board contains copyrighted and other proprietary
information. You may not in any way make commercial or other unauthorized use, by publication, re-
transmission, distribution, performance, caching, or otherwise, of material obtained through the Discussion
Board, except as permitted by the Copyright Act or other law. You agree neither to disrupt or interfere with the
Discussion Board, nor to alter or tamper with any information or materials on or associated with the Discussion
Board. You acknowledge that your Instructor may review and archive the content of all discussions and sites
linked to and from this Discussion Board and that you are responsible for the content or actions of any other
sites linked to or from this Discussion Board. Your linking to the Discussion Board is restricted to sites pertinent
your online course assignments.
USE OF MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY YOU:
Postings to and communications with the Discussion Board are not private. You grant BHC the unrestricted right to use, reproduce, archive, translate, transmit and distribute any material you supply or communicate to the Discussion Board.

MATERIALS POSTED BY OTHERS:
You agree that the Instructor is not responsible, and shall have no liability to you, with respect to any information or materials posted by others, including defamatory, offensive or illicit material.

INDEMNIFICATION:
You agree to indemnify BHC and its affiliates, agents and representatives, and to hold them harmless, from any and all claims and liabilities (including attorney’s fees) which may arise from your submissions, from your unauthorized use of material obtained through the Discussion Board, or from your breach of this Agreement, or from any such acts through your use of the Discussion Board.

EDITING AND DELETIONS:
Your course Instructor reserves the right, but undertakes no duty, to review, edit, move, or delete any material provided for display or placed on the Discussion Board, in its sole discretion, without notice.

DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:
You acknowledge that you are using the Discussion Board at your own risk. Your Instructor and BHC and its affiliates do not represent or warrant that access to the discussion board will be uninterrupted or that there will be no failures, errors or omissions or loss of transmitted information, or that no viruses will be transmitted on the Discussion Board. You should have a virus check program installed on your computer.

TERMINATION:
Your Instructor has the right to terminate your ability to access the Discussion Board, for any just reason, without notice. Contact your instructor immediately if this occurs.

COLLEGE POLICIES:
Link to Institutional Policies

ACADEMIC CALENDAR:
Link to Academic Calendar

All DCCCD websites are subject to change. Please go to http://www.dcccd.edu/ for further information.