

Professor Kate Berry  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Fall Semester 2009

## **GEOGRAPHY 460/660 Ethnic Geography**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course we will examine issues confronting ethnic and racial groups and their members in the contemporary United States, with a particular focus on African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Latinos. Throughout the semester we will study how space and place influence the experiences of individuals and identity of ethnic and racial groups. We will also explore how ethnicity and race can influence landscapes and the nature of places. This course fulfills the University's Core Curriculum diversity requirement.

This course will meet from 5:30 to 8:15pm on Mondays in Mackay Science Room 321. I encourage you to visit about any aspect of the course by making an appointment to talk with me. My office is located in Mackay Science room 201. I can also be reached through my email address at [kberry@unr.edu](mailto:kberry@unr.edu) or by phone at 784-1865.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Grading for this course will utilize the University's grading policy that allows for letter grades with the possibility of a plus or a minus (so, for example, it is possible to get a C+ or an A-). Your grade for this course will be based on the following items:

100 points	Attendance
150 points	Participation
300 points	Assignments
200 points	Midterm exam
250 points	Final exam

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1000 points      TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS

Graduate students will also be responsible for leading a discussion in class, which will be worth 200 points.

### **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION**

Attendance is expected for each scheduled class period. If you are absolutely unable to attend a class period, you may want to contact a fellow classmate to get notes for the missed class. Please keep me apprised of your situation.

Students are expected to be actively involved in the learning experience throughout this class. You are encouraged to ask questions or contribute comments on the readings, lectures or assignments at the appropriate time. Feedback and discussion are important to understand and assimilate the materials presented in this course. I may question you or your fellow students during the course about various topics, so come prepared to each class with the reading done and your assignments

completed.

### **READINGS**

The books for this class are:

*The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures* by Anne Fadiman (aka Fadiman)

*Hispanic Spaces, Latino Places: Community and Cultural Diversity in Contemporary America* edited by Daniel Arreola (aka Arreola)

These books should be available for purchase in the University Bookstore. There will also be a number of articles assigned and these will be available on the course Webcampus. Reading assignments should be completed before the assigned class. Assigned readings are important as they will often form the foundation for class lectures, discussions, assignments, and the exam.

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

There will be three class assignments, each worth a maximum of 100 points. Class assignments will involve such tasks as: critical analysis, library and internet research, demographic analysis, quantitative methods, field work, writing, and presentations. Detailed instructions will be provided for each class assignment.

### **MIDTERM & FINAL EXAMS**

The midterm exam will be a take-home test due on **October 26**. The final exam will be taken in class during our scheduled final period, **December 11 from 4:30 to 6:30pm**. The final will be comprehensive, covering class readings, lectures, discussions, films, and assignments and will be open-book, open-note, primarily with short answer and essays.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

If you have a disability and will be requiring assistance, please contact me and the Disability Resource Center (Thompson Building suite 101) as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodations.

## GEOG 460/660 Ethnic Geography Schedule Fall 2009

<b>Date</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Readings</b>
August 24	Connecting Identity to Place, Space & Landscape	----
August 31	Analyzing Race & Ethnicity	Berry & Henderson 2002; Sack & Elder 2000
September 7	Labor Day Holiday - no class	----
September 14	Ethnicity, Health Care & Place	Fadiman (entire book)
September 21	<b>[Field Trip]</b> – Ethnicity & Businesses	Arreola chap. 11 & 12; Tienda & Raijman 2004
September 28	Ancestry, Race & Place	Obama 1995/2004 chap. 1-3
October 5	Demographics of Ethnicity & Race	Arreola Introduction & chap. 1
October 12	Rethinking Assimilation	Nagel 2009; Arreola chap. 14
October 19	Land, Water & Being Indigenous	Appleton 2009; Getches 2005
October 26	<b>[Midterm due]</b>	----
November 2	Identities in Rural Places	Bacigalupi 2008; Bonds 2009
November 9	Urban Poverty & Racism	Wilson 2009; Barraclough 2009
November 16	Racialized & Hispanized Notions of Community	Cope & Latham 2009; Inwood 2009; Arreola chap. 4
November 23	Spatialized & Racialized Privilege	Housel 2009; Heynen 2009
November 31	Food & Ethnicity	Haverluk 2002; Arreola chap. 13
December 7	Sports Networks & Wrap-up	Arreola chap. 8
Fri. Dec. 11 (4:30pm-6:30pm)	<b>Final Exam</b>	----