

**COM 346: Interracial Communication**  
**Fall 2016**  
**Dr. Deborah Brunson**  
**University of North Carolina-Wilmington**

**TEXTBOOKS:**

Brunson, D. A., Lampl, L. L., & Jordan-Jackson, F. F. (Eds.) (2011). *Interracial communication: Contexts, communities, and choices*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt. [Code: IRC]

Correspondents, *New York Times*. (2001). *How race is lived in America: Pulling together, pulling apart*. New York, NY: Times Books. [Code: HRLA] You can access the HRLA text online at <http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/race/>

Margolick, D. (2011). *Elizabeth and Hazel: Two women of Little Rock*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. [Code: EH]

**COURSE PURPOSE AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

COM 346 will explore the underlying social dynamics that often frame and impact the communication dynamics between various groups within the United States. This course is designed to provide an academic setting where participants may explore some of the key elements that affect communication between racial groups. A key objective of the course is to discover and work toward applying communication strategies to improve one's ability to successfully interact with persons of other races and ethnic groups. Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Apply theories and concepts of interracial/intergroup communication to describe, explain, and evaluate communication artifacts, issues, and behaviors.
- Develop oral and written proficiency in articulating the key concepts and statements of core theories related to improving interracial communication.
- Discover and apply communication strategies that can improve one's ability to successfully interact with persons of other races and ethnic groups.
- Demonstrate accurate use of APA style guide to appropriately attribute and cite the ideas of others.

*This course satisfies the following National Communication Association's Learning Outcomes in Communication (LOC):*

- *LOC #2: Employ Communication Theories, Perspectives, Principles, and Concepts*
- *LOC# 3: Engage in Communication Inquiry*
- *LOC# 8: Utilize Communication to Embrace Difference*

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. **Four discussion papers.** (100 points; 25 points each).

**2. Response Paper #1 IRC.** Please read and respond to chapter 1, and two additional chapters from Section I. Responses may be framed around 1-2 discussion questions at the end of each chapter. (30 points; typed & double-spaced; name/heading on top right of p. 1; three pages maximum.)

**3. HRLA Response Paper.** <http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/race/>. Please read Chaps. 1, 6, & 11--RESPONSE PAPER should connect each chapter with at least one specific course concept. There should be a different concept referenced for each of these chapters. (30 points; typed & double-spaced; name/heading on top right of p. 1; three pages maximum.)

**4. One Online Discussion Board entry through Blackboard.** Respond to at least TWO of our guest presentations OR to a diversity program you attended on campus by reflecting on the personal impact of these experiences on you, AND also directly connecting at least three course concepts to comments/events from your selected presentations. (25 points; 1,000 words maximum.)

**5. One Written Examination.** (100 points)

**6. Term Project.** (120 points)

#### TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

Additional readings will be available through BlackBoard (BB).

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#### AUGUST

18/Thurs.	Beginnings and Introduction to the course
23/Tues., 25	“Introduction: Some Basic Concepts”/Chapter 1 ~~ <i>Race and Ethnic Relations</i> by M. Marger (BB)
30/Tues.	“Communicating with Strangers”/Chapter 1 by W. Gudykunst <b>and</b> pp. 100-122 (Gudykunst) (BB)

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#### SEPTEMBER

##### SEMINARS – SET 1

1	<p>Discussion Seminar #1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Shadow of Hate: A History of Intolerance in America</i> (video) <a href="http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=the+shadow+of+hate+video&amp;FORM=VIRE2#view=detail&amp;mid=2ABD3D319FB68FD6AA5E2ABD3D319FB68FD6AA5E">http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=the+shadow+of+hate+video&amp;FORM=VIRE2#view=detail&amp;mid=2ABD3D319FB68FD6AA5E2ABD3D319FB68FD6AA5E</a></li> <li>• “Discrimination Comes in Many Forms” (BB)</li> <li>• VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS: Summer 2016 Planned Memorial for Tamir Rice Dallas Mayor’s Remarks (video) Remarks: Senators Tim Scott and Barbara Boxer (video)</li> </ul>
6/Tues.	Discussion Seminar #2

- *The Shadow of Hate: A History of Intolerance in America* (video)  
<http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=the+shadow+of+hate+video&FORM=VIRE2#view=detail&mid=2ABD3D319FB68FD6AA5E2ABD3D319FB68FD6AA5E>
- “Discrimination Comes in Many Forms” (BB)
- VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS: Summer 2016  
Planned Memorial for Tamir Rice  
Dallas Mayor’s Remarks (video)  
Remarks: Senators Tim Scott and Barbara Boxer (video)

- 8 Guest Speaker:  
Ms. Olivia McNeill 0am9132@uncw.edu  
Candidate for M.Ed in Higher Education  
Graduate Assistant to Multicultural Student Organizations
- Continue Review of Gudykunst
- 13/Tues. Guest Speakers:  
Mr. Marcio Moreno, Director of Admissions  
Ms. Edelmira Segovia, Director of Centro Hispano, UNCW  
Ms. Lucy Vasquez, Director, Amigos Internacional
- 15 Continue Review of Gudykunst (pp. 100 – 122)
- 20/Tues “Defining Racism: Can We Talk?”/Beverly Daniel Tatum (BB)
- 22 **Examination** (100 pts.)

### SEMINARS – SET 2

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/race/>

- 27/Tues. Discussion Seminar #3 (HRLA) – All Read:
- Chapter 9 “Growing Up, Growing Apart”
  - Chapter 13 “Why Harlem Drug Cops Don’t Discuss Race”
  - ALSO READ: “Justice Department’s Report on the Ferguson Police Department” *New York Times* -  
[http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/03/04/us/ferguson-police-racial-discrimination.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/03/04/us/ferguson-police-racial-discrimination.html?_r=0) (Review first 20 pages)
- 29 Discussion Seminar #4 (HRLA) – All Read:
- Chapter 9 “Growing Up, Growing Apart”
  - Chapter 13 “Why Harlem Drug Cops Don’t Discuss Race”
  - ALSO READ: “Justice Department’s Report on the Ferguson Police Department” *New York Times* -  
[http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/03/04/us/ferguson-police-racial-discrimination.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/03/04/us/ferguson-police-racial-discrimination.html?_r=0) (Review first 20 pages)

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**OCTOBER**

- 4/Tues. Chapter 22 [IRC] “‘Based on a True Story’...But Whose Is it and what’s the Impact? Critiquing the Disneyfication of Race Relations in *Glory Road*”
- 6 FALL BREAK!
- 11/Tues. Chapter 18 [IRC] “Reframing the Rhetoric of Race through Classroom Discourse”
- 13 & 18/Tues. Screening and Discussion of film *Crash*.

**SEMINARS – SET 3 – Readings from IRC**

All Read Chapter 13 “1898: Reflections on a Southern Community’s Racial History and Future”  
Read one chapter from Contexts II, IV (except chap. 18), and VI (except. chap. 22)

- 20 Discussion Seminar #5  
 25/Tues. Discussion Seminar #6

**27 ONLINE DISCUSSION BOARD**

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**NOVEMBER**

- 1/Tues. & 3 Film Screening and Discussion: *What’s Race Got to Do with It?*
- 8/Tues. Competent Communication
- 10 NO CLASS MEETING–Consultation Day
- 15/Tues. Review *EH*, Section A (pp. 1-128)

**SEMINARS – Set 4**

**TWIN THREAT**—Share 2 key events from the sections listed below from *EH* book, and pair them with 2 relevant course concepts (choose different concepts for each section of the book).

Section B: pp. 129-207

Section C: pp. 208-284

- 17 Discussion Seminar #7 (*EH*)  
 22/Tues. Discussion Seminar #8 (*EH*)

**24 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

- 29 Last Class Meeting

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*Term Projects are due during the final examination period:  
 Thursday, December 8 (3:00 – 6:00 p.m.)*