Course Description:
Race, Ethnic and Diversity Studies is a course that draws from several disciplines to reaffirm the basic American values of justice and equality by teaching a basic vocabulary, a history of immigration and conquest, principles of transcultural communication, legal liability and the value of aesthetic production to increase the probability of respectful encounters among people. In addition to an analysis of majority/minority relations in a multicultural context, the topics of ageism, sexism, gender differences, sexual orientation, the disabled and the American Disability Act (ADA) are explored. Ethnic relations are studied in global and comparative perspectives.

Goals
1. Recognize, respect, accept, and value differences.
2. Assess the impact of how language influences thought.
3. Practice appropriate transcultural human relations and communication skills.
4. Appreciate one’s own cultural heritage.
5. Evaluate and develop awareness of one’s own prejudices, biases, and attitudes.

Course Competencies:
1. Differentiate the basic concepts of race, ethnicity, gender, minority group, and culture.
2. Describe the principles of intercultural communication and the role of cultural transmission in perpetuating inequality.
3. Analyze the patterns and implications of racial and ethnic adaptation and immigration.
4. Analyze the legal implications of your behavior relative to a diverse population.
5. Participate in an international/or diverse domestic environment.
6. Practice behaviors that influence others to respect those who are different from themselves.
7. Accept responsibility for the implications of your personal biases.
8. Discuss the importance of a global perspective on ethnic relations.
9. Appreciate the aesthetics of both material and nonmaterial aspects of culture.
10. Explore patterns of dominance over other minority groups in the areas of gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, and religion.


Core Abilities: MSTC has identified four Core Abilities that all students should be able to demonstrate before graduating.
- Act with integrity
- Communicate clearly and effectively
- Demonstrate effective critical and creative thinking
- Demonstrate social and global awareness

Course Requirements:
1. Participation in class activities (including out-of-classroom activities).
2. Participation not only as an individual, but also as part of a team.
3. Prepare for class by reading the material and completing assignments. I expect that you will spend **as much time out of class studying** and preparing as you do in class. I am here to help you but you are primarily responsible for your own learning. The reading material will supplement the lecture and is not intended to replace it.
4. Check your MSTC email account **every day** or every other day to ensure that you have received all information. If I need to contact you, I will send you an email to this account. You must make sure that it is working.

Part of the way you demonstrate these core abilities is through attendance, prompt arrival to class, class participation, attitude and behavior. You cannot pass the class without demonstrating these core abilities on a consistent basis.

On-line Information:
You will be able to access my website via the Mid-State Technical College site (www.mstc.edu) or access it at http://instructor.mstc.edu/instructor/srathe

Grading Rationale: Final grades will be figured as a percentage of the total possible points. Points may be earned from tests, assignments, and levels of participation.

**TOTAL POINTS EARNED/ TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS**
(e.g., 285/310 = 92%)
Grades will be given according to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Viewing Course Grades:

Grades will be posted on MYMSTC in the on-line grade book. Please allow a reasonable amount of time for the instructor to submit assignment and exam grades.

Writing Assignments:

Assignments must be turned in on schedule. Late assignments will not be accepted. As a student you are responsible for knowing if anything has been assigned or is due even if you were not in class.

Some assignments may include Web activity so you will need to have access to the Internet. Several computers are available on campus for your use.

Submitting assignments via email:

You are welcome to submit your assignments via email. Please indicate which assignment you are submitting along with your name. Attach the assignment to the email. All assignments should be done in Microsoft Word.

Course Email Policy:

MSTC e-mail is the College's primary method for communicating important information to students and staff. You are required to use your MSTC e-mail account in this course and are encouraged
to check your email regularly to keep current. Access your e-mail at this website address: http://mstc.edu/email/.

For safety against computer viruses and to remove SPAM email messages, your instructor may delete without reading any email from an account other than your assigned my.mstc.edu address. If you use any other email account (such as yahoo or hotmail) to contact your instructor—you MUST assume that the message WILL NOT be read. Students are encouraged to read their campus email regularly.

Diversity Event:

As we spend time this semester discussing how diverse our society and the world are, it is important for us to continually gain experiences which we have never had in order to understand and relate to others around us. Each student will be required to attend a school/community event that focuses on diversity. Students are required to provide proof of their attendance. Proof can include materials from the event, signing an attendance log, etc.

After attending the event, students will be required to complete the Diversity Event Evaluation located on my webpage. Diversity Event Evaluations are due one week prior to the end of the semester.

Respect and Civility:

It is my goal to have a highly interactive and open atmosphere during this course. However, it is my expectation that students will, at all times, promote an environment of openness, honesty, and respect and civility. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Issues of Diversity
2. Respecting another student’s right to be heard (i.e., no side conversations while another student is adding to the discussion).
3. Respecting another’s viewpoint with which you may disagree.
4. Actively participating in the classroom activities, i.e. sleeping in class will not be tolerated and you may be asked to leave the classroom.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
It is the policy of MSTC to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Individuals with disabilities are provided with reasonable and effective accommodations, when requested, to afford equal access to
educational opportunities at MSTC. For more information or to request assistance, students should contact the MSTC Disabilities Services Coordinator. Although students are strongly encouraged to refer themselves, they may be referred by an instructor at any time. When possible, accommodations should be requested a semester before they are to be put in place. However, Disabilities Services staff members will assist students at any time to provide services in a timely manner. The student, MSTC Disabilities Services staff members, and individual instructors together determine what services and accommodations are needed and how they are to be provided. Reasonable and effective accommodations are individually determined, based on disability and are provided at no cost to the student. Accommodations include adjustments and modifications within MSTC’s educational environment that provide students with disabilities equal access to education and the ability to participate. They are not designed to give students with disabilities an unfair advantage over other students. Coursework and exams that have occurred prior to approval are considered completed and are not eligible for accommodations. MSTC does not provide attendant care services. Students in need of personal care are expected to make their own arrangements for these needs.

**Academic Integrity**
Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education. Each and every student is expected to maintain and promote the highest standards of personal honesty and professional integrity. These standards apply to all examinations, assigned work and projects. Therefore, a student who is found to have been dishonest, fraudulent or deceptive in the completion of work or willing to help others to be so or who is found to have plagiarized (presented the work of others as his or her own) is subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

**Acceptable Use Agreement for MSTC Information Technology Resources**
Each person that uses MSTC information technology resources including MSTC’s computers, computer network, web-accessible e-mail, and online learning management system are required to abide by the terms of MSTC’s Acceptable Use Policy http://www.mstc.edu/students/policiesusage.htm. The college reserves the right, without notice, to limit or restrict access and to inspect, remove or otherwise alter any data, file or system resource that may undermine the authorized use of any MSTC information technology resources. Violations of MSTC’s Acceptable Use Policy are subject to disciplinary action which may include expulsion from this class and the college.

**Contacting Instructor:**
Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have. I am here to facilitate your learning process. You
may contact me via office phone (voice mail) or e-mail. My schedule is posted outside my office door or on my webpage for your convenience.

Cell Phones/Mobile Devices: We will be making use of your cell phones and mobile devices in class this semester. Please bring them, however, do not take calls during class.

Laptop Computers: Use of laptops is allowed in the classroom, but use that is not directly related to coursework is prohibited.