

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## AMCS 233: Education and Multicultural America

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 07 - Human Diversity

This course provides an introduction to multicultural perspectives on American education. Given that the United States is becoming more culturally diverse and operates within an increasingly globalized world, citizens need to be equipped to understand the diverse cultures with which they work and interact. This course exposes students to the experiences and challenges of African Americans, American Indians, Chicano/Latinos and Asian Americans in the U.S. educational system from historical and contemporary perspectives. The course content both demystifies stereotypes and myths attributed to these groups and stresses the marvelous complexity and diversity of these groups as they seek equitable access to quality education. MnTC Goal 7.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 12/16/2004 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Getting to know ourselves and each other through the exploratory writing of a Cultural Autobiography; The examination of culture and what defines us as racial/ethnic Americans.
2. Multicultural Education: Definitions, goals, approaches, and Banks' Classification; Identities and the American Educational Traditions.
3. Education as a Racialized Process: Concepts & Definitions; Ethnicity & Race; Racial Experiences Reflection; Privilege exercise; and Institutional Racism Reflection.
4. Focus on the histories and educational experiences of each of the following groups: African Americans, American Indians, Chicanos/Latinos, and Asian Americans.

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Survey historical themes associated with African Americans, American Indians, Latinos and Asian Americans and acquire a working knowledge of how these cultural experiences relate to the mainstream history of the United States.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of concepts in multicultural education and the historical and contemporary educational concerns and experiences of ethnically and racially diverse populations in the U.S.
3. Gain a broad theoretical understanding of the social and political function of schools in the U.S.
4. Build skills, resources and strategies for creating successfully inclusive educational and work environments.
5. Increase critical reading and writing skills through journaling and formal writing.

## **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

### Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
3. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
4. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
5. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

## **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted