Spring 2012

Sociology/Asian American Studies 220

**Ungraded Writing Assignment Due by the last day of class (May 10),** uploaded to the dropbox in learn@UW AND printed out and placed in the “lecture comment” folder (so that I can read it). You MAY submit this assignment any time between now and 4pm on May 10. If it is difficult for you to get access to a computer for writing, you may instead hand-write this and we will have a scanned copy made instead of uploading. You will need to turn this into the folder by May 8 if you want this option.

* **You must keep and submit a time log of your work on this project. See details below.**

This assignment counts as the equivalent of 2 lecture classes. It does not substitute for the classes; it counts towards the total points in the lecture journal. That is, you need to do it and also come to class if you want to earn the maximum possible journal points. To get full credit for this assignment, you are required to spend a minimum of 150 minutes doing it. If you spend at least 75 minutes doing it but less than 150, you can get credit equivalent to 1 lecture class. It is OK to spend more time on this if you want to, but not ok to spend less time. It is NOT OK to work on this assignment during a class. The 150 minutes has to be time spent OUTSIDE of class on the assignment doing ONLY this assignment.

The point of this assignment is for you to write about the topics that are considered to be the core learning objectives of an ethnic studies course. As long as you do the assignment honestly and completely you get credit.

1. What is your own racial/ethnic/national/cultural/class identity? How has it been shaped by where and how you grew up? How was it affected by your life experiences before this class? Has this class led you to think more or differently about your own identity? If so, how? How do you think you may talk about your identity to your children, if you ever have any? Do you feel that reflecting on your own identity makes you think differently about your relation to people from other groups? Do you feel that this class has affected how you relate to people from different groups? If so, how?
2. How do you see yourself in history? How has your life been affected by things that happened before you were born? Do you feel that you inherited privilege, disadvantage, or some of each? How is your life shaped by social structures that existed before you did? And looking forward to the future, how do you see yourself affecting what happens next? People can’t change the past, but they can shape the future. Do you see yourself shaping the future? If so, how? Are there things you would like to see changed in society? If so, what are your ideas about how they can change and about how you personally can contribute to change? Are there things you would like to preserve or keep in society? If so, what are your ideas about how to do this and how you personally can contribute to preserving things you think are valuable? How do you think you will talk to your children about this, if you ever have any?

To document the minimum time requirement for this assignment, you will keep a record of the day and time you started and stopped working on it, and will submit this time record as part of the assignment along with your statement that this is a truthful account of the time you spent. It is academic dishonesty to lie about how much time you spent. It only counts toward the 150 minutes if working on this assignment is the ONLY thing you are doing. If you take a break for some reason (such as to check your messages), subtract that from your total. It is OK to break your 150 minutes into several pieces if that is easier for you. Just keep track of the start and stop time of each piece.

Of your 150 minutes, you can optionally spend up to 50 minutes thinking about the assignment and jotting down your ideas before you write. If this is part of how you spend your time, report on your time log when you were thinking and when you were writing, and submit whatever notes you took during this time as an attachment to the paper copy you submit.