

**Spring 2015 Class Schedule**

<b>LLC Courses</b>	<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Day and Time</b>	<b>Room</b>
*LLC 601 Intercultural Pragmatics	Provencher	WED 4:30-7:00	TBA
*LLC 650 Ethnographic Methods	Mallinson	TUE 7:10-9:40	Sherman 422
LLC 701 Introduction to LLC II	Bickel	MON 4:30-7:00	Sherman 220
LLC 745 Methods of LLC Research II	Saper	WED 4:30-7:00	Sherman 422
*LLC 750.01 Race, Society & Policy	Herring	TUE 4:30-7:00	Sherman 422
*LLC 750.02 Diversity in Organizations and Social Institutions	Herring	MON 4:30-7:00	Sherman 422
<i>Individual study courses: LLC 891, LLC 892, LLC 898, and LLC 899 need to be arranged with faculty.</i>			

\*These courses are open to non-LLC students who should contact the instructor for permission.

**ALL LLC courses require permission. LLC Advisors will give permission for registration.**

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**LLC 750.01 Race, Society, and Policy**

This course explores how race and public policy interact with one another, especially in the United States. Because of the country's particular history of African-American slavery and legalized segregation and discrimination, most of our attention will be paid to how public policy is shaped by the dominant view of African-Americans and how the quality of life of African-Americans as a group can be affected by public policy. A common image portrays this nation as a "melting pot" which provides equal opportunities to all. Others stress that racial and ethnic conflicts have occurred regularly throughout American history. In this course, we will discuss issues that will help us determine which description of the United States is more accurate. Much of the course will be devoted to the examination and analysis of public policies as they relate to African Americans and other racial and ethnic minorities. We will also discuss the competing views on such issues as equal opportunity policy, educational policy, the criminal justice programs, affirmative action, and other policies on the public agenda. We will examine and critique several of the explanations that social scientists and others have developed over the years, which seek to account for the origins and persistence of racial prejudice, conflict and inequality. Finally, we will conclude with a look at various public policy initiatives to reduce racial and ethnic disparities.

**LLC 750.02 Diversity in Organizations and Institutions**

Writers who describe the United States often comment about the diversity of our population. For most Americans, diversity is a good thing—at least on the surface. It is often connected with eradicating barriers that have historically barred access to people who differ from what is considered to be the norm. A common image portrays this nation as a "melting pot" which provides equal opportunities to all. Presumably, the achievements of an individual depend on his or her ability and diligence rather than skin color, gender, sexual orientation, or cultural background. Others offer a very different view of this nation's opportunity structure. They acknowledge the diversity of our population, but stress that group conflicts—often violent ones--have occurred regularly. They point out that throughout our history, there have been

attempts to preserve the advantages of those who already have them. Such commentators contend that because of a history of strife and conflict, group identities have not disappeared in the United States. Indeed, they would contend that divisions have become larger in recent years.

In this course, we will review and critically analyze several of the explanations that social scientists and others have developed over the years, which seek to account for the origins and persistence of racial, class, gender, and sexual orientation prejudice, conflict and inequality. Much of the course will be devoted to the examination and analysis of “critical diversity” in various social organizations and institutions. We will also discuss the competing views on such issues as equal opportunity, the educational system, the criminal justice system, affirmative action, and other issues on the public agenda. Finally, we will conclude with a look at various public policy initiatives to reduce group disparities.

### **Sampling of Other Courses Offered at UMBC**

*Check the Spring Schedule of Classes for additional courses, as well as offerings from other USM programs.*

- ENGL 607 Language in Society, Wed 7:10-9:40pm (McCarthy)  
ENGL 631 Texts and Concepts -- Rhetoric & Software Studies, Mon 4:30-7pm (Maher)
- HIST 705 Public History, Wed 6-8:30pm (Meringolo)  
HIST 702 The Practice of History, Mon 7:10-9:40pm (Musgrove)
- MLLI 602 Ethnography of Communication, Tues 4:30-7pm (Ka)  
MLLI 625 Inter/Cross-cultural Communication, Thurs 7:10-9:40pm (Medina)  
MLLI 670 L2 Acquisition: Theory-Practice, Thurs 4:30-7pm (Oskoz)  
MLLI 695 Intercultural Video Production I, Mon 4:30-7pm (Shewbridge)
- SOCY 619 Qualitative Methods in Social Research, Tu 4:30-7pm (Eckert)  
SOCY 633 Gender, Work and Family in Cross-Cultural Perspectives, Th 4:30-7pm (Adler)  
SOCY 658 Sociology of Mental Health and Illness, Th 7:10-9:40 (Smith)  
SOCY 663 Intro to International Field Research, Wed 4:30-7pm (Stuart)  
SOCY 685 Social and Institutional Roles of Nonprofits, Wed 7:10-9:40pm (Crouch)  
SOCY 670 Social Ties Across the Life Course, Mon 4:30- 7pm (Mair)  
SOCY 698 Putting the Sociological Imagination into Practice Locally, Wed 4:30-7pm (Adler)