

Texas State University
Introduction to Global Diversity Studies
DVST 3320
Fall 2025
Online Course

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Ofc Hours: By appointment only

Course Description:

This course provides an understanding of relationship between U.S and other nations in terms of economics, politics, and culture. Students will examine how colonialism shaped developed and underdeveloped nations, investigate grassroots activism in response to globalization and will examine how policies formulation by one country has consequences for other countries. (MULT). This is a required course for the Diversity Studies minor and an elective for the **Latina/o Studies Minor** and the Minor in **Latin Music Studies**. This is a **Writing Intensive (WI) course (60% of your grade will be based on writing assignments)**. **There are no prerequisites for this class.**

Course Goals and Objectives:

- Understand through readings, and implement through writings, the foundational concepts and development of Global Diversity Studies including its interdisciplinary composition, relevance, and application, as related to social and political participation, public policy, and how the concept of *diversity* affects the lives of individuals in American society.
- Learn and apply theoretical frameworks within Diversity Studies, particularly those examining issues related to race, ethnicity, gender, economics, ability, and other socio-political regularities that help to frame individuals' respective and shared experiences, living in the U.S.
- Evaluate your personal--private and public--political experience, as you understand it, living in today's United States, as an Individual; within an identified Group/Community; as part of the Nation Society.
- Students will develop various academic competencies of writing, communication, punctuality, effort, class involvement, willingness to work with others in groups, and individual volition to complete tasks.

Required Readings: The course content will include readings from multiple articles all uploaded to Canvas. There is no textbook for this course, and all readings are provided free of cost. The format of this course will include digital, online and asynchronous discourse between the professor and the students, and the assignments will highlight multiple critical issues as related to nationalism, globalization, racial and ethnic experiences, including aspects that are relevant to religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, and physical ability.

Required Equipment for this course: This is an online course. You will need a computer, reliable internet, and your Texas State NetID and Password to log on to the Canvas site. Go to txstate.edu and Search for **Canvas**. Select TXST Login and select this course: DVST 3320.

Course Organization: This course is organized into weekly units of instruction, as outlined in the Course Schedule. Instructional materials include assigned readings and some additional optional readings, media, and discourse conducted through forum posts and responses, writing assignments, and short quizzes. We will conduct all these tasks through Canvas.

The Shared Journey: Four Stops

Throughout the semester, we will *travel* through four global “Stops.” Each stop represents a key lens for understanding diversity in the global era. *Dr. Torres will provide weekly units of instruction, to guide the journey-the acquisition and implementation of new concepts and approaches:*

1. **STOP 1 Sept 19_Borders & Nations** → Nationalism, migration, and changing boundaries.
2. **STOP 2 Oct 10_Markets & Media** → Globalization, technology, and the internet of things.
3. **STOP 3 Oct 31_Struggles & Movements** → Human rights, gender equity, climate change.
4. **STOP 4 NOV 21_Futures of Diversity** → Global citizenship, sustainability, individual power.

At each stop, we engage the assigned readings, forums, and writing pieces, while returning to our shared global “narrative” and discovery.

Assignments & Evaluation

- **Forum Posts (4 × 50 pts = 200 pts / 33%)**
Four posts (200 words each). Forum #1 is an Introduction Post in Week 1. Forums 2–4 align to Stops 1–3. Each post must include a reflection, one peer question, and replies to two classmates.
- **Short Papers (2 × 100 pts = 200 pts / 33%)**
Two open-ended papers (700–1000 words). Students choose their format (essay, policy memo, media analysis, AI-assisted project, etc.). Must engage the assigned readings + shared global story.
- **Assessment/Quiz (1 × 50 pts = 50 pts / 8%)**
Covers key concepts (nationalism, globalization, equity, power, etc.).
- **Final Course Paper (1 × 150 pts = 150 pts / 25%)**
1500 words. Students may choose ethnography (group focus) or autoethnography (self-focus). Must integrate at least 2 stops and course readings.

Total = 600 pts

Letter Grade Point Range % Range

A	540–600	90–100%
B	480–539	80–89%
C	420–479	70–79%
D	380–419	60–69%
F	below 380	<60%

Late Assignments: Late assignments will lose 10% of their given points, for each day late. I am gracious, and in emergency situations and/or with good reason, brief extensions can be provided.

Course Calendar Fall 2025

Weeks	Stop / Theme	Reading	Assignments
Week 1 (Aug 25–29)	Orientation	—	Forum #1 (Intro Post) due Aug 29
Weeks 2–4 (Sept 1–19)	Stop 1: Borders & Nations (nationalism, migration, security) Sept 19	Harris (2020), <i>The Role of Nationalism in the 21st Century</i>	Forum #2 due Sept 19
Weeks 5–7 (Sept 22–Oct 10)	Stop 2: Markets & Media (globalization, internet of things) Oct 10	Paiuc (2021), <i>Cultural Globalization & IoT</i>	Short Paper #1 due Oct 5 Forum #3 due Oct 10
Weeks 8–10 (Oct 13–31)	Stop 3: Struggles & Movements (crises, rights, equity) Oct 31	Fandrajewska et al. (2020), <i>COVID & Globalization</i>	Forum #4 due Oct 24 Short Paper #2 due Oct 31
Weeks 11–13 (Nov 3–21)	Stop 4: Futures of Diversity (citizenship, sustainability, digital futures) Nov 21	Fang (2022), <i>Cyber-Nationalism & Propaganda</i>	Assessment due Nov 21
Weeks 14–16 (Nov 24–Dec 12)	Integration & Final Paper Dec 12	—	Thanksgiving Break (Nov 24–28) Final Paper due Dec 12, 11:59pm

“U” Grade: Grade used when a student does not complete a course (i.e., did not take a final exam, stopped attending, etc.) and fails to achieve the course objectives. A grade of an “N” will be given to student who never showed up to attend class.

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION (10%). This class is 100% Online and Asynchronous. Attendance is based on completion of the course modules and assignments.

COVID Issues:

Let me know any concerns you have, and I’ll do everything I can to be flexible and to still work to provide a high-quality educational experience. If you have not done so already, please read the Roadmap to Return and take the Bobcat Pledge.

Class Modality:

This class is asynchronous and will be conducted via Canvas, with some required face-to-face engagement via Zoom.

Content

Some of the material in this class may contain adult/mature content. If you are under 18 years of age, please let the instructor know as soon as possible.

Civility in the Virtual Classroom:

Civility in the classroom is very important for the educational process and it is everyone's responsibility. If you have questions about appropriate behavior in a particular class, please address them with your instructor first. Such reviews may result in consequences ranging from warnings to sanctions from the university. For more information regarding conduct in the classroom, please review the following policies at <https://policies.txstate.edu/division-policies/academic-affairs/02-03-02.html>, Section 03: Courteous and Civil Learning Environment, and <https://studenthandbook.txstate.edu/rules-and-policies/code-of-student-conduct.html>, number II, Responsibilities of Students, Section 02.02: Conduct Prohibited.

Bobcat Trace:

Should you believe that you have COVID-19 or have come into close contact with someone who tests positive, please report this via the [Bobcat Trace](#) reporting system. Depending upon what instruction you receive from the Student Health Center you may need to report it to me and or the Dean of Students.

FERPA

It is against FERPA policy for the instructor to discuss grades over email so I will not email you your grades. You will need to come to my office hours to speak with me about your grade and academic progress. Dropping a class is the student's responsibility. Never assume that I will drop you from the class. If you fail to drop the class, you may end up with a failing "F" grade at the end of the class session. Make sure you drop the class before the "W" deadline date. See the Academic Course Calendar to find out when to drop the class. Incomplete will be assigned in cases where students can show documentation that they had a medical emergency.

WITHDRAWING, NON-PASSING GRADES AND ATTENDANCE FOR FINANCIAL AID RECIPIENTS : Certain

grants require you to have begun attending the courses for which you are enrolled and receiving these grants. If on the census class day roster (12th day of each fall and spring semester) you are reflected as not attending a course, you are assumed to not have begun attendance for that course. Your financial aid will be adjusted or cancelled based on the courses you have actually begun attending. If you withdraw or are expelled from the university on or prior to the 60 percent point of the semester, you are required to repay any unearned portion of your federal Title IV aid.

See <http://www.finaid.txstate.edu/undergraduate/withdrawals.html>

Group Discussion: Group discussion will be based on reflection questions. Student will be asked questions and expected to respond. All students will be treated with respect, dignity and civility. When you are in class I expect that students do not disrupt others students learning. A careful and complete reading of the assignments is required. Be prepared for class. I will not tolerate inattention, incivility, or vulgarity either to me, the TA or to other students. When another student is speaking, I expect you to give him or her your undivided attention. If you disagree with something that is said in class, you will be given the chance to express your disagreement politely. If you are disruptive to others in class I will reserve the right to ask you to leave the class or speak with you personally. The goal of the group discussion is to listen to different perspectives and arguments regarding an issue.

Promptness/Staying the entire class period: You should arrive to class on time. You should stay in class until it is over unless you have made prior arrangements with me. Do not get up and leave during a class session, unless you are ill and have spoken with me prior to the class meeting. Attention to the course material during our class meetings: Do not read newspapers, magazines, or any other material including electronic devices

during this class meeting unless it pertains to what we're doing. Everyone will contribute sharing the responsibility in making are class a positive experience. You're thorough understanding of the readings is crucial for meaningful class discussion as well as your own learning. It is your responsibility to find out about any missed course material, including announcements and handouts given at any time during the class meeting. Class lectures cannot be audio or video recorded in any way (telephone, camera, tape-recorded) without my (the Professor's or Teaching Assistant) permission. It is your responsibility to find out about any missed course material, including announcements and handouts given at any time during the class meeting. Dropping a class is the student's responsibility. Never assume that I will drop you from the class. If you fail to drop the class, you may end up with a failing "F" grade at the end of the class session. I do not give "I" as a grade in this class. The Professor reserves the right to ask the student to leave the class

All visitors (a visitor is someone who is not formally registered in the class) must request permission from the instructor to attend or audit the class, this includes guests, family and friends of a student who is enrolled in this course.

LATE WORK

Make up exams will only be given in the event of a personal medical or other serious emergency and you must give me a written document describing the date and nature of your emergency and must show documentation, for example, a doctor's note or police report. Otherwise, you will receive a zero on your exam or quiz or paper. The exam must be made up within a week of the due date of the exam.

WITHDRAWING, NON-PASSING GRADES AND ATTENDANCE FOR FINANCIAL AID

RECIPIENTS: Certain

grants require you to have begun attending the courses for which you are enrolled and receiving these grants. If on the census class day roster (12th day of each fall and spring semester) you are reflected as not attending a course, you are assumed to not have begun attendance for that course. Your grant will be adjusted or cancelled based on the courses you have actually begun attending. If you withdraw or are expelled from the university on or prior to the 60 percent point of the semester, you are required to repay any unearned portion of your federal Title IV aid. A grade of a U (unearned failing) is awarded to students who do not officially withdraw from but fail to complete a course (i.e., did not take a final exam, stopped attending, etc.) and failed to achieve the course objects. See <http://www.finaid.txstate.edu/undergraduate/withdrawals.html>

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

If you require an accommodation(s) to participate in this course, please contact me as soon as possible. It is your responsibility as a student to contact the ODS and inform us of your accommodations. You will be asked to provide documentation from the Office of Disability Services. Failure to contact me in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. Go to <http://www.ods.txstate.edu/Faculty-Resources/Resources.html>

COLLEGIALITY/CRITICAL THINKING

As part of this course, we will be discussing issues that are very controversial. All ideas will be held up to examined with maturity, and intellectually with civility. You will be presented with a variety of thoughts about these topics and it is up to you to decide where you stand on the various issues. I will make an effort to help you learn the class material and understand the material. In other words, I will be prepared for class and when you are speaking, you will have my undivided attention.

Texas State University is a doctoral-granting, student-centered institution dedicated to excellence and innovation in teaching, research, including creative expression, and service. The university strives to create new knowledge, to embrace a diversity of people and ideas, to foster

cultural and economic development, and to prepare its graduates to participate fully and freely as citizens of Texas, the nation, and the world. As members of a community dedicated to learning, inquiry and creation, the students, faculty and administration of our university live by the principles in this Honor Code. These principles require all members of this community to be conscientious, respectful and honest.

WE ARE CONSCIENTIOUS. We complete our work on time and make every effort to do it right. We come to class and meetings prepared and are willing to demonstrate it. We hold ourselves to doing what is required, embrace rigor and shun mediocrity, special requests and excuses.

WE ARE RESPECTFUL. We act civilly toward one another and we cooperate with each other. We will strive to create an environment in which people respect and listen to one another, speaking when appropriate, and permitting other people to participate and express their views.

WE ARE HONEST. We do our own work and are honest with one another in all matters. We understand how various acts of dishonesty, like plagiarizing, falsifying data and giving or receiving assistance to which one is not entitled, conflict as much with academic achievement as with the values of honesty and integrity.

Diversity Statement: We prepare all students to achieve their career goals and make positive and meaningful contributions as they interact in a diverse and increasingly global society through an inclusive program of learning and engagement, rich with diverse perspectives.

Discrimination against or harassment of individuals on the basis of sex, religion, race or disability is inconsistent with the of the university.

Texas State Shared Values

In pursuing our mission, we, the faculty, staff, and students of Texas State University, are guided by a shared collection of values:

- Teaching and learning based on research, student involvement, and the free exchange of ideas in a supportive environment;
- Research and creative activities that encompass the full range of academic disciplines—research with relevance, from the sciences to the arts, from the theoretical to the applied;
- The cultivation of character, integrity, honesty, civility, compassion, fairness, respect, and ethical behavior in all members of our university community;
- A diversity of people and ideas, a spirit of inclusiveness, a global perspective, and a sense of community as essential conditions for campus life;

- A commitment to service and leadership for the public good;
- Responsible stewardship of our resources and environment; and
- Continued reflection and evaluation to ensure that our strengths as a community always benefit those we serve.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students who cheat or plagiarize on an exam or paper will receive an automatic zero on the exam. I do not give out grades over the phone or via e-mail in order to protect student confidentiality. The phrase, academic dishonesty, includes a variety of violations. It refers to acts such as cheating on a test to committing plagiarism when writing a paper. The Sociology Department assumes that it is the responsibility of each student to know what constitutes academic dishonesty. A lack of understanding of the phrase is no excuse when academic dishonesty is at issue. Similarly, a student may not be excused from a current violation because he/she committed a similar act in the past and was not charged with a violation of university policy. Any student who is accused with academic dishonesty has the right to challenge the accusation, but the challenge must be submitted in writing and in accordance with Texas State University.

Violations of the Texas State University Academic Integrity Policy

]As members of the university community, students are expected to be aware of and abide by university policies regarding academic honesty. By the same token, members of the faculty within the university community are expected to enforce those policies. Members of the Department of Sociology operate on the assumption that each student has thoroughly reviewed the university policies regarding academic honesty and that the policies will be followed. Accordingly, members of the Department of Sociology will enforce all policies related to academic honesty. The specific policy statements in this regard are to be found at the following websites:

[Texas State Code of Conduct](#)

[Honor Code](#)

[Academic Honesty, UPPS No. 07.10.01](#)

The following is not a substitute for the statement of policies found in the above referenced material. Rather, it serves to call each student's attention to the breadth and depth of academic dishonesty.

Academic dishonesty includes the following: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or abuse of resource materials. Each term or phrase is defined in some detail in the above reference

material. Because the offense of plagiarism can be confusing to students, the following information is provided as essential reading by all students.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- ❑ downloading or buying a research paper
- ❑ cutting and pasting information from several sources to create a paper
- ❑ leaving out quotation marks around quoted material, placing quotation marks around some but not all copied information
- ❑ leaving out quotation marks around copied information but adding a citation implying that the information is the student's summary of the source
- ❑ leaving out quotation marks for more than three consecutive words taken directly from a source
- ❑ providing a reference/bibliography page but leaving out the reference citation in the body of the paper
- ❑ faking a citation
- unintentionally using words or ideas or quotes without citing them in the body of the paper and on the reference/bibliography page
(<http://www.virtualsalt.com/antiplag.htm>)

Ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism or having plagiarized in the past without having been penalized does not excuse such acts in the Department of Sociology. Any student charged with plagiarism may appeal in writing in accordance with Texas State University policy.

Honor Code of Texas State

All faculty, staff and students are responsible for supporting the principles of conscientiousness, respectfulness and honesty and demonstrating a commitment to the university's Academic Honor Code. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty undermine the very purpose of the university and diminish the value of an education. Specific expectations for academic integrity and sanctions for academic dishonesty are outlined on the Honor Code Council. Code of Student Conduct - <http://www.dos.txstate.edu/handbook/rules/cosc.html> . The Honor Code - <http://www.txstate.edu/honorcodecouncil/Academic-Integrity.html>

OFFICE HOURS

I will be available to you outside of class during office hours should you desire help, clarification, etc. If you need to contact me, you may do one of the following: send me an e-mail message (best way to contact me), leave a message on my office phone voice mail, or of course, drop by my office during office hours. I will return student emails and phone calls within 48 hours.

Electronic Devices in Classroom Policy Department of Sociology

The absence of unnecessary distractions and interruptions being essential for an effective learning environment, the Department of Sociology requires that each and every student adhere to the following rules regarding the use of electronic devices in the classroom. These guidelines constitute department policy and the student's receipt and acceptance of a course syllabus containing a

course instructor's rules on the use of electronic devices shall constitute acceptance of this policy. Definition

Electronic device includes cell phones (including smartphones), computers (laptops, notebooks, netbooks, and handhelds), mp3 and other digital audio and video players (including DVD players), and analog and digital audio and video recording devices (still and movie cameras).

1. A student may not use an electronic device during class time without the express permission of the instructor. Use of cell/smartphones during class time is always prohibited, as is leaving the room to answer or make a call.
2. A student with a diagnosed disability must present to the course instructor the appropriate paperwork from the Office of Disability Services in order to work out an accommodation for the use of otherwise prohibited electronic devices.
3. In all cases, when permission has been granted by an instructor for the use of an electronic device in the classroom, the student shall employ such device solely in a manner appropriate to the course work and avoiding distractions or interruptions to fellow students or the instructor, including leaving the room to use such device.
4. The course instructor has the discretion to grant either individual or a blanket approval or prohibition for the use of one or more types of electronic devices in the classroom.
5. The course instructor reserves the right to withdraw previously granted approval for the use of an electronic device, on an individual or blanket basis, if in the instructor's best judgment continued use of such device detracts from the effectiveness of the classroom-learning environment.
6. The course instructor shall include in each course syllabus a statement establishing under what conditions electronic devices may be used in the classroom, and the manner in which a violation of the instructor's rules of use of such devices shall be addressed. In case of a change in status of an electronic device in the course of the semester, the instructor will update the course syllabus as appropriate.
7. A student violating an instructor's classroom policy or individual instructions on the use electronic devices in the classroom shall be subject to any or all of the following actions:
 - Confiscation of the device by the instructor for the remainder of the class period
 - Dismissal from the class for the day on which the offense occurs
 - Referral of the student to the Office of Student Justice for disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct.

Use of electronic devices per departmental policy: Electronic device includes cell phones (including smartphones), computers (laptops, notebooks, netbooks, tablets and handhelds), mp3 and other digital audio and video players (including DVD players), and analog and digital audio and video recording devices (still and movie cameras)

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 - Dismissal from the class for the day on which the offense occurs
 - Referral of the student to the Office of Student Justice for disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct

Lecture material: My lectures are protected by copyright law. Although you are authorized to take notes in class and create a derivative work from my lecture, the authorization extends only to making one set of notes for your own personal use and no other use. You are authorized, however to share notes with other students in the class. You are not authorized to record my lectures or to make any commercial use of them without my express prior permission

