Cultural Sociology and Social Problems

- Book: Beyond Race - Cultural Influences on Human Social Life (Kennedy)

The book is supported by discussion of relevant theory and research in cultural sociology. Beyond Race: Cultural Influences on Human Social Life has stressed learner-centered teaching with the instructor taking on the role of a facilitator of learning. As such, it is expected the instructor will serve as the mediator between the content of this book and learners’ understanding of material on multiple and higher levels.

- Front Matter
- 1: Culture and Meaning
- 2: Culture as a Social Construct
- 3: Cultural Power
- 4: Cultural Identity
- 5: The Multicultural World
- Back Matter
I have designed this brief textbook for use in a Sociology survey course for Minority Studies; thus, it looks at minorities from a very broad but shallow Sociological perspective and includes discussion of race, ethnicity, sex, gender, sexual orientation, aging, and disability. The last section is devoted to expulsion and genocide.

- Front Matter
- 1: Introduction to Minority Studies
- 2: Dominant and Minority Groups
- 3: Race and Ethnicity
- 4: Sex, Gender, and Sexual Orientation
- 5: Aging
- 6: Disability
- 7: Hate Kills - The Consequences of Bigotry
- 8: The Three Sociological Paradigms
- 9: Reading Lists
- 10: Websites of Interest to Students of Sociology
- Back Matter

- Exploring Socio-Cultural Perspectives in Diversity (Cozart et al.)

The fundamental knowledge of understanding culture and teaching children from diverse backgrounds. Examination of the nature and function of culture, development of individual and group cultural identity, definitions and implications of diversity, and the influences of culture on learning, development, and pedagogy. This course has a required field experience component.

- Front Matter
1: Multiculturalism
   ◦ 2: Race and Ethnicity
   ◦ 3: Class and Socioeconomic Status
   ◦ 4: Gender and Sexual Identity
   ◦ 5: Special Needs
   ◦ 6: Language, Immigration, and Geography
   ◦ 7: Religion
   ◦ 8: Conclusions
   ◦ Back Matter

- Wellbeing, Freedom and Social Justice: The Capability Approach Re-Examined (Robeyns)

Wellbeing, Freedom and Social Justice: The Capability Approach Re-Examined is both an introduction to the capability approach and a thorough evaluation of the challenges and disputes that have engrossed the scholars who have developed it.

- Front Matter
  ◦ 1: Introduction
  ◦ 2: Core Ideas and the Framework
  ◦ 3: Clarifications
  ◦ 4: Critiques and Debates
  ◦ 5: Which Future for the Capability Approach?
  ◦ Back Matter
• Deleting Dystopia: Re-Asserting Human Priorities in the Age of Surveillance Capitalism (Slaughter)

Deleting Dystopia confirms that the existential threats posed by the misuse of advanced digital technologies are real. But, in place of apathy and fatalism, Slaughter explores ways of understanding the threat, conceptualising solutions and identifying strategies that lead away from digital authoritarian futures towards those funded on humanly viable values and practices.

◦ Front Matter
◦ 1: Starting points and emerging issues
◦ 2: Case studies and implications
◦ 3: Framing solutions
◦ 4: Humanising and democratising the IT revolution
◦ 5: The IT revolution reassessed
◦ 6: Witnesses to the revolution
◦ 7: Resistance and renewal
◦ Back Matter

• Defend Dissent: Digital Suppression and Cryptographic Defense of Social Movements (Borradaile)

Defend Dissent is an introduction to cryptography paired with the social impacts of surveillance and the protective potential of encryption, with a focus on US social movements. Each chapter ends with a story that brings social context to the material—from surveillance used against contemporary US protests to the African
National Congress’s use of partially manual encryption in fighting apartheid in South Africa in the 80s.

- Front Matter
- 1: An Introduction to Cryptography
- 2: Digital Suppression of Social Movements (in the US)
- 3: Defending Social Movements (in the US)
- Back Matter

Thumbnail: Mural showing the portrait of George Floyd in Mauerpark in Berlin. (CC0; Singlespeedfahrer via Wikipedia)