Structural Factor	Description
Fundamental Institutions	Characteristics of major institutions including family, education, and religion
Dominant Culture	Controlling and imposed ideologies and value system
Cultural & Social Characteristics of Groups	Customs, lifestyles, values, attitudes, aesthetics, language, education, religion, formal and informal rules, social organization, and material objects of each group
Historical association	Past contact and interactions between racial-ethnic groups (i.e., voluntary or involuntary immigration, colonialism, segregation, etc.)

This material (Table 1) developed from concepts introduced by John E. Farley (2010) in *Minority-Minority Relations* (6th ed.) published by Prentice-Hall.

People may occupy multiple statuses in a society. At birth, people are **ascribed status** in alignment to their physical and mental features, race, and gender. In some societies, people may earn or **achieve status** from their talents, efforts, or accomplishments (Griffiths et al., 2015). Obtaining higher education or being an artistic prodigy often corresponds to high status. For example, a college degree awarded from an "Ivy League" university social weighs higher status than a degree from a public state college. Just as talented artists, musicians, and athletes receive honors, privileges, and celebrity status.

In addition, the social, political hierarchy of a society or region designates social status. Consider the social labels within class, race, ethnicity, gender, education, profession, age, and family. **Labels** defining a person's characteristics serve as their position within the larger group. People in a majority or **dominant group** have higher status (e.g., rich, White, male, physician, etc.) than those of the minority or **subordinate group** (e.g., poor, Black, female, housekeeper, etc.). Overall, the location of a person on the social strata influences their social power and participation (Griswold, 2013). Individuals with inferior power have limitations to social and physical resources including lack of authority, influence over others, formidable networks, capital, and money.

Minority groups are defined as people who receive unequal treatment and discrimination based on social categories such as age, gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity, religious beliefs, or socio-economic class. Minority groups are not necessarily numerical minorities (Griffith et al., 2015). For example, a large group of people may be a minority group because they lack social power. The physical and cultural traits of minority groups "are held in low esteem by the dominant or majority group which treats them unfairly" (Henslin, 2011, p. 217). The dominant group has higher power and status in society and receives greater privileges. As a result, the dominant group uses its position to discriminate against those that are different. The dominant group in the United States is represented by White, middle-class, Protestant people of northern European descent (Doane, 2005). Minority groups can garner power by expanding political boundaries or through expanded migration though both efforts do not occur with ease and require societal support from both minority and dominant group members. The loss of power among dominant groups threatens not only their authority over other groups but also the privileges and way of life established by this majority.

People sometimes engage in **status shifting** to garner acceptance or avoid attention. DuBois (1903) described the act of people looking through the eyes of others to measure social place or position as **double consciousness**. His research explored the history and cultural experiences of the American slavery and the plight of Black folk in translating thinking and behavior between racial contexts. DuBois' research helped social scientists understand how and why people display one identity in certain settings and another in different ones. People must negotiate a social situation to decide how to project their social identity and assign a label