

Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

Sociology 128 | University of California, Santa Barbara | Spring 2008

Course meets MWF, 9:00 – 9:50 am, Chemistry 1171

Instructor: Nicki Cole

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Course Website

<http://www.uweb.ucsb.edu/~nickilcole/soc128.html>

Required Texts

Winant, Howard. 2001. *The World is a Ghetto Race and Democracy Since World War II*. New York: Basic Books.

This text is available at the UCen Bookstore.

Espiritu, Yen Le. 2003. *Homebound: Filipino American Lives Across Cultures, Communities, and Countries*. Los Angeles: University of California Press.

This text must be purchased through an online vendor.

Course Reader, available from the Associated Students Publications Office at the UCen. Aside from the Espiritu and Winant books, all readings listed on this syllabus are found in the course reader.

The two books and the reader are on reserve at the library.

About This Course

In this course we will examine the many ways in which race and ethnicity structure our everyday lives in both the macro and the micro sense. Throughout the quarter we will address the following questions: What is race? What is ethnicity? How do they shape our social world? And in turn, how are they shaped *by* the social world? To answer these questions we will examine social relations brokered by institutions and systems as well as by people. In doing this, it is important that we consider the global historical context of race and ethnicity, and also that we rely on sociological theory to help us understand this history and our contemporary situation.

Overall we will focus on the contemporary United States, however to understand our current period, we must have knowledge of the historical making and remaking of race and ethnicity. And while we will focus on the United States, we must recognize that the emergence of racial categories was a global process, and the rearticulation of them today takes place in a global context, and so our historical review will be set within a global context. Professor Howard Winant's book, *The World is a Ghetto*, will afford us a critical global tour of the creation of racial categories and how the modern world was built on them. Using this work and considering other scholarly works, we will develop an understanding of where modern conceptions of race and ethnicity came from, and how they have historically shaped and been shaped by institutional and individual interests and social relations.

Writing Requirement

This course is designated to meet the University's writing requirement, and as such must follow these guidelines: (1) the courses require one to three papers totaling at least 1,800 words, exclusive of elements like footnotes, equations, tables of contents, or references; (2) the required papers are independent of or in addition to written examinations; and (3) the paper(s) are a significant consideration in the assessment of student performance in the course. Therefore this course and its assignments are designed to challenge you to think critically about the material and subject matter, and to communicate your own sociological interpretation in writing.

Research Paper

Your primary assignment for this course is a research paper that will be written in three stages. You will receive credit for each portion of the assignment. The schedule for submitting in class each portion of the research paper is as follows:

Research topic and questions	Monday, April 14
First draft	Monday, May 5
Final draft	Monday, June 2

In Class Assignments

There will be occasional, brief, in-class or other assignments related to the material from the course. These, in addition to other forms of in class participation, will compose ten percent of your grade.

Group Meetings and Class Participation

This course will feature lectures on the readings and other relevant information, however in order to engage with sociological thinking discussion of concepts and research are necessary. Therefore group discussion and class participation are an important element of the course and will be reflected in grades. In the second week of class you will form groups of 3 or 4 with your classmates which will constitute your discussion group for the quarter. Groups will meet most Fridays from the third week of class on, and will meet approximately seven times during the quarter for the purpose of discussing readings and working collaboratively on the research paper. In group meetings you will review readings and course concepts, respond to questions about the readings posed by the instructor, and you will submit written work for which the group will receive a grade.

You are expected to come to class with notes on and questions about the readings for discussion with your group. During the quarter you will earn up to 20 points for group participation. **You must be present in class for group discussion in order to receive credit for group meetings.**

Attendance

Though attendance will not be taken, attendance is required. Lectures will not be simply a review of readings, and so it is imperative that you attend class. Lectures will not be available online. If you are regularly absent you will not do well in this class.

Office Visits

Meeting with the instructor and/or the teaching assistant throughout the quarter as you have questions or concerns about the class, and as you develop your research paper, is strongly encouraged. Without a doubt, students who speak with instructors and teaching assistants during office hours produce better written work and earn higher grades. We are here to help you!

Extra Credit

Throughout the quarter opportunities for extra credit will be presented. You may earn up to seven extra credit points during the quarter. Each extra credit submission will be awarded between zero and five points depending on the quality of work. Frequently announcements will be made about events on campus – talks, conferences, book readings, film screenings, musical and artistic shows – that qualify for extra credit. Events that you can attend for extra credit are also available on the course website. You too can suggest events that should be eligible for extra credit. To earn extra credit write a two page response paper based on the event you attended (see the course website for additional guidelines).

Course Website

The course website is designed as a resource for you. On the course website you'll find the instructor's and the teaching assistant's office hours and office location, the syllabus, assignment guidelines, tips on conducting research, guidelines for proper citation of books and articles, events eligible for extra credit, and links to university resources and to resources in the greater sociological community.

Final Exam

The final exam will take place during the university scheduled time: 8:00 to 11:00 am on Wednesday, June 11, in our classroom. The final will be an open-note bluebook exam. The questions on the final will not be announced in advance.

Grade breakdown:

Research topic	10%
Paper rough draft	15%
Paper final draft	20%
Group meetings	20%
Class participation	10%
Final exam	25%

Academic Integrity

Cheating, plagiarism and collusion will not be tolerated to any degree. To put it simply, do not do it. Anyone who is caught engaging in academic dishonesty will be reprimanded accordingly, and will be reported to both the chair of the sociology department and to the Office of the Dean of Students. To ensure that you understand the university's policy on these matters, you are required to read it online at this website: <http://hep.ucsb.edu/people/hnn/conduct/disq.html>

After you read the policy, please sign and date the Oath of Academic Honesty that you are given in class. Turn this form in at the beginning of class on Wednesday, April 9th. If you do not turn this form in you will be penalized 5 points on your final course grade.

Course schedule and readings are as follows. You are expected to read in advance the selections listed under each date for that day's class session.

Week 1: Course Introduction: Race , Racism, and the Social World

Monday, March 31 – Logistics and Course Overview

Wednesday, April 2 – Understanding Race and Ethnicity in Contemporary Society

Bulmer, Martin and John Solomos. 1999. "General Introduction." Pp. 3-17 in *Racism*, eds. M. Bulmer and J. Solomos. New York: Oxford University Press.

Friday, April 4 – Studying Race and Ethnicity

Winant, Howard. 1998. "Racism Today: Continuity and Change in the Post-Civil Rights Era." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 21(4): 755-766.

Week 2: Race and Popular Culture

Monday, April 7 – Popular Culture and Society

Gerbner, George. 2002. "Growing Up with Television: The Cultivation Perspective." Pp. 193-213 in *Against the Mainstream: The Selected Works of George Gerbner*, ed. Mi. Morgan. New York: Peter Lang Publishing, Inc.

Wednesday, April 9 – Consumer Goods and Knowledge

Cole, Nicki. 2008. "Global Capitalism Organizing Knowledge of Race, Gender and Class: The Case of Socially Responsible Coffee." *Journal of Race, Gender, and Class*. Forthcoming.

Friday, April 11 – Foundations of Stereotypes

In-class film viewing: *Ethnic Notions*, directed by Marlon Riggs (1987).

Week 3: Everyday Interaction

Monday, April 14 – Race and Neighborhood Life

Assignment due: Research topic and research questions

Williams, Lena. 2000. "Introduction." Pp. 1-12 in *It's the Little Things: Everyday Interactions that Anger, Annoy, and Divide the Races*. New York: Harcourt, Inc.

Lee, Jennifer. 2006. "Constructing Race and Civility in Urban America." *Urban Studies* 43(5/6): 903-917.

Wednesday, April 16 – Race in Talk and Interaction

Research Presentation by Kevin Whitehead

Fenstermaker, Sarah and Candace West. 1995. "Doing Difference." *Gender and Society* 9(1): 8-37.

Friday, April 18 – Race and School

Lewis, Amanda. 2003. "Everyday Race-Making: Navigating Racial Boundaries in Schools." *American Behavioral Scientist* 47(3): 283-305.

Week 4: How did we get here? The World History of Race and Ethnicity

Monday, April 21 – The Emergence and Dominance of Racial Hierarchies

Winant, Howard. 2001. *The World is a Ghetto: Race and Democracy Since World War II*. New York: Basic Books. Pp. xiii-50.

Wednesday, April 23 – Resistance to Domination

Winant, Howard. 2001. *The World is a Ghetto: Race and Democracy Since World War II*. New York: Basic Books. Pp. 51-129.

Friday, April 25 – Civil Rights and Contemporary United States

Winant, Howard. 2001. *The World is a Ghetto: Race and Democracy Since World War II*. New York: Basic Books. Pp. 133-176, and 289-316.

Week 5: Race, Ethnicity, and Capitalism

Monday, April 28 – Race and Capitalism: The Macro View

Gonzalez, Juan. 2000. "Free Trade: The Final Conquest of Latin America." Pp. 228-245 in *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America*. New York: Penguin Books.

Wednesday, April 30 – Laboring Under Capitalism

Research presentation by Daniel Olmos

Cacho, Lisa Marie. 2000. "'The People of California Are Suffering': The Ideology of White Injury in Discourses of Immigration." *Cultural Values* 4: 389-418.

Friday, May 2 – Race and Care Work

Ehrenreich, Barbara and Arlie Russell Hochschild. 2002. "Introduction." Pp. 1-14 in *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. New York: Henry Holt and Company.

Zarembka, Joy M. 2002. "America's Dirty Work: Migrant Maids and Modern-Day Slavery." Pp. 142-153 in *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. New York: Henry Holt and Company.

Week 6: Immigration Policy and Experiences of Immigration

Monday, May 5 – Imperialism and Immigration

Assignment due: First draft of research paper

Espiritu, Yen Le. 2003. *Home Bound: Filipino American Lives across Cultures, Communities, and Countries*. Los Angeles: University of California Press. Pp. ix-45.

Wednesday, May 7 – Immigrants and Racism

Espiritu, Yen Le. 2003. *Home Bound: Filipino American Lives across Cultures, Communities, and Countries*. Los Angeles: University of California Press. Pp. 46-69.

Friday, May 9 – Immigrants, Their Children, and Identity

Espiritu, Yen Le. 2003. *Home Bound: Filipino American Lives across Cultures, Communities, and Countries*. Los Angeles: University of California Press. Pp. 157-178, and 205-222.

Week 7: Politics, Law, and the Police

Monday, May 12 – The Racial Foundation of Politics and Law

Lipsitz, George. 1998. Pp. 1-46 in *The Possessive Investment in Whiteness: How White People Profit From Identity Politics*. Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press.

Wednesday, May 14 – Race and Prison

Brown, Michael KI, et al. 2003. "Been in the Pen So Long: Race, Crime, and Justice." Pp. 132-160 in *Whitewashing Race: The Myth of a Color-Blind Society*. Los Angeles, CA: University of California Press.

Friday, May 16 – The Criminalization of Youth

Research presentation by Patrick Lopez-Aguado

Parenti, Christian. "Carrying the Big Stick: SWAT and Paramilitary Policing." *Lockdown America*.

Optional: Rios, Victor M. 2006. "The Hyper-Criminalization of Black and Latino Male Youth in the Era of Mass Incarceration." *Souls* 8(2): 40-54.

Week 8: Identity

Monday, May 19 – The Evolution of "White"

Jacobson, Matthew Frye. 1998. "Anglo-Saxons and Others, 1840-1924." Pp. 39-68 in *Whiteness of a Different Color: European Immigrants and the Alchemy of Race*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Wednesday, May 21 – Consciousness and Identity

Du Bois, W.E.B. 1989. *The Souls of Black Folk*. New York: Penguin Books, pp. 1-12.

Kurien, Prema A. 2005. "Being Young, Brown, and Hindu: The Identity Struggles of Second-Generation Indian Americans." *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 34(4): 434-469.

Friday, May 23 – Culture and Identity

Garrouette, Eva Marie. 2003. "What If My Grandma Eats Big Macs?" Pp. 61-81 in *Real Indians: Identity and the Survival of Native America*. Los Angeles, CA: University of California Press.

Week 9: Race and the Body

Monday, May 26 – HOLIDAY, NO CLASS

Wednesday, May 28 – The Intersection of Race, Gender, and Sexuality

Collins, Patricia Hill. 2005. "Assume the Position: The Changing Contours of Sexual Violence." Pp. 215-245 in *Black Sexual Politics: African Americans, Gender, and the New Racism*. New York: Routledge.

Friday, May 30 – Skin Color and Identity

Ortiz Coffer, Judith. 2000. "The Story of My Body." Pp. 495-503 in *The Social Construction of Difference and Inequality: Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality*, ed. Tracy E. Ore. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Uehara-Carter, Mitzi. 2000. "On Being Blackanese." Pp. 509-512 in *The Social Construction of Difference and Inequality: Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality*, ed. Tracy E. Ore. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Week 10: Course Review

Monday, June 2 – course review
Assignment due: Final paper

Wednesday, June 4 – course review

Friday, June 6 – course review

Week 11: Final Exam

Wednesday, June 11, 8-11 am in our classroom.