

AMERICAN RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES

Fall 2008 University of Wisconsin-Madison

Sociology 134, Section 3

11:00am-11:50am MWF in 22 Ingraham Hall

Instructor: Martine Delannay: mcdelannay@wisc.edu, 608-262-7315

Office and Office Hours: 8142 Social Science -- 3:30-4:30 Monday/Wednesday

COURSE SUMMARY

This course provides a sociological approach to race and ethnicity in which we consider race and ethnicity as social constructs that permeate social life, are entrenched in social structures and institutions, and shift over time and space. We will examine the particular historical and contemporary ways in which race and ethnicity are made meaningful in the United States.

COURSE READINGS

The texts are listed below. Copies are on reserve at the Social Science Reference Library and the College Library Reserves. Books are available for purchase at A Room of One's Own, 307 W. Johnson Street (257-7888) and Rainbow Bookstore Cooperative, 426 W. Gilman St. (257-6050)

--*Rethinking the Color Line: Readings in Race and Ethnicity*, 3rd edition. edited by Charles A. Gallagher.

--*The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman.

--*Black Like Me* by John Howard Griffin

--*Night* by Elie Wiesel.

--Additional readings online at course reserves. Sign in to MyUW. Click on the Academics Tab. Click on Library/Reserves under our course.

Course Requirements:

Reading Analyses (60%):

- 6 reading analyses are required for the course. Each is worth 10% of your final grade
- Please be sure to credit sources you use. Responses should be about 750 words and should be submitted via www.turnitin.com. The class ID is 2333605 and the password is soc134.

Quizzes (25%):

- 5 quizzes are required for the course. Each quiz is worth 5% of your final grade. The quizzes will be short essay responses to questions based on lectures, discussions, videos and guest presentations since the previous quiz. Quizzes will be administered in class on the dates listed on the syllabus.

Film Analyses (15%):

- 2 film analyses are required for the course. Each analysis is worth 7.5% of your final grade. Analyses should be based on the videos we watch in class and should be sociological. Please use readings to support your arguments. They should be about 750 words and should be submitted via www.turnitin.com.

Final Grade:

A: 93 - 100% AB: 88 - 92% B: 83 - 87% BC: 78 - 82% C: 70 - 77% D: 60 - 69% F: below 60%

Topic and Reading Schedule:

Week 1

Wed 9/3

How We Cut Up Our Social World

--RCL: pp. 1-3 "Introduction: Rethinking the Color Line"

Fri 9/5

The Social Construction of Race and Ethnicity

--RCL: pp. 21-28 "Racial Formations" by Omi and Winant

--RCL: pp. 85-91 "Placing Race in Context" by Rodriguez and Cordero-Guzman

Week 2

Mon 9/8

Race-Ethnic Inequalities in Post-Secondary Education
--Guest presenter Megan Andrew

Wed 9/10

Film: *I Am a Promise: The Children of Stanton Elementary School*
--RCL: pp. 280-289 "Savage Inequalities" by Kozol

Fri 9/12

Some Theories

--RCL: pp. 29-45 "Theoretical Perspectives in Race and Ethnic Relations" by Feagin and Feagin

--RCL: pp. 46-55 "Racialized Social System Approach to Racism" by Bonilla-Silva

--RCL: pp. 169-175 "Race Prejudice as a Sense of Group Position" by Blumer

--RCL: pp. 176-184 "Discrimination and the American Creed" by Merton

Reading Analysis #1 due by midnight Saturday 9/13

Week 3

Mon 9/15

Who is What?

Film: *Race: The Power of an Illusion - The House We Live In*

--RCL: pp. 9-20 "Drawing the Color Line" by Zinn

-- Online: "How Did Jews Become White Folks?" by Brodtkin

-- Online: "Everybody's Ethnic Enigma" by McLeod

-- Online: "Who is Black? One Nation's Definition" by Davis

Wed 9/17

How Space Gets Raced

Film: *Race: The Power of an Illusion - The House We Live In*

--RCL: pp. 201-214 "The Possessive Investment in Whiteness" by Lipsitz

--RCL: pp. 224-250 "Residential Segregation and Neighborhood Conditions" by Massey and Denton

--RCL: pp. 251-261 "The Code of the Streets" by Anderson

--RCL: pp. 56-68 "An Overview of Trends in Social and Economic Well-Being, by Race" by Blank

--RCL: pp. 80-85 "Transformative Assets, the Racial Wealth Gap and the American Dream" by Shapiro

Fri 9/19

Panel: Asian American Collective

--RCL: pp. 113-122 "Asian American Panethnicity" by Espiritu

Week 4

Mon 9/22

Quiz #1

Wed 9/24

Presentation: UNIDOS Contra la Violencia Domestica

Fri 9/26

Intersections: Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Class, Sexuality

--Segment from *People Like Us: Social Class in America*

-- RCL: pp. 214-223 "The Continuing Significance of Race" by Feagin

-- Online: "Americans Have a Different Attitude" by Espiritu

-- Online: "To Veil or Not to Veil" by Read & Bartkowski

-- Online: "Double Lives on the Down Low" by Denizet-Lewis

Week 5

Mon 9/29 Mexico-US Migration -- Guest presenter Jack DeWaard
 -- Online: "March of Folly: U.S. Immigration Policy After NAFTA" by Massey
 -- Online: "Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal" by Massey et al

Wed 10/1 The Great Immigration Debate and its Racialized/Ethnicized Implications
 -- Online: "America's Changing Color Lines: Immigration, Race/Ethnicity, and Multiracial Identification" by Lee and Bean
 --RCL: pp. 477-498 "The Changing Face of America" by Zhou

Fri 10/3 Language

Reading Analysis #2 due by midnight Saturday 10/4

Week 6

Mon 10/6 Film

Wed 10/8 Race Online - Guest presenter Cabell Gathman
 -- Online: "Race In/For Cyberspace: Identity Tourism and Racial Passing on the Internet" by Lisa Nakamura

Fri 10/10 **Quiz #2**

Film Analysis #1 due by midnight Saturday 10/11

Week 7

Mon 10/13 "In 1492, Columbus Sailed the Ocean Blue"
 --RCL: pp. 92-112 "A Tour of Indian Peoples and Indian Lands" by Wilkins
 -- Online: "Real Indians: Identity and the Survival of Native America" by Garrouette

Wed 10/15 Identity
 -- Online: "Optional Ethnicities: For Whites Only?" by Waters
 -- Online: "'Race' and the Construction of Human Identity" by Smedley
 -- Online: "The Evolution of Identity" from the Washington Post
 -- Online: "Whiteness as an 'Unmarked' Cultural Category" by Frankenberg

Fri 10/17 Muslim Student Association Panel
 -- Online: "Middle Eastern Lives in America" by Marvasti and McKinney
 --RCL: pp. 498-517 "The Arab Immigrant Experience" by Suleiman

Reading Analysis #3 due by midnight Saturday 10/18

Week 8

Mon 10/20 Who Works Where and Why?
 --RCL: pp. 349-350 "Kristin v. Aisha; Brad v. Rasheed" by Braverman
 --RCL: pp. 350-362 "When the Melting Pot Boils Over" by Waldinger
 --RCL: pp. 363-378 "There's No Shame in My Game" by Newman and Ellis
 --RCL: pp. 379-398 "Sweatshops in Sunset Park" by Bao
 --RCL: pp. 398-414 "Hispanics in the American South" by Kandel and Parrado

Wed 10/22 Workers' Rights Center speaker

Fri 10.24 **Quiz #3**

Week 9

Mon 10/27 Race and Health
(*Unnatural Causes* by California Newsreel)
--RCL: pp. 69-79 "The Color of Health in the United States" by Williams and Collins
--RCL: pp. 290-299 "Why Are There No Supermarkets in My Neighborhood?" by Zenk
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down by Anne Fadiman

Wed 10/29 Shaping Public Health and Medicine: Social Control around Race and Gender
- Guest presenter Sue Pastor
-- Online: "Mastering the Female Pelvis: Race and the Tools of Reproduction" by Kapsalis
-- Online: "Looking at White American Culture" by Hitchcock

Fri 10/31 Race and Biology
Film: *Race: The Power of an Illusion – The Difference Between Us*

Reading Analysis #4 due by midnight Saturday 11/1

Week 10

Mon 11/3 Race, Representations and the Media
Film: *TV's Promised Land*
--RCL: pp. 415-419 "Broadcast News Portrayal of Minorities" by Klein and Naccarato
--RCL: pp. 420-431 "Television and the Politics of Representation" by Lewis and Jhally
--RCL: pp. 432-445 "Distorted Reality: Hispanic Characters in TV Entertainment" by Lichter and Amundson
-- Online: "Loot or Find: Fact or Frame?" by Harris and Carbado

Wed 11/5 Race and Sports
--RCL: pp. 446-455 "Winnebagos, Cherokees, Apaches, and Dakotas: The Persistence of Stereotyping of American Indians in American Advertising Brands" by Merskin
--RCL: pp. 456-466 "Sport in America: The New Racial Stereotypes" by Lapchick

Fri 11/7 Race and Religion -- Led by InterCultural Dialogues (ICD)
-- Online: Multiracial Congregations
-- Online: Race and Religion: The Elixir of Separation
-- Online: Southern Baptists Diversifying to Survive
-- Online: White Muslims?

Week 11

Mon 11/10 **Quiz #4**

Wed 11/12 How "American" Gets Defined in Times of Conflict and Not
-- Online: "Becoming Suspects" by Nguyen
--RCL: pp. 185-200 "Race and Civil Rights Pre-September 11, 2001" by Akram and Johnson

Fri 11/14 International Reach Guest Panel

Reading Analysis #5 due by midnight Saturday 11/15

Week 12

Mon 11/17

Racial Disparities in Criminal Justice

Film: *The Farm: Life Inside Angola Prison*

--RCL: pp. 304-314 "No Equal Justice: The Color of Punishment" by Cole

--RCL: pp. 324-344 "And the Poor Get Prison" by Reiman

Wed 11/19

Punishment/Justice as an Institution

Film: *The Farm: Life Inside Angola Prison*

--RCL: pp. 314-323 "Race and Criminalization: Black Americans and the Punishment Industry" by Davis

--RCL: pp. 344-349 "The Mark of a Criminal Record" by Pager

Fri 11/21

Environmental Justice

--RCL: pp. 262-279 "Environmental Justice in the 21st Century: Race Still Matters" by Bullard**Week 13**

Mon 11/24

Quiz #5

Wed 11/26

Thanksgiving Break. Class will not meet.**Week 14**

Mon 12/1

The Policing and Blurring of Boundaries

--RCL: pp. 122-129 "Beyond Black and White: Remaking Race in America" by Lee and Bean

--RCL: pp. 469-476 "The Melting Pot and the Color Line" by Steinberg

--RCL: pp. 542-553 "Discovering Racial Borders" by Dalmage

--RCL pp. 554-572 "The Changing Face of America: Intermarriage and the Mixed Race Movement" by Wu

--RCL pp. 573-582 "Ten Truths of Interracial Marriage" by Root

Wed 12/3

How We Divide

Film: *Promises*--*Night* by Elie Wiesel

Fri 12/5

And How We Undivide

Film: *Promises*--*Black Like Me* by John Howard Griffin**Reading Analysis #6 due by midnight Saturday 12/6****Week 15**

Mon 12/8

What Does It Mean to Not See Race and Ethnicity?

--RCL: pp. 130-142 "Color Blind Privilege" by Gallagher

--RCL: pp. 143-149 "The Ideology of Colorblindness" by Guinier and Torres

Wed 12/10

A New Hierarchy?

--RCL: pp. 149-165 "The Possibility of a New Racial Hierarchy" by Gans

-- Online: "We are all Americans: The Latin Americanization of Race Relations in the United States" by Bonilla-Silva and Glover

Fri 12/12

Quiz #5**Film Analysis #2 due by midnight Saturday 12/13**