BLACKS IN CITIES

PREREQUISITES: This course is limited to students who have earned sufficient credits to achieve Junior Standings. Although any student with at least Junior Standings can take this course, prior exposure to basic social science concepts, particularly those of sociology, would be of great benefit.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to materials related to the urbanization of the African American population in the United States. Here, urbanization refers to the distribution and redistribution of the African American population within the U.S. system of urban agglomerations. Specifically, this course will focus on the historical growth and the geographic distribution of the urban African American population, and the interrelations of residence in cities, residential segregation, geographic mobility, access to economic opportunities, socioeconomic advancement, and the well-being of African Americans living in cities. Although, Approximately 20 percent of the course will be devoted to reviewing historical materials, the primary interest is in understanding current patterns of residential concentration, the relative social and economic status of African Americans, and assessing the challenges and opportunities faced by African Americans in metropolitan areas. The following area will be covered in detail:

1. The urbanization of the black population: Colonial period to the 20th century, focusing particularly on the emergence of African American communities in the North and South regions.

2. The urbanization of the African American population in the 20th Century, including the role(s) of migration during and after WWI and WWII.

3. The residential distribution of the African American population in metropolitan areas, and its consequences for schooling and quality of life in neighborhoods.

4. The changing structure of economic opportunities for African Americans, and the growth of an underclass population in major cities.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Grading
A. Exams

Students taking this course for credit are expected to take two take-home exams, a mid-term and final, and write an essay (topic to be selected by instructor). The mid-term will be due 14 March, 2007 (1 PM); the final will be due on date indicated in timetable; and the essay will be due 16 April (1 PM), 2005. The final Grade for this course will be determined by weighting the scores received from two exams (90 percent of course grade) and the essay. Each exam will be worth 50 raw points (60 points for graduate students), but weighted and summed to derive the following point system:

a. Undergraduates.
   1) best score -- exam = 50 points (X) .50 (X) 2 = 50 points;
   2) second best score -- exam = 50 points (X) .40 (X) 2 = 40 points;
   3) Essay = 10 points.

b). Undergraduate Honors and Graduate Students
   1) best score -- exam = 60 points (X) .50 (X) 2 = 60 points;
   2) second best score -- exam = 60 points (X) .40 (X) 2 = 48 points;
   3) total exam score = (60 + 48) [X] .833 = 89.96 points
   4) Essay = 10 points.

Students who fail to turn in an exam by the day and time indicated will be penalized 10 raw points for that exam; and late essays will be penalized 3 points. An exam or essay turned in one week or more after the due date will receive a zero score. Final grades will be awarded on the basis of the following point totals: A = 92.5+; AB = 87-92.49; B = 82.5-87.49; BC = 75.0 -82.49; C = 65-74.9; D = 58.0 - 64.9; F, a score of less than 58.

2. Office hours:
   Regular office hours will be 2-4:00 pm, Tues. and Thurs., or by appointment.
   Office Location: 4446 Social Science Bldg. Phone: 262-2182
   E-Mail address: Wilson@ssc.wisc.edu.

3. Required Readings

Copies of required readings are available at the Social Science Reference Library, Room 8432, Social Science Building. These readings can also be accessed via E-Reserve at: http://my.wisc.edu/portal. Look under (course listing) Sociology, then Soc 577. You may also obtain a copy of the reading from me by bring a blank CD-ROM disk to my office.

COURSE OUTLINE AND REQUIRED READINGS
I. INTRODUCTION: THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF RACE (January 23)


II. THE URBANIZATION OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION: COLONIAL PERIOD TO WORLD WAR II.

A. THE MEANING OF FREEDOM BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR (Jan. 25, 30, Feb 6)

1. Constitutional Interpretation

Dred Scot V. Sanford, 60 U.S. 393 (1857)

2. Free People of Color: North and South


John S. Butler, Race and Entrepreneurship, Part I

B. THE DESTRUCTION OF SLAVERY AND THE RISE OF "JIM CROW": SOUTHERN STYLE (February 8, 13)

Plessy V. Ferguson, 163 U.S. 537 (1896).


Jacqueline Jones, Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow, Chapter 4 (Between the Cotton Field and the Ghetto).

John S. Butler, Race and Entrepreneurship, Part II
C. THE NORTH: LAND OF MILK AND HONEY, AND MORE "JIM CROW" (Feb 15, 20, 22)

1. The Great Migration (from the South) and Immigration from Europe: Who Left the Gate First and Why

Stanley Lieberson, *(A Piece of the Pie)*: Parts I, II, IV

Marks, Carole. Farewell - We're Good and Gone, 1989, Chapter 2

Jacqueline Jones, *(Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow)*, Chapter 5 (in Between the Cotton Field and the Ghetto).

2. African Americans in the Labor market

   Stanley Lieberson, *A Piece of the Pie*.

3. Residential Segregation

   Stanley Lieberson, *A Piece of the Pie*.

IV. POST WW II TRENDS (Feb 27, Mar 1).

A. Migration


B. The Residential Distribution of the Black Population in Metropolitan Areas.

1a. Introduction: The signification of Brown V. Board of Education (March 6)


1b. Residential Segregation (Mar 8, 13, 15)


U.S. Bureau of the Census, Residential Segregation of the U.S. Population

A. Residential Segregation in the US, 1980-2000, Chapters 1 and 2

B. Residential Segregation of Blacks or African Americans, Chapter 5

C. Cross-group comparisons, parts 1 and 2.

2. Racial Attitudes (Mar 20)


3. Housing market Discrimination (March 22)


C. Suburbanization (March 27)


Report by Lewis Mumford center, New Ethnic Enclaves in America’s Suburbs

V. THE CHANGING STRUCTURE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS

A. Educational Attainment (Mar 29)


B. Labor Market Status and Socioeconomic Well-being (April 10, 12)


C. Ethnicity and Entrepreneurship (April 17)


D. Immigrants and African Americans (April 19)


E. Race and Wealth (April 24)


F. Discrimination and Affirmative Action (April 26)


G. The Urban Underclass: Race, Crime, and Public Policy (May 1, 3)


SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

I. INTRODUCTION: THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF RACE


A. Social Science Research and African Americans

Duster, Troy. 1987. "Purpose and Bias," Society, Jan/Feb: 8-12


B. Slavery

Wilson, William J., The Declining Significance of Race.


Farley, Reynolds, Growth of the Black Population.

Meier, August, and Elliott M. Rudwick, From Plantation to Ghetto.


Sowell, Thomas, Race and Economics.


McManus, Edgar J., Black Bondage in the North.

Genovese, Eugene D., Roll Jordan, Roll.

Starobin, Robert S., Industrial Slavery in the Old South.


A. THE MEANING OF FREEDOM BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR


Litwack, Leon F., North of Slavery.
Sowell, Thomas, Race and Economics, Chapter 2.


Henri, Florette, *Black Migration: Movement North: 1900-1920*. Chapters 1,2,8.


3. Residential Segregation

**Required Readings (February 27)**

**Stanley Lieberson**, *A Piece of the Pie*, Chapter 12.


**Supplemental Readings**


IV. POST WW II TRENDS.

A. Migration


Johnson, D. M., and R. R. Cambell, Black Migration in America, Chapters 8 and 12.


O'Hare, William P., Blacks on the Move: A Decade of Demographic Change, Chapters 1-3.


B. The Residential Distribution of the Black Population in Metropolitan Areas.

Lewis Mumford Center (SUNY-Albany), Ethnic Diversity Grows, Neighborhood Integration Lags Behind.


Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton, American Apartheid, Chapters 3-4, 7-8.


2. Racial Attitudes and housing Discrimination


C. School Segregation, Suburbanization and Quality.

1. School Segregation

Required Readings


Lewis Munford Center (SUNY-Albany), The New Ethnic Enclaves in America’s Suburbs


V. THE CHANGING STRUCTURE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS


Wilson, William J. The Declining Significance of Race, Chapters 5-8.

Wilson, William J. When Work Disappears.


Todd Lewan. 2001. AP Documents Land Taken From Blacks Through Trickery, Violence and Murder


Christopher Jencks, Rethinking Social Policy: Race, Poverty and The Under Class, Chapter 1.


Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton, American Apartheid, Chapters 5-6.

Fischer, Claude S. 1996. Inequality by Design: Cracking the Bell Curve Myth, pp 170-203.


New York Times Series: How Race is Lived in America

1. Mirta Ojito, Best of Friends, Worlds Apart, June 5, 2000


3. Ginger Thompson, Reaping What was Sown on the Old Plantation, June 22, 2000

4. Timothy Egan, When tp Campaign with Color, June 20, 2000
5. Dana Canedy, Between the Lines, A Measure of Hurt, June 29, 2000


