

**Ethnic Politics**  
**Sociology 144**  
**Professor G. Cristina Mora**  
**MW 4:00-5:30**

**Overview**

This course surveys the experiences and political development of racial and ethnic groups in the United States. The course will be divided into two main sections. In the first section, we will review the historical trajectory of nation's four main racial/ethnic groups – African Americans, Latinos, Asians, and Native Americans – and consider how sociological understandings about race, ethnicity, assimilation, inequality, and mobilization can be used to describe these groups' political development. In the second section we consider how four main institutions – prisons, media, political parties, and immigration – have further shaped the political participation of these groups. The class ends with a discussion of post-racial visions of American politics, as well as an analysis of how race/ethnicity impact the current 2012-election season.

**Grading**

Section Participation – 15%

Midterm 1 – 20%

Midterm 2 – 20%

Group Project & Presentation – 15%

Final Paper – 30%

Group Projects will be presented in front of class during weeks 13 & 14. Final Papers are due Thursday, December 13 at Noon at 410 Barrows Hall.

**Module One –Race, Ethnicity, and American Political Development**

Week One – Introduction and American Racial Orders August 27, 29

- King and Smith “Racial Orders in American Political Development”
- Hirschman “Immigration and the American Century”

Week Two – History, Politics, Racial/Ethnic Experiences Sept. 3, Sept. 5 (no lecture on 09/03 – Labor Day Holiday)

- Ignatiev *How the Irish Became White* – Ch. 1, 2, 6
- Marable “The Politics of Black Land Tenure”

Week Three – History, Politics, Racial/Ethnic Experience Sept. 10, 12

- Telles and Ortiz *Generations of Exclusion* – Ch. 4
- Cornell, *The Return of the Native* Ch. 2-4

Week Four – Ethnic/Racial Mobilization Sept. 17, 19

- Morris “Black Southern Student Sit-In”
- Espiritu, *Asian American Panethnicity* Ch. 2
- Lopez “Protest, Repression, and Race”

Week Five – Prisons and Politics Sept. 24, 26

- Alexander, *New Jim Crow*

Week Six –Media and Politics October 1, 3

- **Midterm One – October 1**
- Chavez Chapters 1, 3
- McGoway and Lindgren “Testing the Model Minority Myth”

## **Module Two – Institutions (Continued), Political Behavior**

Week Seven – Political Parties – October 8, 10

- Mendelberg, *The Race Card*

Week Eight – Political Behavior – October 15, 17

- Cohen, *Democracy Remixed*

Week Nine – Political Behavior – October 22, 25

- Lee et. al *Asian American Political Participation* 1, 2, 7
- Wilkins, “Inquiry into Indigenous Political Participation

Week Ten – Political Behavior- October 29, 31

- Garcia-Bedolla *Fluid Borders*

Week Eleven– Immigration and Politics – Nov. 5, 7

- Rim “Latino and Asian Mobilization in the 2006 Protests”
- Perez “Explicit Evidence on the Import of Implicit Attitudes”
- Diamond “African American Attitudes Towards US Immigration Policy”
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Week Twelve – Midterm 2 November 14

- **Midterm 2 – November 14**
- *No Lecture Nov. 12*

Week Thirteen – Post Racial Politics, Cont Nov. 19, 21

- Kaufman “Cracks in the Rainbow”
- McClain et. al “Racial Distancing in a Southern City”
- Wilson “Rising Inequality and the Case for Coalition Politics”

Week Fourteen – Group Presentations Nov. 26 & 28

Final Papers Due – December 13<sup>th</sup> 410 Barrows Hall. Please get them time-stamped at the front office. Late papers will be penalized 5 pts. per day beginning 12:01 pm on the 13<sup>th</sup>.