SOCIOMETRY 131AC: RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS
Class: Tu-Thurs, 11:00am-12:30pm, 830 Barrows Hall

PROFESSOR CYBELLE FOX
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Office hours: Tuesdays, 2-4pm
Office hours sign-up sheet: http://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/wwndo

OFFICIAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course will examine the contours of the American ethno-racial hierarchy in historical and contemporary perspective. It is designed to acquaint students with competing debates about the basic structure and evolution of the American racial hierarchy, with particular attention to the experiences of Blacks, Asians, Latinos, and European immigrants. The course focuses on a few central questions:

- Is racism disappearing or does it persist, perhaps thoroughly embedded in the structure of American society?
- Are Asians and Latinos assimilating or are they “racialized”?
- How were different European immigrant groups perceived when they first came to America?
- What do multiraciality and changing demographics mean, if anything, for the future of the American ethno-racial hierarchy?

PRE-REQUISITES:
Sociology 1 or Sociology 3 or consent of instructor

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Your final course grade will be based on the following:
Participation: 20%
Paper 1: 15%
Paper 2: 35%
Final Exam: 30%

Participation: Attendance at all lectures and discussion sections is mandatory. You will be responsible for all material discussed in lecture, as well as any announcements. Twenty percent of your final grade will be based on your participation in section. “Participation” includes attendance, thoughtfully contributing to section discussions by engaging both lecture and reading material, and asking pertinent questions.
Papers: There are two papers for this course. The papers are designed to measure your engagement with the course material, which includes lectures, in-class movies, and readings. Get your papers in on-time. Late papers will be penalized one third of a grade for each day that they are late. Hardcopies of the papers are due in class on the date noted. The late penalty begins 15 minutes after class has begun. All papers should be double spaced, with 1 inch margins, using 12 point, Times New Roman (or equivalent) font.

Paper 1: Your first paper should be 4-5 pages long. It is worth 15 percent of your final course grade. The paper prompt will be distributed in class on September 6, 2012. It is due in class on September 13, 2012.

Paper 2: Your second paper should be 10-12 pages long. It is worth 35 percent of your final course grade. Paper prompts will be distributed in class on October 4, 2012. The final paper will be due in class on October 18, 2012.

Final Exam: The final exam, worth 30 percent of your final course grade, is scheduled for December 12, 2012, 8:00-11:00am. It will be based on material for the entire course, including all lectures, section discussions, and readings.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is representing the work of others as your own (including copying other students’ work or using Internet resources without proper citation). Those who plagiarize will receive an F. The university might impose other sanctions. For a guide on how to avoid plagiarism, please see: http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Citations.html.

Course Readings:
I have prepared a course reader for Sociology 131AC, which students can purchase at Copy Central at 2560 Bancroft Way. Two copies of the reader will also be placed on reserve at Moffitt Library.

Students may also purchase the following REQUIRED books from the University Bookstore:


A copy of both books will also be placed on reserve at Moffitt Library.

For those worried about the costs of the readings, consider making use of course reserves or sharing a reader/book with someone else in the class. A * after a reading indicates the reading is available free of charge on-line. Please also note that Alexander’s book is available as an ebook in the UCB Library catalog.
COURSE OUTLINE:

Week 1, August 23, 2012
Introduction
No Readings

Week 2, August 28 – August 30, 2012
The Social Construction of Race: Institutions


**Paper 1 prompt will be distributed in class on September 6, 2012**

Week 3, September 4 – September 6, 2012
The Social Construction of Race: Individual and Group Claims


**Paper 1 is due in class on September 13, 2012**

Week 4, September 11 – September 13, 2012
The Declining Significance of Race?

Week 5, September 18 – September 20, 2012  
Racial Attitudes and Interpersonal Discrimination


Week 6, September 25 – September 27, 2012  
The Institutional Legacies of Past Racism


** Paper 2 prompt will be distributed in class on October 4, 2012. **

Week 7, October 2 – October 4, 2012  
Race, Inequality, and Contemporary State Policies


Week 8, October 9 – October 11, 2012  
Are Asians and Latinos Becoming White?


** Paper 2 is due in class on October 18, 2012. **

Week 9, October 16 – October 18, 2012  
The Racialization of Asians


Week 10, October 23 – October 25, 2012
The Racialization of Latinas/os


Week 11, October 30 – November 1, 2012
Race and European Immigrants


Week 12, November 6 – November 8, 2012
Multiraciality


Week 13, November 13 – November 15, 2012
Changing Demographics, Cooperation, and Conflict

Week 14, November 20, 2012
TBA

Week 15, November 27 – November 29, 2012
The Future of the American Racial Hierarchy?


**The Final Exam will take place on Wednesday, December 12, 2012, 8:00-11:00am**