

**SOCIOLOGY 131AC: RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS**  
Class: Tu-Thurs, 12:30-2:00pm, 122 Barrows Hall

**PROFESSOR CYBELLE FOX**

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Office hours: Tuesdays, 3-5pm

Office hours sign-up sheet: <http://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/sxkih>

**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. Your section grade will be based on attendance, participation, and “Weekly Notes.” See your section syllabus for more details on your section grade.

**Papers:** There are two papers for this course. The papers are designed to measure your engagement with the course material, which includes lectures, documentaries, 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 11, 2012. It is due in class on **September 18, 2014.**

*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 9, 2012. The final paper will be due in class on **October 23, 2014.**

**Final Exam:** The final exam, worth 30 percent of your final course grade, is scheduled for Friday, December 19, 2014, 8:00-11:00am. It will be based on material for the entire course, including all lectures, section discussions, and readings.

**Academic Integrity:** 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 more on academic integrity, please look [here](http://sa.berkeley.edu/conduct/integrity): <http://sa.berkeley.edu/conduct/integrity>.

#### **COURSE READINGS:**

I have prepared a **course reader** for Sociology 131AC, which students can purchase at Copy Central at 2576 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:

Ira Katznelson, 2005, *When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth Century America*, New York: W.W. Norton and Company

Michelle Alexander, 2010, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, New York: The New Press

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 28, 2014**

#### **Introduction**

*No Readings*

### **Week 2, September 2 – September 4, 2014**

#### **The Social Construction of Race: Institutions**

Ian Haney López, 2000, "The Social Construction of Race," Pp.163-175 in *Critical Race Theory: The Cutting Edge*, Richard Delgado & Jean Stefancic (eds.), Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

"Race: The Power of an Illusion, Episode One: The Difference Between Us," California Newsreel. For those with Cal ID, the documentary is available to watch [here](http://dpg.lib.berkeley.edu/webdb/mrc/search_vod?keyword=race+the+power+of+an+illusion) ([http://dpg.lib.berkeley.edu/webdb/mrc/search\\_vod?keyword=race+the+power+of+an+illusion](http://dpg.lib.berkeley.edu/webdb/mrc/search_vod?keyword=race+the+power+of+an+illusion)). A transcript can be found [here](http://newsreel.org/transcripts/race1.htm) (<http://newsreel.org/transcripts/race1.htm>).

Jennifer Hochschild and Brenna Marea Powell, 2008, "[Racial Reorganization and the United State Census 1850-1930: Mulattoes, Half-Breeds, Mixed Parentage, Hindoos, and the Mexican Race](#)," *Studies in American Political Development*, 22(1):59-96\*

**\*\*Paper 1 prompt will be distributed in class on September 11, 2014\*\***

### **Week 3, September 9 – September 11, 2014**

#### **The Social Construction of Race: Individual and Group Claims**

Joane Nagel, 1995, "[American Indian Ethnic Renewal: Politics and the Resurgence of Identity](#)," *American Sociological Review*, 60(6):947-965\*

Yen Le Espiritu and Michael Omi, 2000, "Who Are You Calling Asian? Shifting Identity Claims, Racial Classification and the Census" Pp. 43-101 in *The State of Asian Pacific America: Transforming Race Relations*, Paul M. Ong (ed.), Los Angeles, CA: LEAP Asian Pacific American Public Policy Institute

**\*\*Paper 1 is due in class on September 18, 2014\*\***

### **Week 4, September 16 – September 18, 2014**

#### **The Declining Significance of Race?**

William Julius Wilson, 2007, "The Declining Significance of Race: Blacks and Changing American Institutions," Pp. 225-238 in *The Inequality Reader: Contemporary and Foundational Readings in Race, Class and Gender*, David B. Grusky & Szonja Szelenyi (eds.), Boulder, CO: Westview Press

Stephan Thernstrom and Abigail Thernstrom, 1997, *America in Black and White: One Nation, Indivisible*, New York: Simon & Schuster, (Introduction & Chapter 7)

**Week 5, September 23 – September 25, 2014**  
**Racial Attitudes and Interpersonal Discrimination**

- Lawrence D. Bobo, 2001, "Racial Attitudes and Relations at the Close of the Twentieth Century," Pp.264-301 in *America Becoming: Racial Trends and Their Consequences*, Vol. I, Neil Smelser, William Julius Wilson, and Faith Mitchell (eds), Washington, DC: National Academy Press
- Devah Pager, 2003, "The Mark of a Criminal Record," *American Journal of Sociology* 108(5): 937-975\*

**Week 6, September 30 – October 2, 2014**  
**The Institutional Legacies of Past Racism**

- Ira Katznelson, 2005, *When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth Century America*, New York: W.W. Norton and Company, (pp. ix-52 & 113-141)

**\*\* Paper 2 prompt will be distributed in class on October 9, 2014. \*\***

**Week 7, October 7 – October 9, 2014**  
**Race, Inequality, and Contemporary State Policies**

- Michelle Alexander, 2010, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, New York: The New Press (pp. 1-136)\*

**Week 8, October 14 – October 16, 2014**  
**Are Asians and Latinos Becoming White?**

- Jennifer Lee and Frank D.Bean, 2007, "Reinventing the Color Line: Immigration and America's New Racial/Ethnic Divide," *Social Forces* 86(2):561-586\*

**\*\* Paper 2 is due in class on October 23, 2014. \*\***

**Week 9, October 21 – October 23, 2014**  
**The Racialization of Asians**

- Min Zhou, 2004, "Are Asian Americans Becoming 'White'?" *Contexts* 3(1):29-37\*
- Claire Kim, 1999, "The Racial Triangulation of Asian Americans," *Politics & Society*, 27(1):105-138\*

**Week 10, October 28 – October 30, 2014**

**The Racialization of Latinas/os**

- Mae Ngai, 2004, *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, (Chapter 2, pp.56-90)
- Ian Haney López, 1998, "Race and Erasure: The Salience of Race to Latinos/as," Pp.180-195 in *The Latino/a Condition: A Critical Reader*, Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic (eds.), New York: New York University Press
- Tomás R. Jiménez, 2008, "Mexican-Immigrant Replenishment and the Continuing Significance of Ethnicity and Race," *American Journal of Sociology*, 113(6): 1527-1567\*

**Week 11, November 4 – November 6, 2014**

**Race and European Immigrants**

- James R. Barrett and David Roediger, 1997, "Inbetween Peoples: Race, Nationality and the 'New Immigrant' Working Class," *Journal of American Ethnic History*, 16(3): 3-44\*
- David Roediger, 2005, *Working Toward Whiteness: How America's Immigrants Became White*, New York: Basic Books, (Chapter 5, pp. 133-156)

**Week 12, November 11 – November 13, 2014**

**Multiraciality**

- Kimberly McClain DaCosta, 2003, "Multiracial Identity: From Personal Problem to Public Issue," Pp.68-84 in *New Faces in a Changing America: Multiracial Identity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Loretta Winters and Herman DeBose (eds.), Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications
- Ranier Spencer, 2003, "Census 2000: Assessments in Significance," Pp.99-110 in *New Faces in a Changing America: Multiracial Identity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Loretta Winters and Herman DeBose (eds.), Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications
- Jennifer Hochschild, "Multiple Racial Identifiers in the 2000 Census, And then What?" Pp.340-353 in *The New Race Question: How the Census Counts Multiracial Individuals*, Joel Perlmann and Mary Waters, (eds.), New York: Russell Sage Foundation

**Week 13, November 18 – November 20, 2014**

**Changing Demographics, Cooperation, and Conflict**

- Sylvia Zamora, "Framing Commonality in a Multiracial, Multiethnic Coalition," Pp. 299-322 in *Just Neighbors? Research on African American and Latino Relations in the United States*, Edward Telles, Mark Q Sawyer, and Gaspar Rivera-Salgado (eds.), New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

**Week 14, November 25, 2012**

*TBA*

**Week 15, December 2 – December 4, 2014**

**The Future of the American Racial Hierarchy?**

Claire Jean Kim, 2004, "Imagining Race and Nation in Multiculturalist America," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 27(5):987-1005\*

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, 2004, "From Bi-racial to Tri-racial: Towards a New System of Racial Stratification in the USA," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 27(6):931-950\*

**\*\* The Final Exam will take place on Friday, December 19, 2014, 8:00-11:00am \*\***