

SOC182: RACIAL DOMINATION, INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES FALL 2024 – provisional syllabus (to be updated)

Professor Loïc Wacquant

Tuesday/Thursday 2:10-3:30pm SSB 126

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Office Hours: Tue/Thu 1pm-2pm and by appointment

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The primordial task of a capable professor is to teach his students to recognize that there are uncomfortable facts, by which I mean facts that are unpleasant to the personal opinion of an individual. Indeed, there are facts that are extremely unpleasant for every opinion, including mine.

Max Weber, 1918

This course is a comparative sociohistorical inquiry into the bases and mechanisms of racial domination as a “disguised form of ethnicity” anchored in culturally salient (putative) physical differences. It is organized in three parts.

First, we examine the epistemological obstacles standing in the way of an adequate grasp of “race” as a principle of social vision and division (including the confusion and conflation of folk with analytical notions, the uncontrolled universalization U.S. national experience, and the hold of the logic of the trial) and review fundamental concepts needed to formulate and tackle the question: ethnicity, honor, closure, and naturalization and the diagonal of racialization.

Second, we probe the peculiar social (il)logic and implications of “race” as a form of classification--a manner of dividing and ranking human beings and groups with (overt or covert) reference to their biological makeup. We contrast and compare the bases, structure, and implications of the racial taxonomies evolved by different societies with an eye towards understanding how these both reflect and predetermine patterns of group relations. We pay special attention to the role of the state in validating and inculcating these classifications.

Third, we consider the conversion of classification into stratification, that, is, how various societies have drawn, enforced, conjoined or dissolved ethnoracial boundaries, focusing on five elementary forms of racial domination: categorization (prejudice, stigma, implicit bias), discrimination (differential treatment based on imputed group membership), segregation (differential allocation or disparate impact in physical and social space), ghettoization (the forced development of parallel institutions), and violence (ranging from intimidation and aggression, to lynching and pogroms, and climaxing with racial warfare and extermination).

Readings include a wide range of sociological, historical, and anthropological studies of ethnoracial vision and division, accommodation, and conflict in Latin America, Asia, Western Europe, the United States, and Africa from medieval times to the present. They are geared toward helping us uncover the social mechanisms that lead to the rise, reproduction, and transformation of ethnoracial inequality, wherever and whenever it is found. This course is problem-oriented, not group-oriented; its purpose is neither to celebrate nor to denigrate the experiences of this or that particular category but to explain and understand them in generic sociological terms.

Requirements: This is not an easy class; it demands serious work (reading, thinking, writing): you are to do the readings before class and attend every lecture, as each builds and extends onto the others. You need to take extensive notes on both the readings and lectures to assimilate the materials we will cover. (You will be instructed as to reading and note-taking techniques). In so doing, you will not only learn dizzying facts in the stupendous way humans rank and judge each other; you will also learn to compare and explain them.

Most importantly, you must be prepared to approach the subject matter, readings, lectures, and class discussion with an open mind and with the firm intention to learn to think about things that may seem familiar in novel and sometimes startling ways. You must be willing to consider new ideas that may unsettle you, facts that may disturb or offend you, and subject your (pre)conceptions and personal experiences to the disciplined scrutiny of critical reasoning and systematic empirical observation.

Readings: Required books are available from the usual bookstores. All readings are on reserve at the undergraduate library and on line on the course page on bcourses.

Grading: your course grade will come in equal proportions from two exercises that are to be done and turned in ON TIME (no makeup or extension of any sort will be allowed):

(1) An open-book mid-term provisionally scheduled for week 9, combining in-class exam and take-home essay; it will cover the first 8 weeks of the course.

(2) A final exam taking place on the campus appointed day, covering the entire course but with special emphasis on weeks 7 through 14.

Required books

1. Burleigh, Michael and Wolfgang Wipperman. 1991. *The Racial State: Germany 1933-1945*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2. Christopher, A. J. 2001. *The Atlas of Changing South Africa*. New York: Routledge.
3. Davis, F. James. 1991. *Who is Black? One Nation's Definition*. University Park: Penn State U. Press.
4. Frederickson, George. 2002. *Racism: A Short History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
5. Wacquant, Loïc. 2024. *Racial Domination*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

I. WALKING THROUGH LAND MINES, FUMBLING FOR CONCEPTS (week 1-2) (Th 29 August, 3-12 September)

From explanans to explanandum - epistemological obstacle and epistemological rupture (Bachelard) - folk versus analytic concepts - ethnoracial doxa and episteme – three “origin stories” – four displacements: historicize, spatialize, dislodge the US, forsake the logic of the trial - the continuum of ethnicity based on “social estimation of honor” (Weber) - social “principle of vision and division” (Bourdieu) - symbolic power and paramount symbolic agencies (religion, science, state, law) - the subtypes of ethnicity: religious, linguistic, regional, national, racial - race as a subtype of (disguised/denegated) ethnicity - “racial” implies explicit or implicit correspondance between social/historical and natural/biological hierarchies - the diagonal of racialization - to racialize = naturalize, eternalize, homogenize, hierarchize -

domination = subordination, exploitation, exclusion - avoid moralism and the logical of the trial - five elementary forms of ethnoracial domination: categorization, discrimination, segregation, ghettoization, violence - illustrations: 1-the three bases of ethnoracial division in the Americas: descent, phenotype, sociocultural status (Wagley), 2- "uniqueness of the one-drop rule" (Davis), 3-contrasts in tolerance for mixing (Fredrickson)

Wacquant, Racial Domination, pp. 46-78, 78-90.

Wagley, Charles. 1965. "On the Concept of Social Race in the Americas." Pp. 531-545 in Contemporary Cultures and Societies in Latin America. Edited by Dwight B. Heath and Richard N. Adams. New York: Random House.

James Davis, Who Is Black?, chapters 1-2.

Fredrickson, George M. "Mulattoes and métis. Attitudes toward miscegenation in the United States and France since the seventeenth century." *International Social Science Journal* 57, no. 183 (2005): 103-112.

Frederickson, Racism: A Short History, "Religion and the Invention of Racism," pp. 15-48.

II. CATEGORIZATION: THE SOCIAL (IL)LOGIC OF RACIAL CLASSIFICATION (weeks 3-4) (17-26 September)

Classification struggles - classification machines, symbolic entrepreneurs and the state as "central bank of symbolic power" - Weber and social closure - specificities of social as opposed to natural classifications - identification and categorization – "race" in official census around the world - historical changes in US understandings of race as recorded by the Census bureau – birth of the one-drop rule in the upper South - the battle between the one-drop rule and the Caribbean gradational system - the invention of the Hispanics - how other societies not hung up on "purity" resolve the question of mixed-descent – from descent to phenotype: how people are classified and classify themselves in Brazil - intra and intergenerational mobility along the color continuum - the whitening complex in Latin America - how the South African state under apartheid imposed and recorded racial identities - ethnic divisions and their bases in Japan, a society that likes to pretend it's "monoethnic" – the invention of tradition, Orientalism - classifying the Roma in three Eastern European societies - variety and illogic of ethnoracial categorization

Wacquant, Racial Domination, pp. 112-123.

Davis, F. James. 1991. "Other Places, Other Definitions," chapter 5 in Who is Black? One Nation's Rule. University Park: Penn State U. Press, pp. 81-122.

Hochschild, Jennifer L. and Vesla. 2007. "Policies of Racial Classification and the Politics of Racial Inequality." Pp. 159-182 in Remaking America: Democracy and Public Policy in an Age of Inequality. Edited by Joe Soss, Jacob Hacker, and Suzanne Mettler. New York : Russell Sage Foundation.

Telles, Edward. "Racial Classification," chapter 4 in *Race in Another America: The Significance of Skin Color in Brazil*, pp. 78-106.

Monk Jr, Ellis P. 2021. "The Unceasing Significance of Colorism: Skin Tone Stratification in the United States." *Daedalus* 150, no. 2: 76-90.

Lie, John. 2001. "Classify and Signify." Chapter 6, pp. 1420169 in Multi-Ethnic Japan. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

- Mora, G. Cristina. 2014. "Cross-Field Effects and Ethnic Classification: The Institutionalization of Hispanic Panethnicity, 1965 to 1990." American Sociological Review 79, no 2: 183-210. Focus on pp. 189-196.
- Ladányi, János and Iván Szelény. 2001. "The Social Construction of Roma Ethnicity in Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary During the Market Transition." Review of Sociology 7, no. 2: 79-99.

III. PREJUDICE, STIGMA, IMPLICIT BIAS (weeks 5-6)

(2-11 October)

Types and stakes of classification struggles - Monk on color inside race : subcategorical classification and stratification - why no public concern and mobilization? NOSSA, heightism and the predicament of short men - prejudice as "aversive or hostile attitude" (Allport), "denial of humanity" (Dollard) and "sense of group position" (Blumer) - inborn or learned? - how to fight prejudice - unconscious bias: fact or fad? - stigma: Erving Goffman and "discrediting differentness" - three types of stigma - information control - five elements of Link and Phelan, role of power - stigma as negative symbolic capital

- Blumer, Herbert. 1958. "Race Prejudice as a Sense of Group Position." Pacific Sociological Review 1: 3-7.
- Dollard, John. 1937. "Caste Symbolism: Race Prejudice," chapter 23 in Caste and Class in a Southern Town. New York: Doubleday Anchor Books, 3rd edition, 1957, pp. 434-446.
- Duus, Fred. 1995. "Defining the Koreans: Images of Domination," chapter 11 of The Abacus and the Sword: The Japanese Penetration of Korea, 1895-1910, Berkeley, University of California Press, pp. 397-423.
- Frederickson, Racism: A Short History, Chapter 2, pp. 49-96.
- Posel, Deborah. "What's in a name? Racial categorisations under apartheid and their afterlife." *Transformation* 47 : (2001): 50-74.
- *texts on the Roma in Eastern Europe TBA.

>>EXCURSUS 1: IS RACE THE ROOT OF THE SPAWN OF SLAVERY?

Master status trait (Hughes) - slavery as extreme violent domination - a multifunctional institution - total powerlessness, natal alienation, generalized dishonor - recruitment into slavery, internal relations, manumission – intrusion and extrusion – slave trading systems – the condition of slaves - slavery and ethnicity – manumission and wala - slavery comes to America – why native Americans were not enslaved – transition from European indentured servants to African slaves – racialization of slavery - conflagration slavery/democracy - from bonded labor to caste - historical inversion becomes racial doxa

- Orlando Patterson, "The Denial of Slavery in American Sociology" (2019)
- Orlando Patterson, "Slavery as a Social Institution" (2004)
- Fields, Barbara Jeanne. "Slavery, race and ideology in the United States of America." *New Left Review* 181, no. 1 (1990): 95-118.

Recommended

- Bobo, Lawrence D. 1999. "Prejudice as Group Position: Microfoundations of a Sociological Approach to Racism and Race Relations." Journal of Social Issues 55, no. 3: 445–472.
- Stoler, Ann. 1992. "Sexual Affront and Racial Frontiers: European Identities and the Cultural Politics of Exclusion in Colonial Southeast Asia." Comparative Studies in Society and History 34-3 (July): 514-551.

IV. DISCRIMINATION (weeks 7-8)

(weeks of 16-25 October)

Entering the realm of conduct - confused notion - McIver 1948 - presupposes principle of individual and group equality - disparity, disparate impact, and discrimination – intent, morality, legality - three ways to detect : residuals, audit/testing, subjective report - basis, mechanism, domains - salient and protected categories – psychological (acting out prejudice), economic (pure : Becker, statistical : Phelps), and sociological theories (Barth, Weber, Du Bois) - micro, meso, macro-mechanisms - remedies and dilemmas of preferential programs - historical trajectory of the Burakumin in Tokugawa and Meiji Japan - The Burakumin Liberation League and Dowa policy (1969-2002) - Merging, passing, or (re)claiming a tainted identity ?

Wacquant, Racial Domination, pp. 123-130.

Pager, Devah and Hana Shepperd. 2008. "The Sociology of Discrimination: Racial Discrimination in Employment, Housing, Credit, and Consumer Markets." Annual Review of Sociology 34: 181-209

Hane, Misiko. 1982. "The Outcaste in Japan." Pp. 138-171 in Peasants, Rebels, and Outcastes: The Underside of Modern Japan. New York: Pantheon.

Davis Jr, John H. 2000. "Blurring the Boundaries of the Buraku (min)." Pp. 110-122 in *Globalization and Social Change in Contemporary Japan*. Edited by J.S. Eades, Tom Gill and Harumi Benu. Melbourne: Transpacific Press.

Recommended

McCormack, Noah. 2018. "Affirmative Action Policies under the Postwar Japanese Constitution: On the Effects of the Dowa Special Measures Policy." *Asia-Pacific Journal-Japan Focus* 16, no. 5: 1-23.

Neary, Ian. 2003. "Burakumin at the End of History." *Social Research* 70, no. 1: 269-294.

Kobayakawa, Akira. "Japan's Modernization and Discrimination: What are Buraku and Burakumin?." *Critical Sociology* 47, no. 1 (2021): 111-132.

Michael Weiner, *Japan's Minorities*. Routledge, 2008, chapters TBA.

Frederickson, Racism: A Short History, Chapter 3, pp. 97-138.

MIDTERM TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER IN CLASS & AT HOME

>>EXCURSUS 2: JIM CROW AND THE LOGIC OF CASTE

Wacquant, Racial Domination, pp. 210-277.

Jodhka, Surinder S. 2016. "Ascriptive Hierarchies: Caste and its Reproduction in Contemporary India." *Current Sociology* 64, no. 2 (2016): 228-243.

Recommended

- Dailey, Jane (ed.). 2009. The Age of Jim Crow: A Norton Casebook in History. New York: Norton.
- Davis, Allison, Burleigh B. Gardner and Mary R. Gardner. 1941, 2009. *Deep South: A Social Anthropological Study of Caste and Class*. Charleston, SC: University of South Carolina Press.
- Dollard, John. 1937. Caste and Class in a Southern Town. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, reprint 1988.
- Ooms, Herman. 1996. "Status and State Racism: From 'Kawata' to 'Eta'," chapter 5 in Tokugawa Village Practice: Class, Status, Power, Law. Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 243-311.
- Yengde, Suraj. 2019. Caste Matters. New Delhi: Penguin Random House India.

V. SEGREGATION (weeks 9, 10)

(weeks of 30 October-7 November)

Differential allocation in physical space (residence) and social space (occupation, school, marriage) – “institutionalized form of social distance expressed in physical separation” (Kuper) – moral and technical meaning, forced versus willful – segregation’s opposite is dispersal (NOT “integration”) – two models: human ecology (Park’s Chicago School) versus social closure (Weber) – struggles in space and over space – 4 measures of segregation: dissimilarity, isolation, clustering, centrality – hypersegregation – segregation rates and trends in US, Brazil, France – mechanisms of residential segregation: state mandate, economic operators (banking, realtors, homeowners’ association), violence, ostracism – why segregation matters (how position in social and physical space impacts life chances)

Wacquant, Racial Domination, pp. 130-137.

Massey, Douglas. 2004. “Residential Segregation.” *International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Science*.

Massey and Denton, American Apartheid, pp. 1-16, 60-114.

Telles, Edward E. 1995. “Race, Class and Space in Brazilian Cities.” International Journal of Urban and Regional Research 19-3 (September): 395-406.

Shon, Jean-Louis Pan Ké. "Residential segregation of immigrants in France: an overview." *Population Societies* 477, no. 4 (2011): 1-4.

Musterd, Sako. 2005. “Social and Ethnic Segregation in Europe: Levels, Causes, and Effects.” Journal of Urban Affairs 27-3: 331–348.

Christopher, The Atlas of Changing South Africa, chapters 3-5, pp. 68-157 (preferably entire).

VI. SECLUSION: CAMPS, GHETTOS, RESERVATIONS (weeks 11-12)

(weeks of 12-21 November)

Using space as an instrument of group power – sociospatial seclusion and its two dimensions (high/low, imposed/elective) – rural and urban seclusion – plotting key forms: gated community, upper-class district, ghetto, ethnic cluster, jail, camp, reservation – the ghetto as instrument of ethnoracial closure and control in the city, not “exclusion” – breaking with the folk notion

(“bad” neighborhood to be avoided) – constructing an analytic concept – four structural components: stigma, constraint, spatial confinement, institutional parallelism – two functions: economic extraction and social ostracization – the Jewish ghetto in Renaissance Europe, the black ghetto in Fordist US - the ghetto as magnet, vehicle for group advancement, and center of cultural production – disentangling ghettoization, poverty, and segregation – verticality and horizontality – paradoxical benefits of ghettoization

Wacquant, Racial Domination, pp. 137-144.

Wacquant, Loïc. 2010. “Designing Urban Seclusion in the 21st Century.” Perspecta: The Yale Architectural Journal 43: 165-178.

Sennett, Richard. 1994. “Fear of Touching.” Chapter 7, pp. 212-251 in Flesh and Stone: The Body and the City in Western Civilization. New York: W.W. Norton.

Drake, Clair, and Horace Clayton. Black Metropolis: A Study of a Negro Northern City. (1945/1993), 13 (Passing, pp. 159-173), 14 (Bronzeville, pp. 379-397).

Wacquant, Loïc. 2011. “A Janus-Faced Institution of Ethnoracial Closure: A Sociological Specification of the Ghetto.” Pp. 1-31 in Ray Hutchison and Bruce Haynes (eds.), The Ghetto: Contemporary Global Issues and Controversies, Boulder, Westview.

Findlay, John M. 1992. “An Elusive Institution: The Birth of Indian Reservations in Gold Rush California.” Pp. 13-37 in State and Reservation: New Perspectives on Federal Indian Policy. Edited by Pierre Castile George and Robert L. Bee. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

Christopher, The Atlas of Changing South Africa, chapters 3-5, pp. 68-157 (preferably entire).

Recommended

Taylor, Sandra. 1993. Jewel of the Desert: Japanese American Internment at Topaz. Berkeley: University of California Press.

VII. EXCLUSIONARY VIOLENCE: INTIMIDATION TO POGROMS TO EXTERMINATION (weeks 13-14)

(week of 26 November-5 December)

Instrumental and expressive violence – perpetrators, targets and audiences – escalation: from aggression to pogrom to ethnic cleansing to genocide -

Wacquant, Racial Domination, pp. 144-154.

Kuper, Leo. 1981. “Theories of Genocide,” chapter 3 in Genocide. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp. 40-56.

Wolfe, Patrick. 2006. “Settler Colonialism and the Elimination of the Native.” Journal of Genocide Research 8, no. 4 (2006): 387-409.

Burleigh and Wipperman, The Racial State, pp. 44-197, 242-266, 304-307.

Glenn, Evelyn Nakano. "Settler colonialism as structure: A framework for comparative studies of US race and gender formation." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 1, no. 1 (2015): 52-72.

Recommended

- Nirenberg, David. 1996. Communities of Violence: Persecution of Minorities in the Middle Ages. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Dower, John W. 1986. War Without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War. New York: Pantheon.
- Horowitz, Donald L. 2000. The Deadly Ethnic Riot. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Kiernan, Ben. 1996. The Pol Pot Regime: Race, Power, and Genocide in Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge, 1975-1979. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Pappe, Ilan. 2007. The ethnic cleansing of Palestine. New York: Simon & Schuster.
- Prunier, Gérard. 1997. The Rwanda Crisis: History of a Genocide. New York: Columbia University Press.

VIII. RECAPITULATION: REASSEMBLING RACIAL DOMINATION

- Wacquant, Racial Domination, pp. 154-160, 168-14.
- Rogers Brubaker, "Ethnicity without Groups" (2002).
- Andreas Wimmer, "Race-centrism: a critique and a research agenda" (2015).
- Patrick Wolfe. "Land, labor, and difference: Elementary structures of race." *The American Historical Review* 106, no. 3 (2001): 866-905.

To go further

- Brubaker, Rogers. 2004. Ethnicity Without Groups. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Wimmer, Andreas. 2013. Ethnic Boundary Making. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Loveman, Mara. 2014. National Colors: Racial Classification and the State in Latin America. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Wolfe, Patrick. 2016. Traces of history: Elementary structures of race. London: Verso.
- Drake, St. Clair and Horace Cayton. 1945, 1970. Black Metropolis: A Study of Negro Life in a Northern City. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Wade, Peter. 1997. Race and Ethnicity in Latin America. London: Pluto Press.
- Martin, Terry. 2001. The Affirmative Action Empire: Nations and Nationalism in the Soviet Union, 1923-1939. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Stoler, Ann Laura. 2002. Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Race and the Intimate in Colonial Rule. Berkeley: University of California Press.

**LAST DAY OF CLASS THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER
EXAM WEEK**