

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY

Sociology 575
Race and Ethnicity
Fall 2008
Class#8914

Professor

Dr. H. D. Horton
AS 320
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Office Hours

M 4-5:30 p.m.
and by appointment

Class Meetings

M 5:45-8:35 p.m.
AS350

Course Objectives

The purpose of this course is to provide a comprehensive overview of the sociological study of race and ethnicity. Specifically, the goals of the course are to provide: 1) a critique of the sociology of race and ethnicity and the role that *racism* plays in the generation of knowledge in the field; 2) an in-depth analysis of the issues that impact upon racial and ethnic inequality as presented in sociological research; 3) an opportunity to conduct original research on race, racial inequality and racism in America; and finally 4) to reflect upon and critique contemporary issues that impact race and ethnicity in everyday life in the United States and throughout world.

Texts:

Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. 2001. White Supremacy and Racism in the Post-Civil Rights Era.

Bowser, Benjamin P. 2007. The Black Middle Class: Social Mobility and Vulnerability.

Feagin, Joe R. 2001. Racist America: Roots, Current Realities and Future Reparations.

Morris, Aldon. 1984. The Origins of the Civil Rights Movement: Black Communities Organizing for Change.

Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. 1994. Racial Formation in the United States: from the 1960s to the 1990s.

Portes, Alejandro and Ruben G. Rumbaut. 2001. Legacies: The Story of the Immigrant Second Generation.

Royster, Deidre. 2003. Race and the Invisible Hand: How White Networks Exclude Black Men from Blue Collar Jobs.

Yancey, George. 2003. Who is White? Latinos, Asians and the Black/Nonblack Divide.

Zuberi, Tukufu and Eduardo Bonilla-Silva. 2008. White Logic, White Methods: Racism and Methodology.

Course Requirements:

A. **Research Paper:** A paper on the topic of your choosing within the broad area of race and ethnicity is required. The paper must meet the following standards:

1. ASR format;
2. The paper must incorporate a considerable amount of the course readings as well as current articles from the top journals in sociology;
3. A 2-3 page proposal must be submitted prior to beginning work on the paper. This abstract must detail the problem, theory and research methods of your proposed paper. **DEADLINE: September 8, 2008;**
4. 15-20 pages in length (excluding references, tables and figures);
5. **DEADLINE FOR PAPER: NOVEMBER 24, 2008.**

B. **Seminar Discussions:** Students will lead discussions on the assigned readings and topics. To facilitate this process, students must post two-page reaction papers on Blackboard prior to the class period.

D. **Paper Presentation:** Each student will be responsible for making an oral presentation of her/his research paper.

Late papers will lose one letter grade value per day after the established deadline. Allowances for documented medical and personal emergencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Grading

Seminar Participation:	25%
Reaction Papers	25%
Research Paper	50%

Course Outline

I. Introduction to the Sociology of Racism

A. Required Readings:

Feagin, 2001. Racist America (in its entirety)

Zuberi and Bonilla-Silva, 2008. White Logic, White Methods

Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. 2001. Chapters 1-3 in White Supremacy and Racism.

Bobo, Lawrence, et. al. 1997. "Laissez-Faire Racism: The Crystallization of a Kinder, Gentler, Anti-Black Ideology." Pp. 15-42 in Steven A. Tuch. and Jack K. Martin (eds.) Racial Attitudes in the 1990s.

B. Recommended Readings:

DuBois, W.E.B., 1899. The Philadelphia Negro

DuBois. W.E.B. 1969. The Souls of Black Folk.

Ladner, Joyce. 1973. The Death of White Sociology.

van den Berghe, Pierre L. 1967. Race and Racism

Ture, Kwame and Charles V. Hamilton. 1992. Black Power: The Politics of Liberation.

Wilson, William J. 1973. Power, Racism and Privilege.

Franklin, John Hope and Alfred A. Moss, Jr. From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans.

Bulmer, Martin and John Solomos. 1999. Racism.

Massey, Douglas S. and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. American Apartheid.

II. Theories on Race and Ethnicity

A. Required Readings:

Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. 1994. Racial Formation in the United States (in its entirety)

Bowser, 2007. The Black Middle Class (in its entirety)

Blumer, Herbert. 1958. "Racial Prejudice as a Sense of Group Position." Pacific Sociological Review 1:3-7.

Gordon, Milton. 1961. "Assimilation in America: Theory and Reality." Daedalus 90 (2):263-285.

Merton, Robert K. 1949. "Discrimination and the American Creed." in R. M. MacIver (ed.) Discrimination and the Public Welfare.

Blalock, Hubert M. 1967. "Introduction: Some Methodological Problems." Pp. 1-36 in Blalock's Toward a Theory of Minority Group Relations.

Wilson, William Julius. 1978. "The Declining Significance of Race." Society Jan./Feb. 1978.

Bonacich, Edna. 1980. "Class Approaches to Ethnicity and Race." Insurgent Sociologist 10(2) Fall.

Wacquant, Loic, J. D. and William Julius Wilson. 1989. "The Cost of Racial and Ethnic Exclusion in the Inner City." The ANNALS (501): 8-26.

Schuman, Howard, Charlotte Steeh, Lawrence Bobo and Maria Kryson. 1997. "Theoretical and Historical Perspectives." Pp. 1-55 in Racial Attitudes in America.

B. Recommended Readings:

Myrdal, Gunnar. 1944. An American Dilemma.

Park, Robert. 1950. Race and Culture.

Gordon, Milton. 1964. Assimilation in American Life.

Moynihan, Daniel Patrick. 1965. The Negro Family: The Case for National Action.

Ryan, William. Blaming the Victim. 1970.

Gazer, Nathan and Daniel Patrick Moynihan. 1970. Beyond the Melting Pot.

Willie, Charles Vert. 1979. Caste and Class Controversy.

Wilson, William Julius. 1980. The Declining Significance of Race.

Lieberson, Stanley. 1980. A Piece of the Pie.

Wilson, William Julius. 1987. The Truly Disadvantaged.

Steinberg, Steven. 1989. The Ethnic Myth.

Alba, Richard. 1990. Ethnic Identity: The Transformation of White America.

Wilson, William Julius. 1996. When Work Disappears.

III. The Civil Rights Movement and Beyond

A. Required Readings:

Morris, Aldon. 1984. The Origins of the Civil Rights Movement (in its entirety)

Royster, 2003. Race and the Invisible Hand (in its entirety)

Franklin, John Hope and Alfred A. Moss, Jr. 1994. "The Black Revolution." Pp.492-531 in From Slavery to Freedom.

Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. 2001. Chapters 4-7 in White Supremacy & Racism in the Post-Civil Rights Era.

Horton, Hayward Derrick, et. al. 2000. "Lost in the Storm: The Sociology of the Black Working Class." American Sociological Review Special Millennial Issue, 65(1):128-137.

B. Recommended Readings:

Haynes, Herbert M. 1984. "Black Radicalization and the Funding of Civil Rights: 1957-1970." Social Problems 32:31-43.

Killian, Lewis M. 1984. "Organization, Rationality and Spontaneity in the Civil Rights Movement." American Sociological Review.

Lewis, David Levering. 1998. The Civil Rights Movement in America: Essays.

Miller, Patrick, et al. 2001. The Civil Rights Movement Revisited.

C. Recommended Viewing: The "Eyes on the Prize" Series on the Civil Rights Movement.

IV. Race, Ethnicity and Contemporary Immigration

A. Required Readings:

Yancey, 2003. Who is White?

Portes, Alejandro and Ruben G. Rumbaut. 2001. Legacies: The Story of the Immigrant Second Generation (in its entirety).

B. Recommended Readings:

Gans, Herbet. 1979. "Symbolic Ethnicity: The Future of Ethnic Groups and Culture in America." Ethnic and Racial Studies 2 (January): 1-20.

Liebertson, Stanley and Mary Waters. 1988. From Many Strands: Ethnic and Racial Groups in Contemporary America.

Alba, Richard and Victor Nee. 2003. Remaking the American Mainstream.

Waters, Mary C. 1999. Black Identities: West Indian Immigrant Dreams and American Realities.

V. Student Paper Presentations