

UCDC Fall 2021 Semester Elective Course Outline

Course Title: Black Lives Matter: Race, Policy, & Democratic Governance

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Black Lives Matter: Race, Policy, & Democratic Governance

Mondays, 3PM – 6PM PST

Spring 2021

Zoom (Virtual)

Course Description

This course will examine race and ethnic politics through the lens of social movements, public policy, and democratic governance. The #Black Lives Matter Movement was founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin's murderer and engages us to utilize a human rights lens to combat racial injustice, inequality, racism, and white supremacy. We will use a human rights and democratic governance approach often used in a U.S. foreign policy context to reconceptualize our understanding of the lived experiences and quest for freedom, justice, and equality on part of African Americans, Latinx, Asian Americans, Native Americans and other groups. Given the racial and ethnic demographic shifts over the past two decades, particular attention will focus on race, representation, and racism from President Obama to President Trump with a central focus on the 2020 elections, U.S. Census, and voting rights. We will analyze democratic governance under the Trump administration and the ways in which President Trump has invoked identity politics and white nationalism in governance. Finally, you will learn the tactics of effective social movements/activism, civic engagement, data analysis, policy influence. There will be an applied component of this course and guest speakers will bring to life the theories and literature we read and review in class. Students will leave this class smarter on the topics addressed and also equipped with the tools for effective grassroots organizing, persuasive public speaking skills, and strategic policy influence.

Week 1	Course Introduction and Overview: A Theoretical Approach to Understanding Race and Representation <i>Excerpt Screening of Documentary 13th</i>
Week 2	Black Lives Matter: Race and Racism in a Multicultural America <i>Excerpt Screening of Documentary 13th</i>
Week 3	The Paradox of Liberty, Justice, and Democratic Governance
Week 4	U.S. Foreign Policy & International Affairs: Justice, Peace, & Conflict: The Role of the U.S. Abroad
Week 5	Digital Advocacy and Social Movements
Week 6	Human Rights, Civil Rights, & Civil Liberties
Week 7	Polling, Public Opinion, and Policy
Week 8	Race Policy in Action and Analysis: <i>Census 2020, Election 2020</i>
Week 9	Racial Group Interest, Civic Engagement, & the Politics of Protest
Week 10	Social Movements Recap & Final Presentations