

RACE AND POLITICS IN THE AMERICAN CITY

Spring 2019

Thursday 6:30-8:30 PM

317

University of California Washington Center
1608 Rhode Island Ave., NW Washington, DC

Donald R. Kinder

drkinder@umich.edu

Office Hours: TBD

The purpose of this seminar is to equip students to think deeply and critically about racial politics in the American city in general – and about racial politics in the American city of Washington D.C. in particular.

The course is a seminar. Its success depends importantly upon your preparation. Each week, you must come to class having read and thought about the readings, and prepared to participate in discussion in a constructive way.

Grades will depend on your contribution to class discussions (1/3) and a term paper (20 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font), developed under my guidance. Papers are due without exception by 5 PM, Thursday, April 18, 2019.

Readings are generally available online, except for these four books, which you should purchase:

Dahl, Robert A. 1961. *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Massey, Douglas S., and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Rae, Douglas W. 2003. *City. Urbanism and Its End*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Sugrue, Thomas J. 1996. *The Origins of the Urban Crisis. Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

The seminar will start promptly at 6:30. Be on time.

In keeping with the University of Michigan's policy of respecting students' religious commitments (http://www.provost.umich.edu/calendar/religious_holidays_07-08.html), I will do my best to accommodate conflicts arising out of religious observances. You are responsible for reporting to me your absence from class in advance. More generally, I am aware of and, in principle, sympathetic to the many other pressures students have in their lives and am willing to accommodate reasonable requests for missing class. But again it is *your* responsibility to bring conflicts to my attention and to do so in advance.

Plagiarism and cheating are violations of academic integrity and thus violations of the LS&A Academic Conduct Code. Such violations will result automatically in course failure. For the purposes of this class, I define plagiarism as *submitting a piece of work, which in part or in whole, is not entirely your own, without attributing those same portions to their correct source*. For more information, see <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/saa/standards/acadjudic.html>.

COURSE OUTLINE/READING LIST

JAN. 10: INTRODUCTION TO THE SEMINAR

JAN. 17: ON THE IDEA OF RACE

Lewontin, Richard. 1995. *Human Diversity*. New York: Scientific American. Chapter 7: "Diversity among Groups." Pp. 108-145.

Myrdal, Gunnar. 1944. *An American Dilemma: The Negro Problem and Modern Democracy*. New York: Harper & Row. Pp. 113-117.

Blumer, Herbert. 1958. "Race prejudice as a sense of group position." *The Pacific Sociological Review* 1:3-7.

Fredrickson, George M. 2000. "Understanding racism." In George M. Fredrickson (ed.), *The Comparative Imagination*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press. Pp. 77-97.

Fredrickson, George M. 2002. *Racism. A Short History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Pp. 1-13.

Elster, Jon. 1985. *Making Sense of Marx*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Section on "class consciousness." Pp. 344-371.

Dawson, Michael C. 1994. *Behind the Mule*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapters 3 "The politicization of African-American racial group interests" and 4 "Models of African-American racial and economic group interests." Pp. 45-95.

JAN. 24: THE PRACTICES OF DISCRIMINATION

Myrdal, Gunnar. 1944. *An American Dilemma: The Negro Problem and Modern Democracy*. New York: Harper & Row. Selections.

Pager, Devah, and Hana Shepherd. The sociology of discrimination. *Annual Review of Sociology* 34:181-209.

Reskin, Barbara. 2012. The race discrimination system. *Annual Review of Sociology* 38:17-35.

JAN. 31: THE CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SPATIAL SEGREGATION (I)

Massey, Douglas S., and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

FEB. 7: THE CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SPATIAL SEGREGATION (II)

Massey, Douglas S., and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

FEB. 14: THE CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SPATIAL SEGREGATION (III)

Massey, Douglas S., and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Glaeser, Edward, and Jacob Vigdor. 2012. The end of the segregated century? Racial separation in America's Neighborhoods, 1890-2010. *Manhattan Institute for Policy Research* 66: 1-8.

FEB. 21: RACE IN THE CITY?

Dahl, Robert A. 1961. *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

FEB. 28: RACE IN THE CITY

Rae, Douglas W. 2003. *City. Urbanism and Its End*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

MAR. 7: THE ORIGINS OF THE URBAN CRISIS (I)

Sugrue, Thomas J. 1996. *The Origins of the Urban Crisis. Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

MAR. 14: THE ORIGINS OF THE URBAN CRISIS (II)

Sugrue, Thomas J. 1996. *The Origins of the Urban Crisis. Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

MAR. 21: THE ORIGINS OF THE URBAN CRISIS (III)

Sugrue, Thomas J. 1996. *The Origins of the Urban Crisis. Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

MAR. 28: SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)

APR. 4: INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS WITH INSTRUCTOR

APR. 11: PRESENTATIONS

APR. 18: LAST CLASS; PRESENTATIONS AND FINAL PAPERS DUE