

Race and Ethnicity in American Politics
Political Science 100H
Mon/Wed, 11-1:50
Center Hall 217A
Summer Session II, 2012

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Office Hours: SSB 330, Tuesdays 10-11 am

Course Description

This class is a survey of historical and contemporary issues of ethnic and racial minority politics in the U.S.; race and ethnicity in the context of U.S. politics; and comparisons of racial and ethnic group experiences in the U.S. We will pay special attention to the experiences of the three major racial groups in the U.S.- African Americans, Latinos and Asian Americans.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance and Class Readings

Attendance and readings are mandatory. *All readings for a given date should be done before the beginning of class.* You must complete all assignments to pass this course.

Excuses Policy (extensions, make-up exams, etc.)

Extensions and make-up exams will be allowed on a case-by-case basis. You must have a medically documented reason for not being able to take an exam or turn in a graded assignment at the scheduled time. You will need to bring in supporting documentation to be granted a make-up, and if you do so, your final will count as your midterm grade. For example, instead of the final being 40% of your grade, it will now count for 70% of your grade should you miss the midterm.

Tardiness to Exams

It is expected that you will arrive to exams on time. Arriving late to exams is a disruption for your colleagues and increases the probability that exam information has been shared. Students who arrive more than 20 minutes late will not be allowed to sit for the midterm. Exceptions to this policy will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Grades

You can retrieve your grades when we distribute the exam in class and/or during office hours. Grades **will not** be communicated via email or any other type of correspondence. It is your responsibility to retrieve your grades.

There are no grade appeals for either of the exams.

Please write your name on all the assignments as it is officially registered with the University Registrar. Otherwise, we may not be able to enter your grades properly.

Academic Honesty

Cheating, plagiarism and other violations of academic honesty are serious offenses. Graded assignments are not collaborative efforts in this class. You must work independently on all exams and papers. Please refer to the UCSD policy on integrity of scholarship for further details. If you are caught cheating in this course (this includes plagiarism), you will be awarded a letter grade of an F.

Required Readings

Abrajano, Marisa and R. Michael Alvarez. 2010. *New Faces, New Voices: The Hispanic Electorate in America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Other readings will be available on the course website: ted.ucsd.edu.

Lecture notes will be available on-line at ted.ucsd.edu.

Grading

Midterm Exam (35%): This will be an in-class exam and will take place on August 27, 2012.

Final Exam (45%): The final is an in-class exam and will take place on September 7, 2012 from 11am-2pm.

Attendance and In-Class Participation (20%): Students who attend lecture regularly, contribute to class discussion, and participate in periodic in-class assignments throughout the quarter can earn an additional 20 percentage points toward their grade.

COURSE SCHEDULE *(subject to change)*

I. THE PROBLEMS

8/6 Introduction: Understanding Race and Ethnicity: Concepts and Definitions

Lee, Taeku. 2008. Race, Immigration and the Identity to Politics Link. *Annual Review of Political Science*

Abrajano and Alvarez, Introduction and Chapter 1

8/8 Segregation, Poverty and Discrimination

Orfield, Gary and Chungmei Lee. 2005. "Why Segregation Matters: Poverty and Educational Inequality". Harvard Civil Rights Project

Mintrop, H and Gail Sunderman. 2009. "Why High Stakes Accountability Sounds Good But Doesn't Work- And Why We Keep Doing It Anyway". UCLA Civil Rights Project

II. PERCEPTIONS OF THE PROBLEM

8/8 Racial Attitudes in the U.S.

Sniderman, Paul M. and Edward G. Carmines. 1997. "Reaching Beyond Race," *PS: Political Science and Politics*. 30: 466-471.

8/15 Media Coverage of Racial and Ethnic Minorities

Gilliam, Franklin D. and Shanto Iyengar. 2000. "Prime Suspects: The Influence of Local Television News on the Viewing Public" *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 44, No. 3. pp. 560-573.

Subervi, Federico. 2004. "Network Brownout Report 2005: The Portrayal of Latinos and Latino Issues on Network Television News, 2004, with a retrospect to 1995", pp 4-5, 11-15.

II. SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM

8/15 Race and Ethnic Identity in the Political Arena

Dawson, Michael. 1994. *Behind the Mule: Race and Class in African-American Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. pp 45-68.

Garcia Bedolla, Lisa. 2005. *Fluid Borders: Latino Power, Identity and Politics in Los Angeles*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Chapter 4.

Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapter 2

8/22 Political Participation and Mobilization

Wong, Janelle. 2006. *Democracy's Promise: Immigrants and America's Civic Institutions*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. Chapter 4.

Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapters 3, 5, and postscript

8/22 The Role of Race in Campaigns and Voting

8/27 In-class midterm (1st half of class)/ Documentary "Street Fight" (2nd half of class)

III. PRESSING ISSUES AND DEBATES

8/29 Immigration

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/16/us/us-to-stop-deporting-some-illegal-immigrants.html?pagewanted=all>

Vargas, Jose Antonio. NYT Times. June 23, 2011. "My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant"

Simon, Rita. 1993 "Old Minorities: New Immigrants: Aspirations, Hopes, Fears" *Annals of the American Academy of Political Science*.

9/3 No Class, Labor Day

9/5 Immigration (cont) and the Criminal Justice System

Weaver, Vesla. 2010. "Unhappy Harmony: Accounting for Black Mass Incarceration in a Post-Racial America." Working Paper.

9/5 Affirmative Action and Language Policy

Orfield, G., Marin, P., Flores, S. M., & Garces, L. M. (Eds.). (2007). Charting the future of college affirmative action: Legal victories, continuing attacks, and new research. Los Angeles, CA: The Civil Rights Project at UCLA. Chapters 2 and 7.

In Class Documentary: TBD

9/7 Final Exam, 11:30am -2:30pm