Tentative Course Outline and Reading List

January 5: Introduction


(A) The Birth of Race and Racism in Academia

January 12: Origins


First comment for January 12 meeting is due on January 10 (Monday) at 15:00 (see below).

January 19: History: Aesthetics, biology, and society
First student presentations in winter!

(B) The Power of Race and Racism in Science and Society

January 26: Consequences in science and politics


February 2: Consequences in science: Scientific racism


(C) Challenges to Race and Racism

February 09: Postcolonial and theoretical challenges

February 16: Scientific and anthropological challenges to race and racism

- Lewontin, R. (1995). Human diversity. New York: Scientific American Library. [Chapters 1, 2, 6, 7, 8: Human Variety; Genes, Environment, and Organisms; Mental Traits; Diversity among Groups; The Evolution of Human Diversity]
- Perry, R. (2007). "Race" and racism: The development of modern racism in America. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. [Chapters 1, 2, 8: “Race”: Fact or Artifact?; The Biology of Human Variance; Will we Ever be rid of it?]

February 23: Reading week [February 19-25].

(D) The Resurrection of Race?

March 2: “Sciences of the living dead”


March 9: Race, science, technology, and medicine 1


March 16: Race, science, technology, and medicine 2


**(D) Ethics and Prospects of Race and Racism in the Human Sciences**

March 23: Ethical-epistemological issues


March 30: The future of race

Evaluation

Regular attendance and participation

• In order to ensure that the material has been reflected upon adequately, regular attendance and participation is necessary.
• If more than 2 meetings in the term are missed, the student must take an exam regarding the missed meetings (regardless of the reasons for missing class).

Presentation in class

• The duration of the presentation (and leading a class discussion) for each student should be approximately 30 minutes (longer if a video is shown).
• Assessment of the presentation by the whole group is taken into account (peer evaluation). Written assessments by class include sections on "Strengths," "Suggestions for Improvement," and a "Grade."
• The presentation can go beyond class reading material and include additional sources. The presentation may include audiovisual material and class discussions should involve specific questions derived from the reading material.
• Presentations should be done individually.
• PowerPoint (or a similar presentation software) or transparencies can be used.
• Provide an electronic copy of your presentation at least 12 hours before your presentation (send to instructor via e-mail).
• List all sources at the end of the presentation.
• The presentation (and leading a class discussion) counts towards 30% of the grade.
• Averaged grades and feedback are provided usually one week after the presentation.
• Grading for each presentation: Instructor: 50%. Peers: 50%.
• Letter grades will be used (A+, A, A-, B+, etc.) which are converted into numbers (A+ = 9, A = 8, A- = 7, etc.) which are averaged (for instance, A- ranges from 6.5 to 7.49).

Paper

• The written elaboration of the presentation in the form of a manuscript is required.
• The paper must be written in APA, Chicago, or MLA style and have a length of 18 pages including references. References must be drawn from at least 15 different academic sources.
• The deadline for the paper is April 13, 2011. There will be deductions for late submissions. Deductions: Each day late will count as a deduction of 0.15 for the first two days, 0.25 for the next two days, 0.35 for the next two days, etc. This means if you receive an average A for the paper and you are two days late you would receive: 8 – 0.30 = 7.7 (which is still an A).
• All papers must be sent as an e-mail attachment to the instructor [criterion for date of submission] and handed in [mailbox, secretary, instructor] as a hardcopy until Friday.
• Organization: 1. Title page (p. 1): Title of paper, name, student number; course title; term). 2. Abstract (p. 2) (150 - 200 words). 3. Paper and 4. References (pp. 3 – 18): [Start a new page for the reference section]. Typing: Papers should be typed in Times Roman. Use a 12-point font and double spacing for the entire manuscript. Use 1-inch margins on the left, right, top, and bottom of the page. The text is to be left-aligned and not right-justified. Proofread the paper. Staple finished manuscript].
The paper represents 40% of the grade.
Grading: Letter grades.

Comments

All works must be read.

• 750 words each week concerning the readings (use the word count function in your word processing program and list the number of words at the end of the comment). Do not count headings, references, and direct quotes!
• Identify significant issues in the texts and respond to them. Or, alternatively, respond to the main argument in a document.
• A comment should be evaluative, provide arguments, and express a viewpoint. It contains an assessment of the text.
• Respond to essential issues of the reading material! Do not summarize material. Referencing of course texts is not required (just provide the author name and page numbers) -- but referencing is necessary if you use additional sources.
• Comments are due on each Monday at 15:00 and must be sent as 1 attachment to my e-mail address (see above) (or in the main text). Identify texts.
• Write your name at the top of the comments!
• Write 6302 in the "subject" heading of the e-mail.
• There will be deductions for late submissions and comments received on Tuesday after 15:00 will not be accepted anymore (Exception: documented medical reasons).
• The first comments are due on Monday, January 10 at 15:00 for the Wednesday, January 12 meeting. Comments are returned by email or hardcopy.
• It is the responsibility of the student to make sure that all comments were returned.
• If the day of a comment submission falls on a holiday, comments must be submitted earlier - if student cannot submit on a holiday.
• Comments represent 30% of the grade.
• Grading: Each weekly comment will receive a qualitative grade: Outstanding (exceptional) = A+; excellent = A; Very good = A-; Good = B+; etc. These qualitative comments are converted into numbers (A+ = 9, A = 8, A- = 7, etc.) and averaged.

• For the day of one’s own presentation, no comments need to be submitted!
• In addition, you are allowed to miss 2 comment submissions (Monday submissions).