

**ES 185: INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN ETHNIC STUDIES
PROFESSORS DOUG MONROY (HISTORY)
AND CLAIRE GARCIA (ENGLISH)
BLOCK I, 2001**



**"THE JANITOR WHO PAINTS"
PALMER HAYDEN (1890-1971)**

This interdisciplinary course is one of the two required courses for the American Cultural Studies minor, but is open to all students who wish to take it. The goals of the course are

- to introduce students to the history and experiences of four major ethno-cultural groups of the United States Native Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, African Americans, and their interactions with European Americans;
- to help students develop an understanding of the legal, social, and cultural constructions of "racial" categories in the United States and the

implications of these constructions for policies, social relationships, and cultural production;

- to introduce students to the ways in which scholars in different disciplines theorize and study “race” in the United States;
- and to use the material of this class to help students work on the higher-level critical thinking and writing skills necessary to succeed in college

We will focus on how race, culture, class, and national identity have interacted during one particular period in the history of the United States: the 1920s. We'll start by looking at the Harlem Renaissance, an era of racial self-consciousness in which black thinkers and artists argued vehemently among themselves and with the laws and rhetoric of the dominant culture about the nature of “race,” identity, civil rights, citizenship, and culture. We'll then examine the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan and the concept of white supremacy. At the end of the second week and the beginning of the third we'll read a white author's construction of Southwestern Native Culture in the context of tourism in Santa Fe. The third week's work will focus on “Orientalism” and the exoticizing “the Other” as well as the experiences of Mexican-Americans in Los Angeles. Our fourth week's reading will be focused on the debates surrounding multiculturalism and the concept of a “post-ethnic” America in the 21st century.

EXPECTATIONS

Your final grade for this class will be based upon class participation, evaluations of written and oral assignments, the quantity and quality of your postings to the class e-journal, and your fourth-week presentation. All unexcused absences will negatively affect your grade to a tune of half an increment (an A will become an A- after the first unexcused absence, an A- a B plus after the second, and so forth). Class starts promptly at 9:15 every day, and tardies will be noted and factored into your grade for the class.

HONOR CODE

We expect all students to uphold the Honor Code of Colorado College in both the spirit and the letter. All written work must be signed with the statement that you have upheld the Honor Code.

TALK TO US

If you wish to talk to us outside of class, you may reach Professor Garcia at extension 651 and [du](mailto:cgarcia@coloradocollege.edu) and Professor and [e.edu](mailto:dmonroy@coloradocollege.edu). Conversations toward class call us at home.



cgarcia@coloradocollege.edu
Monroy at extension 6526
dmonroy@coloradocollege.edu
outside of class count
participation. Please don't

WEEK ONE

Monday: Introductions, Expectations and Discussion: “What is ‘Race’?” In-class reading, “Skin Deep: Should a pill have a color?” (In packet)

Tuesday: Omi and Winant, “Racial Formations” and Brodtkin, “How Jews Became White” (in packet)

Wednesday: In Huggins, “The Urban Setting” 46-82, 98-138, 371-381 and New York

Thursday:
The Great
“The Other
York”, in
Zora Neale
224-251.

Friday:
“Introductio
Part I,
Negro’
” (13-42),
excerpts
Souls of
Chapters I
packet).



history.
Fitzgerald,
Gatsby
New
Huggins,
Hurstn,

Huggins,
n” and
“New
Radicalism
DuBois,
from The
Black Folk,
and III (in

WEEK TWO

Monday: In Huggins, Cullen poems 142-147, 314-315, 347-349, 359-361; Hughes writings, “The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain” 313-317 and poems, 146-155, 358-359; Schuyler, “The Negro Art Hokum” 309-312 and “Our Greatest Gift to America” (361-365)

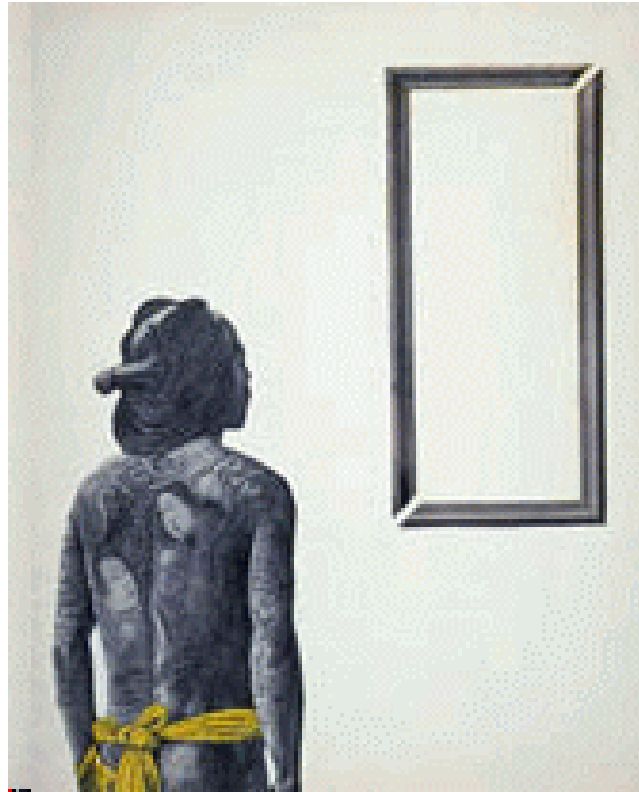
Essay due: “What is ‘race?’” (2-3 pages)

Tuesday: Larsen, Passing.

Wednesday: The KKK: Who were they? MacLean, Chapters 1-4.

Thursday: Finish MacLean.

Friday: Cather, Death Comes for the Archbishop, Books One-Five.



"A MEXICAN COQUETTE"
HELEN HYDE (CA. 1917-1925)

WEEK THREE

Monday: : Cather, Books Six-end;
"The Remaking of Santa Fe and jewelry, pottery, and tourism in the Southwest"

Tuesday: Santa Fe, Mexicans, and Indians, continued.

Presentations of findings from magazine articles

Wednesday: Monroy, Rebirth: Mexican Los Angeles from the Great Migration to the Great Depression, Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2: Is there an ethnic studies methodology?

Thursday: Monroy, Chapter 3; Afternoon film Showing, "Zoot Suit"

Friday: Monroy, Chapter 4 and the epilogue.

"UNTITLED"
JOSEPH CORNELL (1985)

WEEK FOUR: A POST-ETHNIC AMERICA?

Monday: Hollinger, from Post-Ethnic America: Beyond Multiculturalism, Introduction, "Pluralism, Cosmopolitanism, and the Diversification of Diversity," "Toward a Post-Ethnic Perspective," "Epilogue," "Postscript 2000" and Cotter, "Beyond Multiculturalism, Freedom? (in packet).

Tuesday: Final projects

Wednesday: Final projects