

Fall 2009, Block II, FYE  
Prof. Sandi Wong, Office: 130F Palmer Hall  
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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 1:30-3:00 p.m. or by appt.

## **SO113: RACIAL INEQUALITY**

This course examines the meaning and social significance of race in U.S. society. We will study the formation of racial and ethnic categories in particular social and historical contexts, patterns of social and economic inequality, the impact of prejudice and discrimination on individual opportunities and group relations, and changes in racial policies over time.

### **Reading Materials at the Worner Center Bookstore or on PROWL:**

Beverly Daniel Tatum, "Why are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?"  
(New York: Perseus Books, 2002).

William Julius Wilson, When Work Disappears (New York: Vintage Books, 1997).

Rosalind Cho and Joe Feagin, The Myth of the Model Minority (New York, Paradigm, 2008).

Articles on CC Webpage (go to Tutt Library; Course Res, E-Res, PROWL, Log in, Wong, Racial Inequality, SO113).

### **Course Objectives and Requirements:**

Exam (Wednesday, October 7, in class, 25%): a three-hour, closed book/notes, blue-book exam will test your level of comprehension, mastery, and retention, and your ability to explain and utilize key concepts and ideas, and assertions.

Paper (due Thursday, October 15, 12:00 p.m., Palmer Hall 130F, 25%): a 6 page paper that demonstrates that you can organize, synthesize, and critique material as well as develop an argument based on the use of evidence to assess the validity of theoretical assumptions.

Response Memos (10%): five one-page critical thinking pieces in response to points, ideas, data, or perspectives in reading materials. These will facilitate class discussions. The last one will be presented as part of a group presentation on Tuesday, October 20. Choose 4 other topics.

Class Participation (10%, regularly): Participation includes not only attendance, but also showing that you have read assigned materials prior to class. Your goal is to become comfortable with and skilled at articulating your thoughts and exchanging ideas among a group.

Final Assignment (due Wednesday, October 21, 12:00 p.m., Palmer Hall 130F, 30%): Essay questions that will require knowledge of and ability to analyze theory and data. Format TBD.

**Course Outline:** (Readings will be discussed **on** the designated days).

### **WEEK ONE**

**Mon. 9-28:** Introduction

**Tue. 9-29: The Meaning and Significance of Race**

Elizabeth Grieco and Rachel C. Cassidy, "Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: Census 2000 Brief," pp. 129-135 in Elizabeth Higgenbotham and Margaret L. Andersen, Race and Ethnicity in Society (Belmont, Ca.: Thomson Wadsworth, 2006). PROWL

Howard Taylor, "Defining Race" pp. 47-54 in *Race and Ethnicity in Society*, Elizabeth Higginbotham and Margaret L. Andersen eds. (Belmont, Ca.: Thomson Wadsworth, 2006). PROWL

Moustafa Bayoumi, "How Does It Feel to Be a Problem?," pp. 26-30 in Elizabeth Higgenbotham and Margaret L. Andersen, Race and Ethnicity in Society (Belmont, Ca.: Thomson Wadsworth, 2006). PROWL

Brent Staples, "Black Men in Public Space" in Peter Kollock and Jodi O'Brien, eds., The Production of Reality (Thousand Oaks, Ca: Pine Forge Press, 1994). PROWL

Film: Race, the power of an illusion, Episode 1: "The Difference Between Us."

**Wed. 9-30: Social-Psychological Theories of Identity Development**

Beverly Daniel Tatum, "Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?" Intro-Ch. 1, pp. ix. -17; Chs. 2-5, pp. 18-90.

Joe Feagin, "The Continuing Significance of Race: Anti-black Discrimination in Public Places," American Sociological Review, 1991, vol. 56 (February: 101-116). PROWL

**Thu. 10-01:**

Tatum, Ch. 6 "The Development of White Identity," pp. 93-113.

Peggy McIntosh, "White Privilege and Male Privilege," pp. 70-81 in Margaret Andersen and Patricia Hill Collins, Race, Class and Gender (Belmont: Ca.: Wadsworth, 1992). PROWL

Mark Chesler, Melissa Peet, and Todd Sevig, "Blinded by Whiteness..." pp. 215-230 in Ashley Doane and Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, White Out (New York: Routledge, 2003). PROWL

**Fri. 10-02: Systems of Inequality and Legacies of Racial Discrimination**

Audrey Smedley, "Some Theoretical Considerations," pp. 13-35 and "The Etymology of the Term 'Race,'" pp. 36-40 in Race in North America (Boulder: Westview Press, 1993). PROWL

Charles Mills, "White Supremacy as Sociopolitical System," pp. 35-48 in Ashley Doane and Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, White Out. PROWL

Film: Race, the power of an illusion, Episode 2: "The Story We Tell."

**WEEK TWO****Mon. 10-05:**

Kristen Myers, "White Fright: Reproducing White Supremacy through Casual Discourse," pp. 129-144 in Doane and Bonilla-Silva, White Out. PROWL

Hernan Vera and Andrew Gordon, "The Beautiful American," pp. 113-125 in Doane and Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, White Out. PROWL

Film: Ethnic Notions

**Tue. 10-06: Measures and Patterns of Socio-Economic Inequality**

Karen Brodtkin, "How Jews Became White Folks," pp. 41-53 in Paula S. Rothenberg, White Privilege (New York: Worth Publishers, 2008). PROWL

John E. Farley and Gregory D. Squires, "fences and neighbors: segregation in 21<sup>st</sup>-century America," pp. 33-39 in Contexts, Vol. 4, Issue 1, 2005. PROWL

Melvin Oliver and Thomas Shapiro, "Wealth and Racial Stratification," pp. 240-246 in Elizabeth Higgenbotham and Margaret L. Andersen, Race and Ethnicity in Society (Belmont, Ca.: Thomson Wadsworth, 2006). PROWL

Film: Race, the power of an illusion, Episode 3: "The House We Live In."

**Wed. 10-07: In-Class Exam**

**Thu. 10-08: Explaining Socioeconomic Attainment and Urban Poverty**

William J. Wilson, When Work Disappears, Introduction – Ch. 3, pp. xiii – 86.

**Fri. 10-09:**

William J. Wilson, When Work Disappears, Ch. 5, pp. 111-148.

Issue 18: "Is Racial Profiling Defensible Public Policy," pp. 347-361 in Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Race and Ethnicity, Raymond D'Angelo and Herbert Douglas (eds.) (Dubuque, Iowa: McGraw Hill, 2008). PROWL

Tricia Rose, "Hidden Politics: Discursive and Institutional Policing of Rap Music," pp. 108-114 in Elizabeth Higgenbotham and Margaret L. Andersen, Race and Ethnicity in Society (Belmont, Ca.: Thomson Wadsworth, 2006). PROWL

**WEEK THREE**

**Mon. 10-12:**

William J. Wilson, When Work Disappears, Ch. 4, pp. 87-110 and Ch. 6, pp. 149-182.

Annette Lareau, "Invisible Inequality: Social Class and Childrearing in Black Families and White Families," American Sociological Review, 2002, Vol. 67 (October: 747-776).

**Tue. 10-13:**

William J. Wilson, When Work Disappears, Ch. 7, pp. 183-206 and Ch. 8, pp. 207-238.  
Beverly Daniel Tatum, "Why Are All the Black Kids ...?", Ch. 7 "White Identity and Affirmative Action," pp. 114-128.

**Wed. 10-14:**

Jonathan Kozol, "Other People's Children: North Lawndale and the Southside of Chicago," pp. 40-82 in Savage Inequalities (New York: HarperPerennial, 1991). PROWL

Johnson and Shapiro, "Good Neighborhood, Good Schools," pp. 173-187 in Woody Doane and Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, White Out (New York: Routledge, 2003). PROWL

**Thu. 10-15: Paper due 12:00 p.m. (130F Palmer Hall)**

**Fri. 10-16: Color-Blind Ideology and Honorary Status**

Charles Gallagher, "Playing the White Ethnic Card," pp. 145-158 in Doane and Bonilla-Silva, White Out. PROWL

Rosalind Chou and Joe Feagin, The Myth of the Model Minority, Pref.–Ch. 3, pp. vi-99.

Film: The Color of Fear

## WEEK FOUR

**Mon. 10-19: Race and Racism in an Increasingly Complex Society**

Chou and Feagin, Ch. 4-7, pp. 100-229.

Amy Tan, "required readings and other dangerous subjects," pp. 299-333 in The Opposite of Fate (New York: Penguin Books, 2003). PROWL

**Tue. 10-20:**

Beverly Daniel Tatum, Ch. 9, "Identity Development in Multiracial Families," pp. 167-190 and Ch. 10, "Embracing a Cross-Racial Dialogue," pp. 193-206.

Karyn McKinney and Joe Feagin, "Diverse Perspectives on Doing Antiracism," pp. 233-251 in Doane and Bonilla-Silva, White Out. PROWL

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, "New Racism, Color-blind Racism and the Future," pp. 272-284 in Doane and Bonilla-Silva, White Out. PROWL

**Wed. 10-21: FINAL due by 12:00 p.m., Sociology Dept, Office 130F Palmer Hall.**