

SC 597
Contemporary Race Theory
Fall 2007
T: 9:30-11:45

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Office Hours: Tuesday noon-1:30 and by appointment

Course Description:

This course critically examines contemporary theories about race and ethnicity. It focuses on theorists that look at the intersection between race, gender, and class in a trans-national perspective.

While there are no formal prerequisites for the course, the readings are advanced and assume you have some familiarity with cultural studies, postmodernism, gender studies, and race studies.

The course is NOT a lecture course. Students are expected to come to class ready to critically analyze and engage with the material. While I am happy to answer any questions (and encourage you to come to class with lots of questions) I will not lecture on the material unless you ask for a more detailed clarification on some aspect of the material.

Required Texts:

Andrew Barlow. **Between Fear and Hope**. Rowman Littlefield. 2003.
Patricia Hill Collins. **Black Sexual Politics**. Taylor and Francis. 2005.
Angela Dillard. **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Now?** NYU. 2001.
Barbara Ehrenreich. **Global Woman**. Metropolitan. 2002.
Clarence Lusane. **Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice: Foreign Policy, Race, and the New American Century**. Praeger. 2006.
Martin Manalansan. **Global Divas: Filipino Gay Men in the Diaspora**. Duke. 2003.
Chandra Talpade Mohanty. **Feminism Without Borders**. Duke. 2003.
Nikhil Pal Singh. **Black is a Country: Race and the Unfinished Struggle for Democracy**. Harvard. 2004.

Requirements and Grading:

You may NOT rewrite any paper. However, you are always welcome to come to me with questions and/or drafts BEFORE the paper is due. I will be happy to read drafts up until 5 days before the paper is due. You can come with questions anytime.

Paper 1: Due **October 30th** (40 %)
Paper 2: Due **December 12th** (40%)
Attendance and class participation (20%)

The syllabus is organized such that the reading or readings listed for any particular day is the reading that will be DISCUSSED IN CLASS that day.

Topic I: Race and Class in a Global Perspective

Sept. 4th: Introduction

Sept. 11th:

- Andrew Barlow. *Between Fear & Hope*. (Introduction & Chapters 1-3)
- Patricia Hill Collins. *Black Sexual Politics* (Chapter 2)

Sept. 18th:

- A. Barlow. *Between Fear and Hope*. Chapters 3-7

Sept. 25th:

- Nikhil Pal Singh. *Black is a Country*. Introduction & Chapters 1-3.

Oct. 2nd:

- Nikhil Pal Singh. *Black is a Country*. (Chapters 4-Conclusion).

Topic II: Race and Gender in a Global Perspective

Oct. 9th:

- Chandra Talpade Mohanty. *Feminism Without Borders*.
 - (Chapters 2, 4, 5, 6)
- Barbara Ehrenreich. *Global Woman*.
 - (p. 15-30; 55-69; 70-84; 85-103; 142-153; 154-168; 254-273)

Oct. 16th:

- Patricia Hill Collins. *Black Sexual Politics*. (Chapters 1, 4, 5)
- Leon Wynter. *American Skin* (Chapters 4 and 5) (electronic reserve)
- “The Hottentot Venus” (Film shown in class)

Topic III: Race and Sexuality in Global Perspective

Oct. 23rd :

- Patricia Hill Collins. *Black Sexual Politics* (Chapter 3)
- Dwight McBride. *Why I Hate Abercrombie and Fitch* (Chapters 3 and 10) (electronic reserve)

Oct. 30th : NO CLASS. PAPER DUE by 5 pm.

Nov. 6th:

- Patricia Hill Collins. *Black Sexual Politics* (Chapter 9)
- Martin Manalansan. *Global Divas* (Chapters 1-3)

Nov. 13th:

- Martin Manalansan. *Global Divas* (Chapters 4, 5, 6)

Topic IV: Conservative Racial Discourses

Nov. 20th:

- Angela Dillard. *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Now?* (Chapters 1 and 2)
- Clarence Lusane. *Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice* (Chapter 1)

Nov. 27th:

- Angela Dillard. *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Now?* (Chapters 3, 4 and Conclusion)
- Clarence Lusane. *Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice* (Chapter 2 and 3)

Dec. 4th:

- Clarence Lusane. *Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice*
 - (Chapters 4, 5, and 6)

Final Paper Due December 12th

