SC 597: Contemporary Race Theory (Spring 2014)

This course is an historically grounded examination of the intersection of race, class, gender and sexuality over time. We begin in the era prior to the advent of the Atlantic slave trade and end in the contemporary ‘post-racial’ era. The aim of the course is to understand how these inter-locking categories of identity have evolved over time. Our geographic focus is the United States. However, we will be particularly interested in tracing the impact of global forces on these social relations in the United States.

Required Texts

Alexander. *New Jim Crow.*

Blackmon. *Slavery by Another Name.*


Dudziak. *Cold War Civil Rights.*

Hill Collins. *Black Sexual Politics.*

Kitch. *Specter of Sex.*

Singh. *Black is a Country.*

Von Eschen. *Race Against Empire.*

Recommended Texts

Johnson. *River of Dark Dreams*

Wilder. *Ebony & Ivy.*

Wilkerson. *Warmth of Other Suns.*
**Requirements**

Paper 1: Due, March 14 (30%)

Paper 2: Due, May 1 (30%)

Class Presentation (30%)

Attendance & Participation (10%)

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**Unit I: Slavery**

January 13: Introduction

January 15: Film: ‘Many Rivers to Cross’, episode 1,

*(Suggested Reading, River of Dark Dreams, Ch. 1-3)*

January 20: No Class.

Kitch, Part I (required)

*(Suggested Reading: River of Dark Dreams, Ch. 4-7)*

January 22: Kitch, part 2, pp. 61-88


Wilder, *Ebony & Ivy* Chapter 3 (electronic reserve)

January 27: Film: ‘Many Rivers to Cross’, episode 2

*(Suggested Reading: River of Dark Dreams, 8-11)*

January 29: Kitch, pp. 89-143

Wilder, *Ebony & Ivy*, Chapter 4 (electronic reserve)
Unit II: Abolition and Reconstruction, Great Migration

February 3: Film, ‘Many Rivers to Cross’, episode 3
February 5: Blackmon, Part I, pp. 1-113
February 10: Film: ‘Slavery by Another Name’
February 12: Somerville, Queering the Color Line, pp. 1-38 (electronic reserve)
February 17: Film: ‘Many Rivers to Cross’, episode 4, (Recommended, Warmth of Other Suns, Part 3)
February 19: Kitch, pp. 147-221

Unit III: The impact of WWI and WWII

February 24: Stephens, Black Empire, pp. 1-8 and chapters 1 and 3 (electronic reserve)
February 26: Singh, Ch. 2 & 3
March 3: Spring Break
March 5: Spring Break
March 10: Singh, Ch. 4, 5
March 12: Film: Many Rivers to Cross’, episode 5
March 17: Von Eschen, Intro and Chapters 1-4
March 19: Von Eschen, Ch. 5-8
March 24: Dudziak, Ch. 1-3
March 26: Dudziak, Ch. 4-6

Unit IV: From Civil Rights to the ‘post racial’ era

March 31: Film: ‘Many Rivers to Cross’ Episode 6
April 2: Omi & Winant, Ch. 1-4
April 7: Omi & Winant, Ch. 5-7
April 9: Alexander, Ch. 1-3
April 14: Alexander, Ch. 4-6
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 16:</td>
<td>Hill Collins, Ch. 1-3</td>
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<td>April 21:</td>
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<td>April 23:</td>
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<td>April 28:</td>
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