

Department of Anthropology
University of Florida

ANT 3930: Race and Racism

Fall 2011

M, W, F (12:50-1:40)

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Office: B 331
Office hours: Mon. 2-4, Tues 2-3

Required texts:

1. Audrey Smedley. 2007. *Race in North America: Origin and Evolution of a Worldview*. 3rd ed. Westview Press.
2. [Hartigan](#), John, Jr. 2010. *Race in the 21st century: ethnographic approaches*. New York: Oxford University Press.
3. [Relethford](#), John. 2003. *Reflections of our past: how human history is revealed in our genes*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press

Additional course material will be made available through the course website.

Introduction:

In this course students will examine the concepts of race and racism from the perspectives of cultural and biological anthropology. The course is structured into 3 overall segments. In the first segment, we will examine human biological variation and how it relates to the concept of race. Subsequently, we will examine the race concept from the lens of cultural anthropology. We will look at the historical trajectory and evolution of the US racial worldview. In the third section, we will look at how race and racism is experienced by different groups in the United States. Finally, we will look at race from a cross-cultural perspective. Specifically, we will look at how the concept of race is understood and experienced in Latin America and in the Caribbean.

Course format:

This course includes lectures, films, discussion and classroom activities. Reading assignments are to be read prior to the class period for which they are scheduled. Due to time constraints, we will not be able to cover or discuss all the material in the readings during class. However, you are responsible for this material as all material will be covered in the exams.

Assessment:

The final grade scale for this class is as follows:

A = 100-93	C(S) = 76-73
A-=92-90	C-(U)= 72-70
B+=89-87	D+=69-67
B= 86-83	D= 66-63
B-= 82-80	D-= 62-60
C+= 79-77	E= 59-0

For further information regarding passing grades and grade point equivalents, please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog at: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades/html>.

You will be evaluated based on your achievement of the course goals and the following criteria:

Exams (3)	30%
Quizzes (5)	10%
Final Exam	20%
Film reaction papers (5 total)	15%
In-class activities	10%
Final project	15%
Total	100%

Components

Classroom expectations:

- **Attendance policy:** As college students, you are responsible for your own learning. Therefore, I will not be taking attendance in this class. However, I highly recommend that you attend class every day. We will be covering a lot of material in very little time. In general, lectures will not be posted online (only under special circumstances) so your presence is a key factor in succeeding in this class. Also, in-class activities cannot be made up, unless you have a university approved absence.
- Do not come to class to do homework or to sleep.
- **Tardiness:** Tardiness really distracts others, so be on time and only leave early if you really have to. If you arrive to class 15 minutes after we have started, I will kindly ask you to please leave the room.
- Students are expected to read material before it is covered in class.
- Students are expected to be active participants in class.
- Students are expected to exhibit respectful behavior toward the class and toward your peers.
- **Technology in the classroom:** Computers may be used in class for taking notes or reviewing Power Points. Do not use computers to send emails, facebook, games or other non-class related activity. The use of cell phones, pagers, iPods or mp3 players during class is prohibited. All equipment must be turned off in the classroom. Any evidence of cell phones (use, ringing, buzzing, texting, etc.) and similar equipment use will result in me asking you to leave the classroom and getting a zero in the in-class activity of the day.

Exams: There will be a total of three exams in this class. They are non-cumulative and will be based on the readings, discussions, films, guest speakers and lectures. The exam format will be multiple- choice, true-false, short answer and fill in the blank. Exams are not curved and no make-up tests will be given.

The **final exam** is cumulative and will also be multiple- choice, short answer and fill in the blank. The final exam will be on Thursday, December 15, 7:30-9:30 AM.

All exams will be administered through e-Learning on the days scheduled on this syllabus. You are not required to attend class the day of a scheduled exam. You can take the exams in a place and with a computer of your choice. It is your responsibility to have a reliable internet connection. Further instruction about how to complete an online exam will be provided in class.

NO DEVIATION OF THE TEST SCHEDULE WILL BE ALLOWED, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES; this means NO early or late exams (unless you have a university approved absence).

Quizzes: You will take five quizzes throughout the semester administered through e-learning. Quiz dates will be announced in class. These are to ensure that you understand the key concepts from the readings and the material presented in class. They will be administered through the elearning website. Unlike exams, we will have class on quiz dates. You can take the quizzes in a place and with a computer of your choice. It is your responsibility to have a reliable internet connection. The format will be multiple-choice, true-false and fill in the blank. Quizzes will cover material in the readings, lectures, guest lectures and films.

Film reaction papers: In this class, we will be watching a total of 7 films. You will have to write a reaction paper for 5 of them. You will choose which one of the 5 of the films you will write about. After each film, you will have to write a 1-1 ½ page maximum reaction paper. Each paper is worth 3 points. You will submit these through the elearning website.

In the reaction paper, you will express what you think or feel about what you have just seen on the film. You should also integrate class readings into your responses. Make sure your reaction papers answer the following questions: (1) What are your feelings regarding the issue/topic being addressed? (2) Do you agree or disagree with the information

presented?; Why or why not? (3) Can you relate to the situation? Why or why not? (4) Given what we have learned so far in the class, how does this film challenge or support our knowledge or understanding of race and racism?

In-class activities: Throughout the term, we will be carrying out different activities in class that you will have to turn in to me for a grade. These activities cannot be made up, unless you have a university approved absence.

Final project: For the final project, you will present your personal experience with or perspective of race and racism in the form of a digital story. In a digital story, you are communicating a story using images, video and recorded voice. For examples of digital stories, please refer to the Center for Digital Storytelling (www.storycenter.org).

You will be graded in terms of your ability to critically reflect on your own experience with race and racism and on how well you communicate this idea to others.

You can prepare a digital story individually or in groups of up to four classmates. However, you will have to let me know ahead of time if you will be working in a group. You will have 2 class days in the semester when you can meet with me or with your group to discuss and/or get feedback on your projects prior to the due date.

You will submit your digital story as a video file on hard media (CD or DVD) by December 5th. Late assignments will not be accepted, unless you have a UF-approved absence. More information regarding the digital storytelling project will be provided during the semester.

24-hour Grade Dispute Policy

Students who wish to discuss grades on assignments and exams should contact the instructor within 24 hours of posting to arrange a meeting time. Please do not wait until the end of the semester to question grades or request special consideration. Twenty-four hours after posting, all grades are final.

General Administrative Issues

Academic Integrity

All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines which have been accepted by the University. The UF Honor Code reads:

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." For more information please refer to <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide>.

Accommodations

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. For more information see <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>.

Counseling and Wellness

A variety of counseling, mental health and psychiatric services are available through the UF Counseling and Wellness Center, whose goal is to help students be maximally effective in their academic pursuits by reducing or eliminating emotional, psychological, and interpersonal problems that interfere with academic functioning. The Center can be found online at <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc> or reached by phone at 392-1575.

Syllabus Change Policy

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advanced notice.

Class Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment due
1	Aug 22	Course introduction and expectations	
	24	What is race?	
	26	What is race?	Smedley p. 1-41
2	29	Film- <i>Race: The power of an illusion; Episode 1</i>	<u>Read:</u> Relethford Ch. 1-2
	31	The biological basis of human variation	<u>Read:</u> Molnar ch. 2
	Sep 2	Why should we talk about race?	Due: Film reflection #1; Read: Molnar ch. 2
3	5	Diversity and human evolution	<u>Read:</u> Relethford ch. 3-4
	7	Diversity and human evolution	
	9	Traits of complex inheritance	<u>Read:</u> Jablonski
4	12	Traits of complex inheritance	<u>Read:</u> Relethford 5-6
	14	Traits of complex inheritance	<u>Read:</u> Molnar ch. 6
	16	Desiree's baby	<u>Read:</u> Desiree's baby
5	19	Distribution of human biodiversity	<u>Read:</u> Molnar ch. 8; Relethford 7-8
	21	Race and nature: Culture, biology and genetics	<u>Read:</u> Hartigan ch. 3;
	23	Exam 1: Elearning (no class)	
6	26	Film #2: <i>Race: The power of an illusion, episode 2</i>	
	28	Antecedents of the racial worldview	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 43-72 Relethford 9-10
	30	Antecedents of the racial worldview	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 75-121 Due: Film reflection #2
7	Oct 3	Comparing slave systems	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 123-160
	5	The rise of science; Crystallization of race	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 161-208
	7	Anti-slavery & entrenchment of a racial worldview	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 161-208
8	10	Science and the ideology of race	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 235-258
	12	Science & the expansion of the race ideology	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 259-282
	14	Race in the 20 th century	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 283-330
9	17	Dismantling the folk idea of race	<u>Read:</u> Smedley 331-352
	19	Exam 2: Elearning (no class)	
	21	Film #3: <i>Race: The power of an illusion, episode 3</i>	
10	24	Experiencing race: Being white in America I	<u>Read:</u> Hartigan Chpt 4;
	26	Experiencing race: Being white in America II	<u>Read:</u>
	28	Experiencing race: Being white in America III Film #4: <i>Children of the mountains</i>	<u>Read:</u> Reaction paper #3
11	31	Experiencing race: Being black in America I	<u>Read:</u> Hartigan ch. 5
	Nov 2	Experiencing race: Being black in America II Film #5: <i>Good Hair</i>	<u>Read:</u> Hartigan Chpt. 5 Due: Reaction paper #4
	5	NO CLASS- HOMECOMING	
12	7	Experiencing race: Being black in America II Film #5: <i>Good Hair</i>	
	9	Experiencing race: Beyond black and white in America I	Due: Reaction paper #5 Read: Hartigan ch. 6
	11	NO CLASS- VETERAN'S DAY	
13	14	Experiencing race: Beyond black and white in America II	
	16	Race in a cross-cultural perspective: Brazil	<u>Read:</u> Safa; Sheriff

	18	<i>Film #6: Brazil in black & white</i>	
14	21	Digital stories (group work and/or consultation)	
	23	Digital stories (group work and/or consultation)	<i>Due: Reaction paper #6</i>
	25	NO CLASS- Thanksgiving	
15	28	Race in a cross-cultural perspective: Hispaniola	<u>Read:</u> Hoetink; Torres-S; Trouillot
	30	Race in a cross-cultural perspective: Hispaniola	
	Dec 2	<i>Film # 7: Being black in Latin America: Haiti & the DR</i>	<i>Due: Reaction paper #7</i>
16	5	Digital stories	
	7	Exam 3: Elearning (no class)	

FINAL EXAM: The final exam will be on Thursday, December 15, 7:30-9:30 AM