

**Department of Political Science  
Duke University  
Spring 2007**

**Race in Comparative Perspective**

**PS202S**

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Office Hours: Monday 10:30 to  
noon, Wednesday 10:30 to noon  
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**Course Description**

This course explores the comparative way race is socially constructed in the United States, several European, Latin American, and selected other countries in the world. At times, we will also examine the concept of ethnicity within race and within these countries. In addition, we will examine the historical context in which the notion of race developed, and the very real effects of this social construction on the social and political lives of communities of color in these countries. Race as a defining characteristic is present in many countries; unfortunately, we are only able to explore a few. Nevertheless, you should think about and explore notions of race in countries that we do not cover. The material in the course falls under the emerging subfield of race and politics known as comparative race.

**Required Texts**

Anthony W. Marx, *Making Race and Nation: A Comparison of the United States, South Africa and Brazil*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1998.

George Reid Andrews, *Afro-Latin America 1800-2000*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

Mark Q. Sawyer, *Racial Politics in Post-Revolutionary Cuba*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006.

Erik Bleich, *Race Politics in Britain and France*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Melissa Nobles, *Shades of Citizenship: Race and the Census in Modern Politics*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 2000.

John Solomos, *Race and Racism in Britain, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.

Shamit Saggat (ed.). *Race and British Electoral Politics*. London: University College London, 1998. (I have not placed an order for this book with Duke University Bookstore, but you should be able to find a number of used paperback or hardback copies online.)

Robert C. Lieberman, *Shaping Race Policy: The United States in Comparative Perspective*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005.

A number of articles are available to be downloaded from Blackboard. Several other articles will be

available on the Electronic Reserve section of the class page in Blackboard.

### Course Requirements

1. Complete all required reading assignments for each class meeting and do any additional appropriate optional readings.
2. Make active contributions to inquiries and discussions.
3. Prepare for **three** of the modules a written 9-10 page, exclusive of title page and bibliography, “concept paper” in which major ideas are synthesized and critically analyzed. These papers will be due on the dates indicated in the module outlines. Late papers will be assessed a penalty of 5 points per day, unless cleared with me in advance. Papers should be submitted through the Digital Dropbox section on Blackboard. (Papers should not be put under my door; all should be submitted through the dropbox procedure.) *Inadequately prepared papers will be returned for reformulation and rewriting.* **Papers will be graded on the following standards:**
  - ❖ Use of language and writing;
  - ❖ Organization of paper and format of essay;
  - ❖ Consistency and use of logic;
  - ❖ Use of literature;
  - ❖ Conceptual formulation;
  - ❖ Substantive value;
  - ❖ Originality of research;
  - ❖ Depth of scholarship
4. Participate in the creation of small “learning teams” to assume responsibility for assigned sessions. The task of each team will be to:
  - a. Develop a list of questions to help focus class discussion. Copies of discussion questions are to be distributed at the beginning of the appropriate class sessions.
  - b. Structure and lead class sessions to deal with the topics. Approaches may include, but are not limited to, the following: lectures, questions and answer sessions, debates, presentation and discussion of papers, group activities, case studies, and so forth.
5. Take final examination. Final examination: Friday, May 5, 2006-7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
6. Duke University is governed by an Honor Code which all students sign upon admission. I expect the Code to be observed. As such, the pledge along with your signature must appear on all written work, including exams. No work will be accepted that is not pledged.

### **Grading**

Concept Papers	50%
Final Examination	40%
Class Presentations	10%

### **Class Format**

After the introductory meeting, the seminar will be organized into five modules. Each module will consist of readings, discussion, student presentations, concept papers, and review sessions.

### **Module One**

This module examines the subfield of comparative race and politics. It will also explore the origins of the concept of race. The social and political construction of race in the United States and several other countries are also examined.

### **Module Two**

This module explores the state's participation in the social construction of race in three countries—United States, South Africa and Brazil. The state plays a major role in the social construction of race and in enforcing the institutional boundaries of race.

### **Module Three**

This module looks at race and race politics in Latin America generally, and Cuba specifically. The history of Afro-Latins is explored in various countries and the continued nature of the influence of race on the political process is examined.

### **Module Four**

This module addressed race and racial politics in Britain. In the last session, two readings on race in Australia are introduced.

### **Module Five**

A comparison of the influence of race and politics on public policy making in Britain, France, and the United States are explored in this module.

### **Course Calendar (Unless otherwise indicated, all readings are required)**

January 17 Introduction and Course Overview

January 24 Module I: Comparative Race and the Different Concepts of Race  
(Paper for module due February 14, 2007)

#### Comparative Race

Michael Hanchard and Erin Aeran Chung, "From Race Relations to Comparative Racial Politics: A Survey of Cross-National Scholarship on Race in the Social Sciences." *Du Bois Review* 1:2 (Fall 2004):319-343. (Download from Blackboard)

Pierre Bourdieu and Loïc Wacquant, "On the Cunning of Imperialist Reason." *Theory, Culture and Society* (1999) 16(1):41-58. (Download from Blackboard)

Michael Hanchard, "Acts of Misrecognition: Transnational Black Politics, Anti-imperialism and the Ethnocentrism of Pierre Bourdieu and Loïc Wacquant." *Theory, Culture and Society* (2003) 20(4):5-29. (Download from Blackboard)

#### Origins of the Concept of Race

Audrey Smedley, "Social Origins of the Idea of Race," In *Race in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Curtis Stokes, Theresa Meléndez, and Genice Rhodes-Reed, editors. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 2001. (Download from Blackboard)

Charles Hirschman, "The Origins and Demise of the Concept of Race."  
*Population and Development Review* 30 (3):385-415 (September 2004).  
(Download from Blackboard)

#### Race and Ethnicity

Peter Wade, "Introduction" and Chapter 1 "The Meaning of 'Race' and  
'Ethnicity.'" *Race and Ethnicity in Latin America*. London: Pluto Press,  
1997. (Download from Blackboard)

January 31

Module I: The Concept of Race (Continued)

#### Race in the United States

Davis, "The Nation's Rule" and "Miscegenation and Beliefs" (Download from  
Blackboard)

Melissa Nobles, *Shades of Citizenship*. (Palo Alto: Stanford University Press,  
2000) Chapters 1 & 2.

López, "White Lines" (Download from Blackboard.)

Thomas E. Skidmore, "Toward a Comparative Analysis of Race Relations Since  
Abolition in Brazil and the United States." *Journal of Latin American  
Studies* 4,1 (May 1972):1-28. (Download from Blackboard)

"People of Color Who Never Felt They Were Black" *Washington Post*,  
December 26, 2002. (Download from Blackboard.)

#### Britain

Solomos, *Race and Racism in Britain*, Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2.

Claire Alexander, "Beyond Black: Re-thinking the Colour/Culture Divide."  
*Ethnic and Racial Studies* 25, 4 (July 2002):552-571. (Download from  
Blackboard)

#### Australia

Morris and Cowlishaw, "Cultural Racism." In *Race Matters: Indigenous  
Australians and 'Our' Society*. Canberra: Aboriginal Studies Press,  
1997. (Download from Blackboard)

February 7

Module I: The Concept of Race (continued)

#### Latin America

Richard Graham, "Introduction" to *The Idea of Race in Latin America, 1870-  
1940*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1990 (Download from  
Blackboard)

Thomas E. Skidmore, "Racial Ideas and Social Policy in Brazil, 1870-1940." In  
*The Idea of Race in Latin America, 1870-1940*. Austin: University of  
Texas Press, 1990 (Download from Blackboard)

Ariel E. Dulitzky, "A Region in Denial: Racial Discrimination and Racism in  
Latin America." In *Neither Enemies nor Friends*. Anani Dzidzienyo  
and Suzanne Oboler (eds.) Houndsmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.  
(Download from Blackboard)

Reid, *Afro-Latin America*, Introduction and Chapter 1.  
Nobles, Chapters 3, 4 and 5.

Mexico

Patricia Seed, "Social Dimensions of Race: Mexico City, 1753." *The Hispanic American Historical Review* 62, 4(November 1982):569-606.  
(Download from Blackboard.)

Cuba

Alejandro de la Fuente, "Race, National Discourse, and Politics in Cuba: An Overview." *Latin American Perspectives* 25, 3 (May 1998):43-69.  
(Download from Blackboard)

Film: "Forgotten" Roots

February 14

Module II. Race and Nations: A Comparative Perspective  
(Paper for module due February 28, 2007)

Anthony Marx, *Making Race and Nation: A Comparison of the United States, South Africa and Brazil*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1998.

Edward E. Telles, "Racial Ambiguity among the Brazilian population." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 25, 3 (May 2002):415-441. (Download from Blackboard.)

February 21

Module II. Race and Nation (continued)

February 28

Module III: Latin America General and Cuba  
(Paper for module due March 21, 2007)

Andrews, *Afro-Latin America, 1800-2000* (rest of the book)

March 7

Module III: Latin America General and Cuba

Mark Q. Sawyer, *Racial Politics in Post-Revolutionary Cuba* (entire book)

Spring Break

March 9-18, 2007

March 21

Module IV: Race and Politics in Britain  
(Paper for module due April 4, 2007)

Solomos, *Race and Racism in Britain* (entire book)

Sagger, *Race and British Electoral Politics* (entire book)

Review Symposium: Report of the Commission on the Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain," *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 26, 4 (October 2000); 719-738.  
(Download from Blackboard.)

Karen Wells and Sophie Watson, "A Politics of Resentment: Shopkeepers in a London Neighbourhood." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 28, 2 (March 2005):261-277. (Download from Blackboard)

Larry Ray and Kate Reed, "Community, Mobility and Racism in a Semi-rural area: Comparing Minority Experience in East Kent." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 28, 2 (March 2005):212-234. (Download from Blackboard)

Suzanne Model, "Ethnic Inequality in England: An Analysis based on the 1991 Census." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 22, 6 (November 1999) 966-990.  
(Download from Blackboard.)

Muhammad Anwar, "The Participation of Ethnic Minorities in British Politics."

*Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 27, 3 (July 2001):533-549.  
(Download from Blackboard.)

- March 28                   Module IV Race and Politics in Britain (continued)
- April 4                    Module IV: Race and Politics in Britain and Australia (continued)  
Morris, "Racism, Egalitarianism and Aborigines." In *Race Matters: Indigenous Australians and 'Our' Society*. Canberra: Aboriginal Studies Press, 1997. (Electronic Reserve)  
Rachel Gibson, Ian McAllister and Tami Swenson. "The Politics of Race and Immigration in Australia: One Nation Voting in the 1998 Election." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 25,5 (September 2002):823-844. (Download from Blackboard)  
Film: *Rabbit Proof Fence*
- April 11                   No class—Midwest Political Science Association meeting
- April 18                   Module V: Race and the formulation of Public Policy: United States, France and Britain (Paper for module due Monday, April 30, 2007)  
  
Erik Bleich, *Race and Politics in Britain and France* (entire book)
- April 25                   Module V: Race and Public Policy (continued)  
  
Robert C. Lieberman, *Shaping Race Policy: The United States in Comparative Perspective* (entire book)
- May 3 (Thursday)       Final examination, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.