THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RACE, POLITICS, AND CULTURE

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The Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture

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- Loren Kruger– Comparative Literature and English
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- Omar M. McRoberts– Sociology
- Doriane Miller– Medicine
- Reuben Jonathan Miller– School of Social Service Administration
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- Eric Oliver– Political Science
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- Dexter Voisin– School of Social Service Administration
- Kenneth Warren– English
- Mareike Winchell– Anthropology
- Miwa Yasui– School of Social Service Administration
- Marci Ybarra– School of Social Service Administration

FUNDING AND OPPORTUNITIES

The CSRPC has many resources for masters and doctoral students who work on topics around race and ethnicity. The Center offers a CSRPC Dissertation Fellowship, currently providing one or two ABD students a year with a stipend of $31,000 some research funding, and an office at the Center. The CSRPC Residential Fellowship provides office space and research funding. Jointly with the Center for The Study of Gender and Sexuality, the Center offers a dissertation fellowship (also with a stipend, research funding, and office space) for a student working on an intersectional topic. Finally, the CSRPC gives a total of at least $12,000 per year in research grants to students working on relevant topics.

Many teaching opportunities can be found at CSRPC as well. Several teaching internships and lectureships for the civilization sequence "Colonizations" are available each year, and the Center offers six stand alone courses from among those proposed by advanced graduate students. The Center sponsors a Council on Advanced Studies graduate workshop, the Reproduction of Race and Racial Ideologies Workshop.

For additional information about the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture, please see csrpc.uchicago.edu
COMPARATIVE RACE AND ETHNIC STUDIES COURSES

CRES 30001. Topics in African American History. 100 Units.
This course is designed to explore in-depth selected topics in African American history and historiography. The specific focus this term will be "race and twentieth-century social science." Readings and discussion will explore the history of the relation between social-science theory and racial thought and practice from the race science of the late-nineteenth century through Franz Boas's cultural relativism to mid-twentieth century notions of a so-called culture of poverty. Our attention will focus on the real-world, especially public policy, implications of social-scientific thought. In addition to active participation in class discussions each student will write a final paper on a selected topic.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 40001

CRES 30110. Trans-Saharan Africa. 100 Units.
Should Mediterranean and sub-Saharan Africa be treated as one or two historical units? What was the global and regional significance of medieval and early modern trans-Saharan caravan trade? How are we to understand the vast empires that sprang up in the West and Central Sudan during this era? How and in what form did Islam and the broader culture that accompanied it spread across this entire region? What was the role of slavery in the economic and cultural development of both North and West-West Central Africa? To what extent did European colonial rule and its aftermath alter or encourage the social and cultural processes initiated by trans-Saharan contacts? We will consider these questions in this course, which will mix lectures on Tuesdays with discussion of readings on Thursdays. Assignments: Two short 3-5-page critical papers on specialized readings and one longer final essay of 10-12 pages.
Instructor(s): R. Austen Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 30110, CRES 20110, HIST 20110

CRES 30203. Colloquium: Colonial African History. 100 Units.
In the late nineteenth century, European nations embarked on an ambitious effort to conquer and occupy Africa. This course considers the conditions that enabled the European "scramble for Africa" and the long-lasting consequences of that project. We will use primary sources, secondary texts, fiction, and films to explore the meanings and manifestations of the European occupation for African peoples. Specific themes to be investigated include colonial institutions and systems of rule; social and political effects of colonialism; colonial religious movements; resistance and rebellion; nationalism and independence. We will draw case studies from French West Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and South Africa.
Instructor(s): E. Osborn Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Upper-level undergraduates with consent of instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 40203

CRES 30308. Political Theologies of Slavery and Freedom in the Atlantic World. 100 Units.
This seminar examines the interdisciplinary form of knowledge known as "political theology" in the context of Atlantic slavery. The course will trace two major developments. First, we will explore how Christian metaphysics facilitated colonialism and slavery, focusing on the emergence of race as a theological (rather than a biological) concept and on the self-fulfilling providentialism that structured fantasies of Euro-Christian world dominance. Second, we will explore how indigenous and African cosmologies and Christianities informed enslaved resistance and abolitionism. Our readings will range from works of political theology (Augustine, Calvin, Hobbes) to early American writings (Las Casas, Ligon, Jefferson) to Black Atlantic anti-slavery texts (Wheatley, Walker, Turner). We'll consider the explorer George Best's rewriting of the biblical Curse of Ham, Francis Bacon's claim that Europe's superior technology evidenced its Chosen status, and the ideology of "hereditary heathenism" that forestalled early efforts to convert slaves to Christianity. Likewise, we'll consider the role of obeah in the Haitian Revolution, the competing attitudes toward Christian slave revolt found in fiction by Douglass and Stowe, and the continued contestation of what W. E. B. Du Bois called "the new religion of whiteness." Secondary authors may include Charles Taylor, Talal Asad, Max Weber, Colin Kidd, Rebecca Goetz, Jared Hickman, Katharine Gerbner, Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra, and J. Kameron Carter
Instructor(s): Alex Mazaferro Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): SCCH 40308, CHSS 40308, KNOW 40308

CRES 31900. ¿Cuerpos Desechables? Estéticas de la No-Vida en las Literaturas Hispanoamericanas. 100 Units.
In this seminar we will conduct a theoretical exploration of the aesthetic procedures through which human life has been represented as expendable in Spanish-American literature from the Conquest to the twenty-first century, as well as an examination of the historical and philosophical contexts within which such figurations emerged. The course will focus on case studies that correspond to four key moments in the history of the region: conquest and colonization, slavery and the formation of national states in the nineteenth century, the triumph of a capitalist export economy at the turn of the twentieth, and the violent challenges posed by globalization and narcotráfico in the contemporary context. Among the issues and texts we may engage are Fray Bartolomé de las Casas and Francisco de Vitoria's sixteenth-century dispute on the right of conquest and the Brevisima relación de la destrucción de las Indias, Esteban Echevarría's El matadero, Lucio Mansilla's Una excursión a los indios ranqueles, Juan F. Manzano's Autobiografía de un esclavo, Manuel Zeno Gandía's La charca, and Fernando Vallejo's La virgen de los sicarios.
Instructor(s): A. Lugo-Ortiz Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 31901, LACS 31900, SPAN 31900
CRES 32012. Technologies of Race Making. 100 Units.
This course considers the intersections between technology, science, and race. It explores how technologies have been developed and used to assign racial meaning to people’s identities and bodies and how this has impacted economic, political, and social power structures. We will read studies relating to historical and present-day technologies and discuss topics such as racial science, phrenology, biometry, surveillance and policing, artificial intelligence and automation, and data production and reuse. A major theme that runs through the course is the practice of race-making, how biological race is enacted and made relevant in specific technological practices. Which assumptions and expectations about human variation are built into the technologies? What are the effects of its use in practice? How does race making configure into more durable forms, such as standards, databanks, and protocols? This course will be bi-modal, with in class and online options.
Instructor(s): Iris Clever Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 22102, ANTH 33336, KNOW 32012, CHSS 32012, KNOW 22012, SOCI 30325

CRES 33001. Censorship in East Asia: The Case of Colonial Korea. 100 Units.
This course examines the operation and consequences of censorship in the Japanese Empire, with focus on its effects in colonial Korea. It begins with two basic premises: first, both the Japanese colonial authorities’ measures of repression, and the Korean responses to them, can be understood as noticeably more staunch and sophisticated when compared to any other region of the Empire; and second, the censorship practices in Korea offers itself as a case that is in itself an effective point of comparison to better understand other censorship operations in general and the impact of these operations across different regions. With a view to probing an inter- and intra-relationship between censorship practices among a variety of imperial/colonial regions, this course studies the institutions related to censorship, the human agents involved in censorship—both external and internal—and texts and translations that were produced in and outside of Korea, and were subject to censorship. Overall, the course stresses the importance of establishing a comparative understanding of the functions of censorship, and on the basis of this comparative thinking we will strive to conceptualize the characteristics of Japanese colonial censorship in Korea.
Instructor(s): K. Choi Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 43000, EALC 23001, MAAD 16001

CRES 33700. Capitalism, Colonialism, and Nationalism in the Pacific. 100 Units.
This course compares colonial capitalist projects and their dialogic transformations up to present political dilemmas, with special attention to Fiji, New Zealand, and Hawai‘i, and a focus on the labor diaspora, the fates of indigenous polities, and tensions in contemporary citizenship. We will compare Wakefield’s “scientific colonization” in New Zealand, Gordon’s social experiments and indentured labor in Fiji, and the plantations, American annexation, tourism, and the military in Hawai‘i. We will compare the colonial experiences of the Maori, Hawaiians, and indigenous Fijians, and also those of the immigrant laborers and their descendants, especially white New Zealanders, the South Asians in Fiji, and the Japanese in Hawai‘i. General propositions about nationalism, capitalism “late” and otherwise, global cultural flows, and postcolonial subject positions will be juxtaposed with contemporary Pacific conflicts.
Instructor(s): John Kelly Terms Offered: May be offered in 2021-22.
Note(s): This course qualifies as a Discovering Anthropology selection for Anthropology majors.
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 33700, CRES 23710, ANTH 23700

CRES 34706. Edo/Tokyo: Society and the City in Japan. 100 Units.
This course explores the history of one of the world’s largest cities from its origins as the castle town of the Tokugawa shoguns in the early seventeenth century, to its transformation into a national capital and imperial center, and concludes in the postwar era as Tokyo emerged from the ashes of World War II to become a center of global capital and culture. Our focus will be on the complex and evolving interactions between the natural and built environments of the city and politics, culture, and social relations.
Instructor(s): S. Burns Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 34706, ENST 24706, EALC 34706, HIST 24706, ARCH 24706, EALC 24706, CRES 24706

CRES 35113. From Mestizaje to the Mexican Genome. 100 Units.
As the Kingdom of New Spain became independent Mexico, how did a society structured around status, caste and corporate bodies imagine itself as a republic of equal citizens? This course will explore the categories of class, culture and, particularly, race, with which, for over two hundred years, Mexican politicians and public writers, scientists and intellectuals have sought to make sense of the nation, decipher its ethnic, linguistic and cultural diversity, assess the profound inequalities that have riddled it, and forge a “national identity”.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 26124, LACS 35113, HIST 36124, LACS 25113, CRES 25113

CRES 36183. Migrations, Refugees, Races. 100 Units.
This MA/BA-level course introduces students to globalization theory, with particular attention to readings that showcase the displacements and migrations that characterize the era of advanced global capitalism. Fleeing economic, social, and climatological collapse, migrants hardly find a second home; they become refugees without refuge. The limits on their flourishing extend far beyond the national borders that they cross in search of livable life. Wherever they go, they are discriminated and psychologically segregated by discourses of race nationalism, discourses in which migrations give rise to races. This course will focus on this process of migrant racialization—all the more pressing in light of current world events—with a curriculum that includes works by Weber, Simmel, Smohalla, Benedict Anderson, Anzaldúa, Appadurai, Brathwaite, Walter Benjamin, Celan, Derrida, Eggers,
CRES 36220. Witches, Sinners, and Saints. 100 Units.
This course examines representations of women’s bodies and sexualities in colonial Latin American writings. In doing so, we will study the body through a variety of lenses: the anatomical body as a site of construction of sexual difference, the witch’s body as a site of sexual excess, the mystic’s body as a double of the possessed body, the tortured body as a site of knowledge production, and the racialized bodies of New World women as sites to govern sexuality, spirituality, labor, and property in the reaches of the Spanish Empire.
Instructor(s): Larissa Brewer-García Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): For undergrads: SPAN 20300 or consent of instructor.
Note(s): Taught in Spanish.
Equivalent Course(s): SPAN 36210, CRES 26220, GNSE 36210, SPAN 26210, LACS 36212, LACS 26212, GNSE 26210
CRES 36290. Mapping Black Social Dance: Hip Hop and House in the Community and Onstage. 100 Units.
This hybrid studio/seminar course offers an overview of the formal techniques, cultural contexts, and social trends that shape current Black social and vernacular dance practices. Modules will be built around Black social culture by looking at key histories and theories around Black dance, music and other cultural aesthetics from hip hop to house. As part of our exploration, we will cover themes such as: the Great Migration, the range of Black social dance forms from blues, jazz, disco, and dancehall that have influenced the evolution of hip hop and house on global scale; and the spectrum of social spaces from clubs to lounges and public events that have been critical to preserving Black cultural heritage and creating safe spaces for belonging and flourishing. Selected readings and viewings will supplement movement practice to give historical, cultural, and political context.
Instructor(s): M. McNeal Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 23620, MUSI 33620, CRES 26290, TAPS 36290, TAPS 26290
CRES 37110. Égalité des races dans la francophonie. 100 Units.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 27100, FREN 37100, FREN 27100
CRES 37200. African American History to 1883. 100 Units.
A lecture course discussing selected topics in the African American experience (economic, political, social) from African origins through the Supreme Court decision invalidating Reconstruction Era protections of African American civil rights. Course evaluations via online quizzes and take-home essays.
Instructor(s): T. Holt Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 27200, LLSO 26901, HIST 27200, HIST 37200
CRES 37207. The North American West, 1500 - 1900. 100 Units.
Go west, young man, go west!” newspaper editor Horace Greeley allegedly proclaimed. Although he only visited the region himself, his proclamation referred to the host of opportunities thought to be lying in wait among the uncharted territories out yonder. The West has embodied both the American dream and an American nightmare. This co-taught class will examine the changing delineations, demographics, conceptualizations, and significance of the North American West across four centuries and several empires.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 37207, GNSE 27207, CRES 27207, AMER 27207, AMER 37207, GNSE 37207, HIST 27207
CRES 37300. African American History since 1883. 100 Units.
A lecture course discussing selected topics in the African American experience (economic, political, social) from Reconstruction Era protections of African American civil rights through social and political movements in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries seeking their restoration. Course evaluations via online quizzes and take-home essays.
Instructor(s): T. Holt Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 27300, LLSO 28800, HIST 27300, HIST 37300
CRES 37330. African American History, 1865-2016. 100 Units.
This class will introduce students to the key themes, events, problems and advances within African American history, after the end of slavery. Readings will include Reconstruction-era documents, Ida B. Wells, Ned Cobb, W. E. B. Du Bois, Howard Thurman, Septima Clark, Philippe Wamba, and Audre Lorde among others. Assignments will include two papers and a series of short response pieces.
Instructor(s): A. Green Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 27330, HIST 37310, AMER 27310, HIST 27310, AMER 37310

CRES 37401. Literaturas del Caribe Hispanico en el siglo XX. 100 Units.
En este curso se estudiarán algunos ejemplos salientes de las literaturas producidas en el Caribe hispánico insular (Cuba, Puerto Rico y Santo Domingo) durante el siglo XX y a principios del XXI. Entre los asuntos a discutir tendrán un lugar principal los modos en que esta producción se ha constituido como respuesta y elaboración estética de las historias de esclavitud, violencia racial y colonialismo, de militarización y desplazamientos territoriales migratorios, que han marcado a la región en su carácter de frontera imperial desde el siglo XVI. En el curso también se abordará la condición simbólica del Caribe como espacio de utopias y catástrofes, escenario privilegiado tanto de las aspiraciones revolucionarias propias de la modernidad (e.g. la Revolución Haitiana del 1791 y la Revolución Cubana del 1959) como de los terrores de la destrucción ecológica (con su experiencia cruel de huracanes y terremotos).
Instructor(s): A. Lugo-Ortiz Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): At least one of the following courses: SPAN 21500, 21703, 21803, 21903, or 22003.
Note(s): Taught in Spanish.
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 27401, CRES 27401, SPAN 37401, SPAN 27401, LACS 37401

CRES 37403. African American Lives and Times. 100 Units.
This colloquium will examine selected topics and issues in African American history during a dynamic and critical decade, 1893 and 1903, that witnessed the redefinition of American national and sectional identities, social and labor relations, and race and gender relations. A principal premise of the course is that African American life and work was at the nexus of the birth of modern America, as reflected in labor and consumption, in transnational relations (especially Africa), in cultural expression (especially music and literature), and in the resistance or contestation to many of these developments. The course will focus on the Chicago World’s Fair and the publication of Du Bois’s Souls of Black Folk as seminal moments in the era. Our discussions will be framed by diverse primary materials, including visual and aural sources, juxtaposed with interpretations of the era by various historians. A principal goal of the course is that students gain a greater appreciation for interpreting historical processes through in-depth examination of the complex and multiple currents of an defined era-a slice of time-as well as skills in interpreting diverse primary sources.
Instructor(s): T. Holt Terms Offered: Winter

CRES 37709. Soul and the Black Seventies. 100 Units.
This course considers in what ways soul as cultural genre and style shaped, and was shaped by, the political, social, structural, cultural, and ethical shifts and conditions associated with the 1970s. It will focus on popular music as both symbolic field and system of production, while also taking up other forms of expression-literary, intellectual, institutional, activist-in order to propose an alternate, and compelling, archive for this era. The course intends to deepen understanding of the feel and meaning of soul by relating it to consequential legacies of the 1970s: urban identity and crisis, emerging limitations of racial reformism, the deepening class stratification of Black life, and the radical disruption of social norms through feminism, in particular Black feminism.
Instructor(s): A. Green Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Graduate students by consent of instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27709, CRES 27709, HIST 37709, GNSE 27709, MUSI 27709, GNSE 37709, MUSI 37709

CRES 38000. United States Latinos: Origins and Histories. 100 Units.
An examination of the diverse social, economic, political, and cultural histories of those who are now commonly identified as Latinos in the United States. Particular emphasis will be placed on the formative historical experiences of Mexican Americans and mainland Puerto Ricans, although some consideration will also be given to the histories of other Latino groups, i.e., Cubans, Central Americans, and Dominicans. Topics include cultural and geographic origins and ties; imperialism and colonization; the economics of migration and employment; legal status; work, women, and the family; racism and other forms of discrimination; the politics of national identity; language and popular culture; and the place of Latinos in US society. Equivalent Course(s): AMER 28001, CRES 28000, GNSE 28202, HIST 38000, LACS 28000, LACS 38000, CRES 38000, GNSE 38202, AMER 38001
Instructor(s): R. Gutiérrez Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 28000, AMER 38001, GNSE 38202, HIST 38000, LACS 38000, HIST 28000, AMER 28001, CRES 28000, GNSE 28202

CRES 38703. Baseball and American Culture, 1840-1970. 100 Units.
This course will examine the rise and fall of baseball as America’s national pastime. We will trace the relationship between baseball and American society from the development of the game in the mid-nineteenth century to its enormous popularity in the first half of the twentieth century to its more recent problems and declining status in our culture. The focus will be on baseball as a professional sport, with more attention devoted to the early history of the game rather than to the recent era. Emphasis will be on using baseball as a historical lens through which we will analyze the development of American society and culture rather than on the celebration of individuals or
teams. Crucial elements of racialization, ethnicity, class, gender, nationalism, and masculinity will be in play as we consider the Negro Leagues, women’s leagues, the Latinization and globalization of the game, and more.

Instructor(s): M. Briones
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 28703, HIST 38703, CRES 28703

CRES 38906. Nineteenth-Century American Mass Entertainment. 100 Units.

Popular culture filters, reflects, and occasionally refracts many of the central values, prejudices, and preoccupations of a given society. From the Industrial Revolution to the advent of feature films in the early twentieth century, American audiences sought both entertainment and reassurance from performers, daredevils, amusement parks, lecturers, magicians, panoramas, athletes, and photographers. Amidst the Civil War, they paid for portraits that purportedly revealed the ghosts of lost loved ones; in an age of imperialism, they forked over hard-earned cash to relive the glories of western settlement, adventure, and conquest in Buffalo Bill’s Wild West. Mass entertainment not only echoed the central events of the age it helped shape them: from phrenology as the channel for antebellum convictions about outward appearance (and racial identity), to the race riots following Jack Johnson’s boxing victory over Jim Jeffries. Many of these entertainment forms became economic juggernauts in their own right, and in the process of achieving unprecedented popularity, they also shaped collective memory, gender roles, race relations, and the public’s sense of acceptable beliefs and behaviors. This lecture course will examine the history of modern American entertainment over the course of the long nineteenth century. Requirements include careful reading, active and thoughtful participation, and written assignments.

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 38906, CRES 28906, GNSE 28906, HIST 38906, HIST 28906

CRES 38990. Muslims in the United States. 100 Units.

Muslim migration to the United States and Western Europe proliferated in the last quarter of the 20th Century, and Islam has been a visible (and controversial) presence in these societies ever since. Though internally varied by race, ethnicity, national origins, sect and class positionality, Muslim communities have faced homogenizing narratives rooted in orientalist frameworks. As Islam continues to be a site of conflict in geopolitical struggles, these frameworks have reproduced themselves into the twenty-first century. This course will use an intersectional and critical lens to examine the issues facing Muslims in the United States and Western Europe on both macro and micro levels. One third of the course will cover the interactions between Muslim communities and their “host societies” vis-à-vis the state, mass media, and public opinion. Another third of the course will delve into issues of socioeconomic mobility and cultural assimilation. Finally, the last third will show how these macro concepts influence the everyday lived experiences of Muslims in these contexts. This is a seminar-style, reading-heavy course. Students should be familiar with and capable of deploying the sociological concepts of race, class, gender and intersectionality.

Instructor(s): E. Abdelhadi
Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Undergrads must have 3rd or 4th year standing.
Note(s): Subject area: Undergrad: 3; Grad: 3
Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 38990, CHDV 28999, GNSE 38990, GNSE 28990, ISLM 38990, SOCI 30324

CRES 39000. Latin American Religions, New and Old. 100 Units.

This course will consider select pre-twentieth-century issues, such as the transformations of Christianity in colonial society and the Catholic Church as a state institution. It will emphasize twentieth-century developments: religious rebellions; conversion to evangelical Protestant churches; Afro-diasporan religions; reformist and revolutionary Catholicism; new and New Age religions.

Instructor(s): D. Borges
Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 39000, RLST 21401, MAPS 39200, LACS 39000, CRES 29000, HIST 29000, HCHR 39200, LACS 29000

CRES 39117. Theater and Performance in Latin America. 100 Units.

What is performance? How has it been used in Latin America and the Caribbean? This course is an introduction to theatre and performance in Latin America and the Caribbean that will examine the intersection of performance and social life. While we will place particular emphasis on performance art, we will examine some theatrical works. We ask: how have embodied practice, theatre and visual art been used to negotiate ideologies of race, gender and sexuality? What is the role of performance in relation to systems of power? How has it negotiated geopolitical struggles, these frameworks have reproduced themselves into the twenty-first century. This course will use an intersectional and critical lens to examine the issues facing Muslims in the United States and Western Europe on both macro and micro levels. One third of the course will cover the interactions between Muslim communities and their “host societies” vis-à-vis the state, mass media, and public opinion. Another third of the course will delve into issues of socioeconomic mobility and cultural assimilation. Finally, the last third will show how these macro concepts influence the everyday lived experiences of Muslims in these contexts. This is a seminar-style, reading-heavy course. Students should be familiar with and capable of deploying the sociological concepts of race, class, gender and intersectionality.

Instructor(s): D. Roper
Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates must be in their third or fourth year
Note(s): Taught in English.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 28479, GNSE 29117, LACS 39117, LACS 29117, GNSE 39117, CRES 29117, TAPS 38479, SPAN 29117, SPAN 39117

CRES 39519. Histories of Racial Capitalism. 100 Units.

This course takes as its starting point the insistence that the movement, settlement, and hierarchical arrangements of people of African descent is inseparable from regimes of capital accumulation. It builds on the concept of “racial capitalism,” which rejects treatments of race as external to a purely economic project and counters the idea that racism is an externality, cultural overflow, or aberration from the so-called real workings of capitalism. With a focus on the African diaspora, this course will cover topics such as racial slavery,
CRES 40141. Structural -isms. 100 Units.
What does it mean to designate "structure" as the operative force in discrimination against categories of persons as in appeals to structural racism or structural violence on the basis of gender? And how can we approach this question by attending to aesthetic uses of structure and form, especially as these have been understood in such paradigms as structuralism and recent literary formalisms? How do we read for structure, in reading for racism and for systemic discrimination on other bases? We'll focus on intersections of race, gender, and class (in U.S. contexts) as these categories have been reconfigured in the past half century or so. To explore appeals to structure, we'll consider definitions of literary and aesthetic form, debates about structure vs. agency, and questions of individual and collective action as mediated by institutions. Readings will balance theory with examples drawn from fiction, documentary film, built form, and other media. Throughout, we'll pay particular attention to problems of structure construed as problems of narrative, as we develop sharper terms for understanding how discrimination proceeds structurally.
Instructor(s): Rowan Bayne Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Instructor consent required for undergraduates.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 40141, GNSE 45141, CRES 22141, GNSE 25141, MAPH 40141, ENGL 20242

CRES 40161. 21st Century Ethnic American Literature. 100 Units.
The question of "race" and racial others in US fiction has troubled the form since its emergence, but in the 21st century fiction has tackled particularly thorny issues. The debates in contemporary literary studies have both criticized and maintained the categories of race and ethnicity in novels and short fiction, and longstanding debates in canonical work have demanded rethinking what "ethnic" fiction is capable of achieving. This class will explore US novels and short stories by African-American, American Indian, Asian-American, and Latinx writers from the last twenty years to conceptualize the shifting categories of race and ethnicity, paired with critical and theoretical works in critical cultural race studies.
Instructor(s): Megan Tusler Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 22161, AMER 40161, MAPH 40161, ENGL 40161, ENGL 20161

CRES 40204. A Proto-History of Race? Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in Spain and North Africa (1200-1600) 100 Units.
This course focuses on phenomena of mass conversion and the emergence of ideologies of lineage and purity of blood in the western Mediterranean, more specifically, the Iberian Peninsula and the Maghreb. The rivalry between Islam and Christianity (with Judaism a frequent go-between) in this region produced many distinctive cultural formations. Among those formations were ideas about the limits of conversion that may be compared to modern concepts of race. The word "race" was itself first applied to humans in Iberia during this period, to designate Christians descended from Muslims or Jews, and similar concepts emerged in Islamic North Africa. We will explore these ideas in the Christian Iberian kingdoms, with frequent excursions into Almoravid, Almohad, Marinid and Nasrid Islamic polities. Our goal will be to produce a Mediterranean archaeology of some of the concepts with which Christian and Muslim colonizers encountered the New World and sub-Saharan Africa in the sixteenth century.
Instructor(s): David Nirenberg Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Spanish reading proficiency recommended, but not required.
Note(s): This course counts as a history graduate colloquium.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 60904, SCTH 40204, ISLM 40204, HCHR 40204, HIJD 40204, SPAN 40204

CRES 40270. Development in Adolescents. 100 Units.
Adolescence is a period of rapid growth and development irrespective of circumstances, contextual conditions and supports; thus, it represents both significant challenges and unique opportunities. The conceptual orientation taken acknowledges the noted difficulties but also speculates about the predictors of resiliency and the sources of positive youth development achieved. The course delineates the developmental period's complexity made worse by the many contextual and cultural forces due to socially structured conditions; that fact interact with youths' unavoidable and unique meaning-making processes. As a function of some youths' privileging circumstances versus the low resource and chronic conditions of others, both coping and identity formation processes are emphasized as highly consequential. Thus, stage specific developmental processes are explored for understanding gap findings for a society's diverse youth given citizenship requirements expected of all. In sum, the course presents the experiences of diverse youth from a variety of theoretical perspectives.
The strategy improves our understanding about the "what" of human development as well as dynamic insights about the "how" and "why." Ultimately, the conceptual orientation described is critical for 1) designing better social policy, 2) improving the training and support of socializing agents (e.g., teachers), and 3) enhancing human developmental outcomes (e.g., resilient patterns).
Instructor(s): M. Beale Spencer Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Graduate students only.
Note(s): CHDV Distribution; 2
Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 40207, EDSO 40207

The Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture
CRES 40304. Between Nature and Artifice: The Formation of Scientific Knowledge. 100 Units.
This course critically examines concepts of "nature" and "artifice" in the formation of scientific knowledge, from the Babylonians to the Romantics, and the ways that this history has been written and problematized by both canonical and less canonical works in the history of science from the twentieth century to the present. Our course is guided by three overarching questions, approached with historical texts and historiography, that correspond to three modules of investigation: 1) Nature, 2) Artifice, and 3) Liminal: Neither Natural nor Artificial.
Instructor(s): Margaret Carlyle, Eduardo Escobar, Jennifer P. Daly Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course fulfills part of the KNOW Core Seminar requirement to be eligible to apply for the SIFK Dissertation Research Fellowship. Ph.D. students must register with the KNOW 40304 course number in order for this course to meet the requirement.
Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 40304, GNSE 40304, CHSS 40304, HIST 34920, KNOW 40304

CRES 40311. The Invention of Hunger. 100 Units.
Hunger is often thought of as an unchanging biological fact, but what it means to be hungry has changed profoundly over the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. From the pleasure of sweets to the trauma of famine, hunger has influenced some of the most important economic, political, and cultural developments of the modern age. Drawing from a variety of scholarly disciplines, as well as primary readings including novels, scientific texts, and journalism, we will explore how experiences and understandings of hunger were intertwined with race, class, and gender, and played a pivotal role in the development of the slave trade, colonialism, and humanitarian ethics. We will situate famines, hunger strikes, eating disorders, and other ways of thinking about food in their historical and cultural contexts. We will end the course by examining how this history has influenced how we understand the culture and economics of food in our own society. For each class period, students will write a 1-2 page reflection on one or several of the week’s readings that they will circulate to the entire class at least 24 hours before seminar. There will be a 15-20 page final paper on the theme of hunger, broadly defined. This paper will incorporate outside secondary works related to students' specific research interests.
Instructor(s): Yan Slobodkin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 40311

CRES 42610. Theologies from the Underside of History. 100 Units.
This course compares and contrasts various systems and methods in contemporary Third World theologies, that is, in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. As a backdrop for this critical comparative engagement, we will use the recent theological dialogues taking place in the Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians (EATWOT). As we engage these systems of thought, we want to examine the logic of their theologies and the sources used to construct theology.
Equivalent Course(s): THEO 42610

CRES 44502. Black Theology: Liberation or Reconciliation. 100 Units.
TBD
Equivalent Course(s): THEO 44502

CRES 45700. Race and Capitalism. 100 Units.
This course will address issues of race and capitalism.
Instructor(s): M. Dawson Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 45710

CRES 45732. Prejudice and Discrimination: Individual Cost and Response. 100 Units.
This foundational diversity class explores the origins and practices of racial/ethnic prejudice, stereotypes, and discrimination, and how demographic factors such as class, gender, sexuality, and nationality intersect to solidify and perpetuate inequality. We will explore the resulting psychological, economic, and sociopolitical tolls on individuals, and also examine various individual responses that can mitigate the negative impacts of or engage in resistance towards such discrimination (such as racial/ethnic identity development, deliberate retention of heritage culture, and social/political mobilization). Moreover, we will examine how these individual responses together with organized and collective efforts can bring about social changes. This class consciously expands a dominant binary discourse of race to develop a more inclusive and complex paradigm that accurately reflects the diversity of contemporary America.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 25732, SSAD 45732, SSAD 25732

CRES 46751. Of Whiteness. 100 Units.
In his essay "The Souls of White Folk," WEB Du Bois asks, "But what on earth is whiteness that one should so desire it?" This course will explore a multiethnic cultural and theoretical archive that grapples with the patterned and partial irrationality of this excessive racial desire. How does whiteness structure the racial/social field? What mechanisms regulate-or have regulated-populations’ access to and desire for it? (18th/19th)
Instructor(s): Christopher Taylor Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 46751

CRES 49001. Colloquium: Slavery & Emancipations-Atlantic Histories. 100 Units.
This course explores political, economic, and cultural linkages among Europe, Africa, and the Americas, as they were fashioned and reconstructed through slavery and the slave trade, slave emancipations and post-emancipation labor regimes, post-abolition colonial projects and post-emancipation racial ideologies and
anticolonial liberation movements. Toward the end of the twentieth century, academic historiography revived what in shorthand fashion is termed an “Atlantic world” as a frame of historical analysis. The premises of varying Atlantic frameworks will receive attention in order to explore ways to think historically about material, ideological, and symbolic connections fashioned by slavery and the slave trade and the refashioning of these relationships in a world whose inter-connections were increasingly not premised on the illegitimacy of laws and many practices of enslavement.

Instructor(s): J. Saville Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Graduate Students Only
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 52802, HIST 52802

CRES 50755. Race/Capital/Extraction. 100 Units.

In the concluding chapters of Capital, Vol. 1, Karl Marx describes the origins of capitalism as an enterprise “written in the annals of mankind in letters of blood and fire.” This process that Marx christened as “so-called primitive accumulation” rests fundamentally on the extraction of raw materials through colonial regimes of enclosure and the brutal exploitation of racialized labor. Nonetheless, the relationship between race and capital is not sufficiently elaborated in Marx’s oeuvre. In turn, this course will reconsider Marxist concepts and categories through a critical evaluation of the analytical domains of “race,” “capital,” and “extraction.” Moreover, students will consider the extent to which these domains productively modify each other: Does capitalism as an economic system depend on race as its ideological substrate? Can race be understood as an extractive project founded the violent enslavement and mercantile transit of racialized laboring subjects? How are the production of race and the accumulation of capital transformed by extractive economies of fossil fuels and metallic ores? To this end, students will consult the writings of Sylvia Wynter, W.E.B. Du Bois, C.L.R. James, Claudia Jones, Walter Rodney, and Octavia Butler. 

Instructor(s): Ryan Jobson Terms Offered: Winter. Winter 2022
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 50755, CHSS 50755

CRES 51515. An Island is a World: Readings in Caribbean Ethnography. 100 Units.

This advanced graduate seminar examines the construction of the Caribbean as an object of anthropological study. The aims of this seminar are twofold. Following Michel-Rolph Trouillot, this seminar will attend to “Caribbean as viewed by anthropologists, but also about anthropology as viewed from the Caribbean.” In turn, students will consider whether the Caribbean is an exceptional or exemplary geography in the anthropological imagination. Accordingly, students will consult the writings of Trouillot, MG Smith, Constance Sutton, Lynn Bolles, and Deborah Thomas, among others. Additionally, students will be introduced to the Raymond T. Smith Papers in Special Collections at the Regenstein Library.

Instructor(s): Mareike Winchell Terms Offered: Spring. Spring 2021
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 51515, LACS 51515

CRES 52802. Politics of Intimacy. 100 Units.

This course draws from interdisciplinary debates to position intimate forms in relation to broader textures of emotion and ethics, desire and race, labor and liberation. Heuristically, intimacy allows us to attend to practices that spill beyond more dyadic understandings of ostensibly private domains of sexuality or kinship as opposed to public forms of economic production and labor. Course readings, taken primarily but not exclusively from the Latin American region, will consider specific instances when the gathering together of bodies in close quarters (e.g. in arrangements of domestic servitude, colonial-era monasteries and convents, indigenous slave-holding in the Americas, settler households and adoptive parentage configurations) became problematic and subject to governmental intervention. We will further ask how, in moments of colonial reform, post-colonial change, and de-colonial mobilization, intimate forms became newly offensive but also grounded (and continue to ground) emergent claims to life and rights. The course ends by meditating on the entailments of intimacy for ethnography, namely, as a model of research rooted in attachments and vulnerabilities rather than spectatorship and distance.

Instructor(s): Mareike Winchell Terms Offered: Winter. Winter 2022
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 52802, LACS 52802, GNSE 52802

CRES 54104. On Man: Sociogenesis and Subjectivation. 100 Units.

In this course, students will read and engage with how “Man” has been conceptualized and critiqued in certain areas of philosophy and critical theory. The class begins with Man’s emergence in colonial contexts, with readings from Frantz Fanon, Homi Bhabha, and Sylvia Wynter. Students will also contend with Man’s intersubjectivity with the “Subject” with readings from Michel Foucault, Judith Butler, Jose Munoz, and Hortense Spillers. Memoirs, novels, and auto-documentary films supplement this course’s exploration of the genealogies of “Man.”

Instructor(s): C. Riley Snorton Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 54104, ENGL 54104

CRES 61102. The L.A. Rebellion and the Politics of Black Cinema. 100 Units.

TBD
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 61102

CRES 62604. Visual Culture in American Life, 1800-1915. 100 Units.

How has American society’s insatiable thirst for visual media influenced the way US citizens have viewed one another and portrayed themselves to others? In this course we will explore the significance of what Raymond
Williams called the “cultural revolution” for the lives of ordinary men and women in the United States. This history encompasses subjects that have retained their relevance in contemporary life, including racial and ethnic stereotypes, armchair travel, virtual versus lived reality, authenticity and artifice, mass entertainment, city life, celebrity, and gender. Readings will include a series of theoretical works in combination with articles and monographs, to provide a broader underpinning for the problems of perception and historical analysis at play in this realm of scholarly thought and practice.

Instructor(s): A. Lippert
Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 62604, AMER 62604, HIST 62604

CRES 62805. Colloquium: American Conservatism, 1945-Present. 100 Units.
This course explores the burgeoning historiography of American conservatism, tracing the movement from its grassroots origins after World War II to its institutionalization and militarization in the Reagan era to the rise of evangelicalism and Tea Party politics. We will focus on the role of women in the movement, the ideological alliances in its founding, and the roles of particular conservative groups in the movement’s history. This course will move both chronologically and thematically to explore fundamental questions about activism and radicalization, grassroots and top-down ideologies, and the impact of conservative thought and institutions upon American society and state in the late twentieth century.
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 62805, HIST 62805, AMER 62805

CRES 69002. Colloquium: Slavery and Emancipations-Atlantic Histories. 100 Units.
This course explores political, economic, and cultural aspects of slave emancipations, emphasizing major transformations in Caribbean-Atlantic and North American slave systems since the first abolitionist measures of the mid-eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries. The interpretive possibilities opened by varying comparative frameworks will be considered in order to explore ways to think historically about material, ideological, and symbolic connections fashioned by slavery and the slave trade and the refashioning of these relationships in a world whose interconnections were increasingly premised on the illegitimacy of laws and many of the practices of enslavement.
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 69002, HIST 69002