

Race, Ethnicity and Inequality
01:920:491:01
Dr. Leslie Kay Jones
Fall 2021

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email Address: lk.jones@rutgers.edu

Office Location: Outside of Davison Hall **or** by WebEx.

Office Hours:

Wednesdays and Fridays 3pm-5pm by appointment. Please make an appointment so that I can accommodate both physical and virtual office hours.

Additional Webex appointments (outside of these hours) available by e-mail arrangement.

The **Sociology department** will also hold optional weekly advising hours on Fridays 10am-12pm (email Undergraduate Administrative Assistant, Carissa Nadonley at Undergrad-soc@sociology.rutgers.edu) and Thursdays 11am-1pm (email Undergraduate Director, Jeffrey Dowd at ug-dir@sociology.rutgers.edu) that all students of this course are welcome to attend.

Course Texts:

Benjamin, R. (2019). Race after Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code. Polity Press. **(Select chapters, available for free online from Rutgers library)**

Browne, S. (2015). Dark matters. Duke University Press. **(Whole book, freely available online from Rutgers Library)**

Gray, K. L. (2015). Race, gender, and deviance in Xbox Live : theoretical perspectives from the virtual margins . Anderson Pub. **(Whole book, freely available online from Rutgers Library)**

Marable, M. (2015). How capitalism underdeveloped black america : Problems in race, political economy, and society. **(Select chapters, available for free online from Rutgers library)**

Muhammad, K. G. (2019). The condemnation of blackness : race, crime, and the making of modern urban America . Harvard University Press. **(Select chapters, available for free online from Rutgers library)**

Roberts, D. (2011). Fatal invention: How science, politics, and big business re-create race in the twenty-first century. New Press/ORIM. (Available

Stern, A. M. (2015). Eugenic Nation: Faults and Frontiers of Better Breeding in Modern America. University of California Press.**(Select chapters, available for free online from Rutgers library)**

CLASS MISSION STATEMENT

The goal of this class is to acquaint graduate students with the major literature in the sociological subfields of race, ethnicity and immigration and inequality, poverty and mobility. The syllabus contains a mixture of literature that has been considered foundational to the intellectual genealogy of these fields and emergent intellectual perspectives. Sociology graduate students will emerge with a broad overview of the parameters of the field and think through potential critical interventions. All students will develop a historical grasp of the construction, observation, and measure of race, including the influence of sociology on the US political landscape.

STUDENT OBJECTIVES

- Describe the historical development of the sociological study of race, ethnicity and immigration.
- Distinguish between multiple theories about the function of race in domestic and international contexts.
- Become familiar with major peer-reviewed publications in the field as well as standards for submission to those publications.
- Identify foundational theoretical assumptions in empirical sociological work in the field.
- Describe the possibilities and limitations of methodologies for the study of race.
- Understand interactions between race and gender, race and class, and race, class and gender.
- Identify and critically analyze demographic studies of race, such as the US Census.

Accessibility

If you have any specific personal and/or academic accessibility requirements (learning disability, physical disability, language comprehension, etc.), I welcome you to speak with me or email me to let me know how to best accommodate your needs, especially if you don't have an apparent disability, have ongoing health issues or are trying to pass. You are NOT obligated to disclose any of these issues with me, only specify if there's any accommodations required. It is my pleasure to ensure that as my class meets the needs of all my students. If you need any adaptations for course materials (large font, pacing, image description, closed captioning) let me know. You are also encouraged to register with the Office of Disability Support Services, but it is not a requirement.

GRADING STRUCTURE

20% - Class Memo

Each week, one student will be responsible for circulating a memo that synthesizes the week's literature and classroom conversation into a memo. The memo should summarize notable concepts and tensions while advancing an argument.

20% - Midterm

20% - Final Paper Proposal

40% - Final Paper 10-12 page paper (shortened with respect to the pandemic), Due December 15, 2021.

Schedule

Weeks 1 9-1-2021 The Field Today

Benjamin, Ruha. 2016. "Racial Fictions, Biological Facts: Expanding the Sociological Imagination through Speculative Methods." *Catalyst* 2(2).

Morris, Aldon D. 2015. *The Scholar Denied: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Birth of Modern Sociology*. Oakland: University of California Press.

Selod, Saher. 2018. *Forever Suspect Racialized Surveillance of Muslim Americans in the War on Terror*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.

Week 2 9-15-2021 Demography and Racial Statistics

Zuberi, Tukufu. 2001. Chapter 3, "Eugenics and the Birth of Racial Statistics." *Thicker than Blood: How Racial Statistics Lie*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

Snipp, Mathew C. 2003. Racial measurement in the American census: Past Practices and Implications for the Future." *Annual Review of Sociology* 29:563-88

Morning, Ann. 2009. "Toward a Sociology of Racial Conceptualization for the 21st Century." *Social Forces*. 87(3): 1167-1192.

Week 3 9-21-2021 Foundational Perspectives

Du Bois, W.E.B. 1899. *The Philadelphia Negro: A Social Study*. New York: Benjamin Blom.

Stuart Hall, 1986. "Gramsci's Relevance for the Study of Race and Ethnicity," *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, vol. 10:5-27

Omi, M., & Winant, H. (2020). *Racial formation* (pp. 405-415). Routledge.

Bonilla-Silva, E. (2006). *Racism without racists: Color-blind racism and the persistence of racial inequality in the United States*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Collins, Patricia H. 2000 [1990]. *Black Feminist Thought—2nd Edition*. New York: Routledge).

Week 4 9-28-2021 Biological Essentialism in Racial Construction

Roberts, D. (2011). *Fatal invention: How science, politics, and big business re-create race in the twenty-first century*. New Press/ORIM.

Roberts, D. E., & Rollins, O. (2020). Why sociology matters to race and biosocial science. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 46, 195-214.

Week 5 10-6-2021 Sociology and the Politics of Eugenics

Muhammad, K. G. (2019). *The condemnation of Blackness: Race, crime, and the making of modern urban America*, with a new preface. Harvard University Press. (Chapters TBD)

Myrdal, Gunnar. 1944. *An American Dilemma: The Negro Problem and Modern Democracy*. New York: Harper and Row. (Introduction, Chapters 1-3, 30).

Stern, A. M. (2015). *Eugenic nation*. University of California Press. (Chapters TBA)

Week 6 10-13-2021 Race and Ethnicity in Early Sociology

Glazer, Nathan and Daniel Patrick Moynihan. 1963. *Beyond the Melting Pot: The Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Jews, Italians, and Irish of New York City*. Cambridge: MIT Press and Harvard University. (Introduction).

Glazer, Nathan and Daniel Patrick Moynihan. 1975. *Ethnicity: Theory and Experience*. Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press. (Introduction and chapters by Gordon, Parsons, and Patterson).

Gordon, Milton M. 1964. *Assimilation in American Life*. New York: Oxford University Press. Erikson, Erik. 1966. "The Concept of Identity in Race Relations: Notes and Queries," *Daedalus*: Winter.

Greeley, Andrew M. 1974. *Ethnicity in the United States*. New York: Wiley.

Parsons, Talcott. 1965–66. "Full Citizenship for the Negro American? A Sociological Problem," in *The Negro American*, eds. Talcott Parsons and Kenneth B. Clark. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Waters, Mary. 1990. *Ethnic Options. Choosing Identities in America*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Waters, Mary & Tomas R. Jimenez. 2005.

Blumer, Herbert. 1958. "Race Prejudice as a Sense of Group Position." *Pacific Sociological Review*. 1(1): 3-7.

Week 7 10-20-2021 Race as technology

Browne, S. (2015). *Dark matters*. Duke University Press.

Chun, Wendy Hui Kyong. 2009. "Race and/as Technology, or How to Do Things to Race." *Camera Obscura* 24, no. 1: 7-34. Coleman, Beth. 2009. "Race as Technology." *Camera Obscura* 24, no. 170: 177-207.

Stein, A., & Salime, Z. (2015). Manufacturing Islamophobia: rightwing pseudo-documentaries and the paranoid style. *Journal of communication inquiry*, 39(4), 378-396.

Week 8 10-27-2021 Surveillance and Datafication

Benjamin, R. (2019). *Race after Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code*. Polity Press. (Chapters TBA)

McGlotten, Shaka. 2016. "Black Data." In *No Tea, No Shade: New Writings in Black Queer Studies*, edited by E. Patrick Johnson. Durham: Duke University Press.

Week 9 11-3-2021 Racial Stratification

Oliver, M., & Shapiro, T. (2013). *Black wealth/white wealth: A new perspective on racial inequality*. Routledge.

eagin, Joe R. 1991. "The Continuing Significance of Race: Anti-Black Discrimination in Public Places." *American Sociological Review* 56: 101-116.

Pager, Devah. 2003. "The Mark of a Criminal Record." *American Journal of Sociology*. 108: 937-75.

Pager, Devah and Hana Shepherd. 2008. "The Sociology of Discrimination: Racial Discrimination in Employment, Housing, Credit, and Consumer Markets." *Annual Review of Sociology* 34:181-209.

Telles, Edward E. and Edward Murgia. 1990. "Phenotypic discrimination and income differences among Mexican Americans." *Social Science Quarterly* 71:682-697.

Week 10 11-10-2021 Race, Class and Gender

Anderson, Margaret L. and Patricia Hill Collins. 1998. *Race, Class and Gender: An Anthology Gender & Sexism*. Belmont, CA : Wadsworth Pub. Co.

Barrera, Mario. 1979. *Race and Class in the Southwest*. Nortre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press.

Collins, Patricia Hill. 1998 (1990). *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment*. Unwin Hyman.

Crenshaw, Kimberle Williams. 1995. "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence Against Women of Color (pps. 357-383), in *Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings that Formed the Movement*. (editors) Kimberle Crenshaw, Neil Gotarda, Gary Peller, and Kendall Thomas. New York : New Press : Distributed by W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Kao, Grace and Jennifer Thompson. 2003. "Race and Ethnic Stratification in Educational Achievement and Attainment." *Annual Review of Sociology*. 29: 417-442.

Week 11 11-17-2021 Race as a legal construction

Harris, Cheryl. 1993. "Whiteness as Property," *Harvard Law Review* 106 (8): 1707–1791.

Bell, Derrick. 1992. "Racial Realism." *Connecticut Law Review*. Winter 2: 363-379.

Lopez, I. H. (1997). *White by law: The legal construction of race* (Vol. 21). NYU Press.

Friedman, B. (2020). Carceral immobility and financial capture: A framework for the consequences of racial capitalism penology and monetary sanctions. *UCLA criminal justice law review*, 4(1), 177.

Week 12 11-29-2021 Racial Construction in the Study of Immigration

Bashi, V. and A. McDaniel. 1997. "A Theory of Immigration and Racial Stratification." *Journal of Black Studies*, 27(5): 668-682.

Gans, Herbert J. 1979. "Symbolic Ethnicity: The Future of Ethnic Groups and Cultures in America." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 2: 1-20.

Nagel, Joane. 1994. "Constructing Ethnicity: Creating and Recreating Ethnic Identity and Culture." *Social Problems* 41(1): 152-176.

Okamoto, Dina. 2003. "Toward a Theory of Panethnicity: Explaining Asian American Collective Action." *American Sociological Review* 68:811-842.

Okamoto, Dina. 2006. "Institutional Panethnicity: Boundary Formation in Asian-American Organizing." *Social Forces* 85:1-25.

Menjívar, Cecilia. 2006. "Liminal Legality: Salvadoran and Guatemalan Immigrants' Lives in the United States." *American Journal of Sociology* 111: 999-1037.

Week 13 12-1-2021 Geographies of racialization

Marable, M. (1983). *How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America*. Cambridge, MA.

Roberts, D. E. (2008). The racial geography of child welfare: Toward a new research paradigm. *Child Welfare*, 87(2), 125.

Faber, J. W. (2020). We built this: Consequences of new deal era intervention in America's racial geography. *American Sociological Review*, 85(5), 739-775.

Dinzey-Flores, Z. Z. (2017). Spatially polarized landscapes and a new approach to urban inequality. *Latin American Research Review*, 52(2), 241-252.

Week 14 **12-8-2021** **Race and 21st Century Algorithms** (Sourced from Ruha Benjamin's Critical Race and Digital Studies Syllabus)

Friedman, Batya, and Helen Nissenbaum. 1996. "Bias in computer systems." *ACM Transactions on Information Systems* 14, no. 3: 330-347.

Keeling, Kara. 2014. "Queer OS." *Cinema Journal* 53, no. 2: 152-157.

Sweeney, Miriam. 2016. "The Ms. Dewey 'Experience': Technoculture, gender, and race." In *Digital Sociologies*, edited by Jessie Daniels, Karen Gregory and Tressie McMillan Cottom, 401-420. Bristol: Policy Press.

Boyd, danah. 2012. "White Flight in Networked Publics?: How Race and Class Shaped American Teen Engagement with MySpace and Facebook." In *Race After the Internet*, edited by Lisa Nakamura and Peter Chow-White, 203-222. New York: Routledge Press.

Broussard, Meredith. 2018. *Artificial Unintelligence: How Computers Misunderstand the World*. Boston: MIT Press.

Korn, Jenny Ungbha. 2018. "Equitable Cities Instead of Smart Cities: Race and Racism Within The Race For Smart Cities." *Journal of Civic Media* 1, no. 1: 34-45.

Noble, Safiya Umoja. 2018. *Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism*. New York: New York University Press.

McIlwain, Charlton. 2017. "Racial formation, inequality and the political economy of web traffic." *Information, Communication, and Society* 20, no. 7: 1073-1089.