COURSE DESCRIPTION
Has the U.S. entered a post-racial society or does race continue to have an influence on our daily lives? Are race and ethnicity meaningful social categories across different national contexts? What is the difference between “tribal warfare”, “ethnic conflict”, and a “race riot”? What are the connections between race, ethnicity, and social inequality in the U.S. and the rest of the world? As an academic discipline devoted to the study of human origins and diversity, anthropology has played a key role in producing ideas about race and ethnicity. In this course, we will examine how anthropological inquiry helps us to answer these questions and more, shedding light on when, why, and to whom identity matters. The course will allow students to think through their own identities, experiences, and beliefs in a safe environment in the process of learning how to approach the subject of race and ethnicity from a critical perspective. After first exploring key concepts in the study of race, culture, and ethnicity, we will spend the remainder of the course examining how these social constructs function across time and space primarily as revealed by anthropological research. The final project will give students the opportunity to apply what they learn about the significance of race and ethnicity as well as the methods anthropologists use in researching socio-cultural phenomena.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, students will:
1) Be able to explain the meanings of race and ethnicity in the United States and other places around the world.
2) Be able to think critically about their own experiences of race and ethnicity, situating them within a larger social and cultural context.
3) Recognize and apply an anthropological approach to the study of race and ethnicity.
4) Improve upon their written and oral communication skills.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Class Participation
Attendance is mandatory. More than 3 unexcused absences will result in a lower score. There will be active class discussion as well as in-class small group activities during many of the classes this semester. Your participation in these activities is mandatory and contributes to your grade in the course.

Quizzes
There will be four (4) quizzes that test students’ comprehension of the content and key concepts explored in the course materials. Quizzes will consist of one essay question that requires students to draw upon the readings, videos, and films. The quizzes are given in class and students have 30 minutes to answer the essay question.

Midterm Exam
There will be one midterm essay exam. Students will receive a list of potential exam questions one week prior to the midterm, two of which will appear on the exam.

Final Project and Presentation
For the final project, students will conduct an ethnographic study on a dimension of racial dynamics that they choose and that is approved of by the professor. Students will write a 10-pg double-spaced paper that contains a description of the study and an analysis of its results. The description and analysis include the specific topic of research, the methods that students used in order to collect the data, the findings, and a discussion relating those findings to key concepts and cases discussed in the course. Students will be expected to present their project on the last day of the class.

GRADING
Class Participation: 15 pts
Quizzes: 20 pts (5 pts EACH)
Midterm Exam: 30 pts
Final Project: 35 pts

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GROUND RULES
1) Be respectful of the opinions and experiences of your classmates.
2) Turn your cell phones OFF. If you have an emergency and have to use it, leave the room so that I do not have to request that you do so.
3) Use laptops ONLY for course related activity (ie: taking notes)
4) Arrive to class ON TIME. We will have one 15-minute break during the class. Return on time. Persistent lateness will result in a lower grade.
5) Plagiarism is a serious offense. This includes copying passages found on websites as well as in hard copies of books, articles, etc. It is imperative that you properly cite any source that you use. If you use the work of other authors without giving them credit, you will receive a ‘0’ for the assignment and be subject to failing the course and possible disciplinary action.

COURSE MATERIALS
Articles and Book Chapters
See Schedule of Classes. All materials will be posted on Blackboard under “Course Content”

Films, Videos, and Interactive Website
See Schedule of Classes. Films and videos will be viewed in class unless otherwise indicated.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND ASSIGNMENTS
***Be sure to check syllabus frequently for any minor adjustments***

Week 1: Introduction and Key Concepts
January 13-15

Tuesday
- What Are You?: Census and Interview Exercise
- Introduction to Understandingrace.org
- Review of Course Requirements

Thursday
- Understandingrace.org Human Variation quiz
- The American Anthropological Association (AAA)’s statement on “race”
  - http://www.aaanet.org/stmts/racepp.htm

Week 2: Race and Ethnicity Through the Lens of Anthropology
January 20-22

Tuesday

Thursday

Week 3: Learning Race: It’s a Cultural Thang
January 27-29

Tuesday

Thursday
Guest Lecturer: Dr. Sarah Mahler, author of Culture as Comfort
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i20d11fGz-0 (VIEW BEFORE CLASS)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hqp6GnYqjQ (VIEW BEFORE CLASS)
- https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/ (TAKE RACE BIAS TEST AND BRING RESULTS TO CLASS)

Week 4: Centering Whiteness
February 3-5

QUIZ #1 ON WEEKS 1-3
Tuesday
- “Who is White?” (understandingrace.org)

Thursday

Week 5: Race, Culture, Language
February 10-12

Tuesday
Thursday

Week 6: Race, Culture, and Immigration I
Feb 17-19

Tuesday
QUIZ #2 ON WEEKS 4-5


Thursday

ASSIGNMENT DUE: One paragraph description of ethnographic project. Bring to class and submit on Blackboard.

Week 7: Race, Culture, and Immigration II
Feb 24-26

Tuesday

Guest Lecture Dr. Jean Rahier

Thursday

Guest Lecture Dr. Martin Tsang
- Lo, Emily, “A Cuban Chinese Familia”

CUBAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE CONFERENCE: RACE IN THE AMERICAS
- Attend one session between Thursday, February 26th and 28th

Week 8: Race, Ethnicity, and the War on Terror
March 3-5

Tuesday

QUIZ #3 ON WEEKS 6-8

Thursday

MIDTERM EXAM

Week 9: SPRING BREAK
March 10-12

Week 10: Representing Culture, Representing Race I
March 17-19

Tuesday
- Riggs, Marlon. Ethnic Notions
  http://aal.ucsd.edu/reserves/dmr/public/films/ethnicnotions.html

ASSIGNMENT DUE: SUMMARY OF PROGRESS FOR ETHNOGRAPHIC PROJECT

Thursday

IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENT: CRITIQUE ETHNOGRAPHIC RESEARCH PAPER

Week 11: Representing Culture, Representing Race II
March 24-26

Tuesday
- “Proud to Be” Video

Thursday

**Week 12: Whitening, Lightening, and the Politics of Beauty**
March 31-April 2

**Tuesday**
- Film: Dark Girls: A Look At Colorism in the Black Community: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d1yJnqGzyk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d1yJnqGzyk) (WATCH BEFORE CLASS)
- Badillo, Cassandra “Only My Hairdresser Knows: Stories of Race, Gender and Hair”

**Thursday**
- Understandingrace.org: A Girl Like Me

**ASSIGNMENT DUE:** Ethnographic Project: Submit Draft of Methodology

**Week 13: Race, Ethnicity, and State Sanctioned Violence I**
April 7-9

**Tuesday**
**QUIZ #4 ON WEEKS 10-12**
- Video and Discussion: “The Last Nazis: Three Children of the Master Race” (58 minutes)
- Reading TBA

**Thursday**
- Film: Children of the Camps (Japanese American internment)
- Reading TBA

**Week 14: Race, Ethnicity and State Sanctioned Violence II**
April 14-16

**Tuesday**

Thursday

Week 15: Student Ethnographic Project Presentations
April 21-23

Week 16: EXAM WEEK
April 29-31

FINAL PROJECT DUE ON TUESDAY, APRIL 29th by 11:59PM