ES 390 - GENDER & RACE IN US SOCIETY
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI’I AT MANOA

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Nandita Sharma
E-MAIL: nsharma@hawaii.edu
OFFICE: Rm. 304 George Hall
OFFICE HOURS: Thursdays 3:00 to 4:00 PM or by appointment
OFFICE TEL.: 956.5354

CLASS: Tuesday 3:00 – 5:30 PM
ROOM: KUY 406

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will study how interacting power relations organized through modern ideas of gender and ‘race’ interact and inform ideas of class, ‘nation’, and sexuality and how these shape our lives in the United States. A key focus will be the institutionalization of social hierarchies of ‘difference’ through globalized processes of colonization, capitalism, and nation-state formation/reproduction. Emphasis will be placed on examining how ‘differences’, instead of being natural, arise out of these social relations and processes. This course has three main themes: the social organization of knowledge and experience; the complexity of simultaneous, interlocking systems of power that structure daily life and personal experience; and the significance of social resistance as a force for change. Using an interdisciplinary approach, students will be asked to translate their critical thinking skills to re-evaluate taken-for-granted assumptions.

CLASS FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS

The course consists of lectures, small group discussions and videos/films. You will have the opportunity to practice the techniques of critical reading and thinking, expository writing, and oral expression. You are expected and required to attend every class session, and are responsible for the material covered in the lectures, readings and films, and for any announcements made in class. In particular, you are expected to have developed questions and comments of each week’s assigned readings for this allows you to be an active participant in class discussions.

REQUIRED READINGS

Andersen, Margaret L. and Hill Collins, Patricia, Race, Class, & Gender: An Anthology, Sixth Edition. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth. 2007

CLASS EVALUATION

Participation and Attendance 10%
Journals (5) 10%
Reading Reactions/Responses and Discussion Questions (4) 20%
Research Paper Proposal and Outline 20%
Journals (5) – 10% of final grade
By providing you with a personal space in which to respond to the process and content of the course, you will express your own voice without editing your comments according to what you think others might want you to say. Each journal will be about 1 page in length.

Reading Reactions/Responses and Discussion Questions (4) – 20% of final grade
Summarize the purpose, framework, sources, findings, and significance of the assigned reading. Comment succinctly on what you found most interesting, important, puzzling, infuriating, fundamental, etc. about the readings. These readings responses will not only help you organize your response to the readings but will also serve as a guide for discussions.

Research Paper Proposal and Outline – 20% of final grade
By providing a clear statement of your paper topic and the thesis you develop in it, you will outline the main arguments of your final research paper by organizing them in sections and subsections. Included will be a list of the sources you have consulted as well as the ones you end up using in your final paper.

Research Paper Presentation – 10% of final grade
Towards the end of semester, you will present the results of your final research paper project to the class. This is your opportunity to present your own work in a supportive-yet-critical setting.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 (AUGUST 26)
• Introduction to course topics, materials and assignments
• Introduction to social relational approach

Topics
- binary codes of ‘race’, class and gender
- significance of violence to the maintenance of relations of ruling
- introduce concept of ideology
- introduce concept of hegemony
- introduce ‘triangle model’ of analysis

WEEK 2 (SEPTEMBER 2)

Readings:

Section I Introduction by Margaret L. Andersen and Patricia Hill Collins

1. "Missing People and Others: Joining Together to Expand," Arturo Madrid
2. "La Guera," Cherrie Moraga
3. "Oppression," Marilyn Frye
4. "A Different Mirror," Ronald T. Takaki
5. "From a Native Daughter," Haunani-Kay Trask

**WEEK 3 (SEPTEMBER 9)**

**Due: Journal 1**

**Readings:** Race and Racism

Section II Introduction by Margaret L. Andersen and Patricia Hill Collins

7. "Racism without Racists," Eduardo Bonilla-Silva
8. "White Privilege and Male Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack," Peggy McIntosh
9. "Of Race and Risk," Patricia Williams
11. "What White Supremacists Taught a Jewish Scholar about Identity," Abby L. Ferber. Class and Inequality

**WEEK 4 (SEPTEMBER 16)**

**Readings:** Class and Inequality

12. "Growing Gulf Between Rich and Rest of Us", Holly Sklar
13. "Tired of Playing Monopoly?" Donna Langston
15. "Black Picket Fences: Privilege and Peril among the Black Middle Class," Mary Pattillo-Mccoy
17. "Sex and Gender Through the Prism of Difference," Maxine Baca Zinn, Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, and Michael Messner

**WEEK 5 (SEPTEMBER 23)**

**Due: Reading Reactions/Responses and Discussion Questions #1**

**Readings:** Ethnicity and Nationality

22. "Is This A White Country, or What?," Lillian Rubin
23. "Optional Ethnicities: For Whites Only?," Mary Waters
WEEK 6 (SEPTEMBER 30)

Workshop in Hamilton Library (Meet in HL 113 - first floor, past the main elevators and restrooms)

WEEK 7 (OCTOBER 7)

Due: Journal 2

Readings: Sexuality and Heterosexism

27. "You Talkin' to Me?" Jean Kilbourne
28. "Where Has Gay Liberation Gone: An Interview with Barbara Smith," Amy Gluckman and Betsy Reed
29. "Globalizing Sex Workers' Rights," Kamala Kempadoo
30. "Black Sexuality: The Taboo Subject," Cornel West

Suggested Readings InfoTrac College Edition: Search Terms; InfoTrac College Edition: Bonus Reading/Companion Website

WEEK 8 (OCTOBER 14)

Due: Journal 3

Reading Reactions/Responses and Discussion Questions #2

Readings: Work And Economic Transformation

Section III Introduction by Margaret L. Andersen and Patricia Hill Collins

32. "Race, Class, Gender and Women's Work," Teresa Amott and Julie Mattheai
34. "Soft Skills' and Race" Philip Moss and Chris Tilly
35. "The Invisible Poor" Katherine Newman
36. "Doméstica" Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo. Families
38. "Navigating Interracial Borders" Erica Chito Childs
39. "Straight is to Gay As Family is to No Family" Kath Weston
40. "Unequal Childhoods " Annette Lareau
41. "Chappals and Gym Shorts: An Indian Muslim Woman in the Land of Oz" Almas Sayeed

WEEK 9 (OCTOBER 21)

Due: Reading Reactions/Responses and Discussion Questions #3
Readings: Media and Culture and Health and Social Welfare

42. "Racist Stereotyping in the English Language" Robert Moore
43. "Crimes Against Humanity" Ward Churchill
44. "Media Magic: Making Class Invisible" Gregory Mantsios
45. "The Myth of the Latin Woman: I Just Met a Girl Named Maria" Judith Ortiz Cofer
46. "Gladiators, Gazelles, and Groupies: Basketball Love and Loathing" Julianne Malveaux
47. "Can Education Eliminate Race, Class, and Gender Inequality?" Roslyn Arlin Mickelson and Stephen Samuel Smith
49. "Aid to Dependent Corporations: Exposing Federal Handouts to the Wealthy," Chuck Collins
50. "Race, Poverty and Disability: Three Strikes and You're Out! Or Are You?" Pamela Black, Fabricio Balcazar and Christopher Keys

WEEK 10 (OCTOBER 28)

Due: Journal 4
   Research Paper Proposal and Outline

Readings: State Institutions and Violence

53. "Policing the National Body: Sex, Race, and Criminalization," Jael Silliman
54. "Military Mirrors a Working-Class America," David M. Halbingher and Steven A. Holmes

WEEK 11 (NO CLASS ON TUES. NOVEMBER 4TH)

WEEK 12 (NO CLASS ON TUES. NOVEMBER 11TH)

WEEK 13 (NOVEMBER 18)

Due: Reading Reactions/Responses and Discussion Questions #4

Readings: Sites of Change

Section IV Introduction by Margaret L. Andersen and Patricia Hill Collins

57. "The Starbucks Paradox" Kim Fellner
58. "Interrupting Historical Patterns: Bridging Race and Gender Gaps between Senior White Men and other Organizational Groups," Nancie Zane
59. "Women of Color on the Front Line" Celene Krauss
60. "'Whosoever' Is Welcome Here: An Interview with Reverend Edwin C. Sanders II" Gary David Comstock
61. "Silent Covenants," Derrick Bell

**WEEK 14 (NOVEMBER 25)**

**Due:** Journal 5

**Readings:** Processes of Change

63. "From the Ground Up" Charon Asotoyer
64. "Manifesta " Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards
65. "What Does an Ally Do?" Paul Kivel

**WEEK 15 (DECEMBER 2)**

**Due:** Individual Research Paper Presentations

**WEEK 16 (DECEMBER 9)**

**Due:** Individual Research Paper Presentations
   Final Research Paper