

RACE & ETHNIC RELATIONS (SOC 006-401)

General Requirement: I : Society

T/Tr 9:00 - 10:20

Class meets in Vance B-1

Instructor: Frederick Wherry, PhD

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Office Hours: TBD

Fall 2004



The East St. Louis race riots in 1917.
http://www.eslarp.uiuc.edu/ibex/archive/nunes/esl%20history/race_riot.htm

Course Description

This course introduces students to the sociological study of race and ethnic relations. The topics covered in this course include immigration, the experience of the second generation, entrepreneurship, slums and ghettos, the urban “underclass” debate, and the endurance of inequality. Students will be encouraged to revisit what they *think they know* about race, ethnicity, and inequality and to compare it with what the scientific evidence demonstrates. We conclude the course by exploring how public policies and private practices have created opportunities for some to the exclusion of others.

Students will take a midterm and final examination in class. The reading load is about 100-150 pages each week. The midterm examination accounts for 40, the final 50, and class participation 10 percent of the final grade. More than one unexcused absence or excessive tardiness will result in a grade reduction for the course.

Books

Bourgois, Philippe L. 1995. *In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Light, Ivan and Steven J. Gold. 2000. *Ethnic Economies*. San Diego: Academic Press.

Massey, Douglass S. and Nancy Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid : Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Portes, Alejandro and Ruben Rumbault. 2001. *Legacies: The Story of the Immigrant Second Generation*. Berkeley: University of California Press. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Waldinger, Roger and Michael I. Lichter. 2003. *How the Other Half Works: Immigration and the Social Organization of Labor*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Wilson, William Julius. 1997. *When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor*. New York: Vintage.

Articles or Book Chapters

Basu, Dipannita and Pnina Werbner. 2001. "Bootstrap capitalism and the culture industries: a critique of invidious comparisons in the study of ethnic entrepreneurship." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 24:236-262.

Grotsky, Eric and Devah Pager. 2001. "The Structure of Disadvantage: Individual and Occupational Determinants of the Black-White Wage Gap." *American Sociological Review* 66:542-567

Huntington, Samuel P. 2004. "José, Can you see?" *Foreign Policy* (March/April)

Kirschenman, Joleen and Kathryn M. Neckerman. 1991. "We'd Love to Hire Them But...": The Meaning of Race for Employers." In *The Urban Underclass*, edited by Christopher Jencks and Paul E. Petersen, pp. 155-174. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.

Pager, Devah. 2003. "The Mark of a Criminal Record" *American Sociological Review* 18: 937-75

Reskin, Barbara F. 2002. "Rethinking employment discrimination and its remedies." In *The New Economic Sociology: Developments in an Emerging Field*, edited by Mauro F. Guillén, Randall Collins, Paula England, and Marshall Meyer, pp. 218-244. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Silverman, Robert Mark. 1998. "The effects of racism and racial discrimination on minority business development: The case of black manufacturers in Chicago's ethnic beauty aids industry." *Journal of Social History* 31:571-597

Part One: The Immigration Debate

Week 1 (September 7, 9): Huntington (2003); Portes & Rumbault (Ch. 1)

Week 2 (September 14, 16): Portes and Rumbault (Ch. 3, 4, 7, 8)

Part Two: Creating or Finding a Job

Week 3 (September 21, 23): Light and Gold (Ch. 1-4)

Week 4 (September 28, 30): Light and Gold (Ch. 5-9)

Week 5 (October 5, 7): Basu and Werbner (2001); Silverman (1998); Grodsky and Pager 2001; Kirschenman and Neckerman (1991)

Week 6 (October 12, 14): Waldinger and Lichter (Ch 1-2) (Midterm 10/14)

Week 7 (October 19, 21): Waldinger and Lichter (Ch. 3-4, 6-8)

Week 8 (October 28): Pager (2003); Reskin (2004)

Part Three: Slums and Ghettos

Week 9 (November 2, 4): Bourgoise (intro, Ch. 1-2)

Week 10 (November 9, 11): Bourgoise (Ch. 3-6)

Week 11 (November 16, 18): Massey and Denton (Ch. 1-4, 8)

Week 12 (November 23): Wilson (Ch. 1-2)

Week 13 (November 30, December 2): Wilson (Ch. 3-6)

Week 14 (December 7, 9): Review