

Sociology 630-401

**GRADUATE RESEARCH PRACTICUM:
A SURVEY OF RACIAL ATTITUDES AND CLIMATE AT PENN
Fall 2005-Spring 2006**

Professors:

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The course is designed to give students practical experience in the design and execution of a new research project. During the fall semester, in addition to readings on racial attitudes and survey design, students will develop and pretest a questionnaire, develop a sampling strategy, and obtain human subject (IRB) approval for the project. During the spring semester, the survey will be fielded on Penn's campus in conjunction with SOCI300 undergraduate research seminar. In the spring, students will help with day-to-day management of the survey, conduct preliminary analyses, and help supervise undergraduate group or individual research projects. In addition, students will work with faculty on a research proposal. This is an excellent course for students interested in learning more about the research process and the steps involved in carrying out survey research. Students will gain experience in survey design, management of a research project, and proposal writing.

Course Requirements:

Active participation in class discussions and development of a survey instrument.

Paper: A proposal on Racial Attitudes and Climate on College Campuses

DUE: December 14 @ 5PM

Course Outline and Required Readings

September 7 Introduction: Course Outline and Goals

Williams, Lena. 2000. *It's The Little Things: Everyday Interactions That Anger, Annoy, and Divide the Races*. New York: A Harvest Book—Harcourt, Inc.

September 14 Background I

Bowen, William G. and Derek Bok. 2000. *The Shape of the River*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Hochschild, Jennifer. 1995. *Facing Up to the American Dream: Race, Class, and the Soul of the Nation*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Jackman, Mary.R. 1994. *The Velvet Glove: Paternalism and Conflict in Gender, Class and Race Relations*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

September 21 Background II

Book:

Massey, Douglas S., Camille Z. Charles, Garvey F. Lundy, and Mary J. Fischer. 2003. *Source of the River: The Social Origins of Freshmen at America's Selective Colleges and Universities*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Articles:

Charles, C.Z, Dinwiddie, G. & Massey, D. 2004. "The continuing consequences of segregation: Family stress and college academic performance". *Social Science Quarterly*, 85(5): 1353-1373.

Kao, Grace and Jennifer S. Thompson. 2003. "Racial and Ethnic Stratification in Educational Achievement and Attainment." *Annual Review of Sociology* (29):2 Page 417-442.

Zhou, Min. 1997. "Growing Up American: The Challenge Confronting Immigrant Children and Children of Immigrants." *Annual Review of Sociology*. 23: 63-95.

September 28 Background: Trends in Racial Attitudes – General

Book:

Schuman, Howard, Charlotte Steeh, Lawrence Bobo, and Maria Krysan. 1997. *Racial Attitudes in America: Trends and Interpretations*. Revised Edition. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Articles:

Bobo, Lawrence D. 1999. "Prejudice as Group Position: Microfoundations of a Sociological Approach to Racism and Race Relations". *Journal of Social Issues* 55 (3): 445-472.

Bobo, Lawrence and Smith, Ryan A., 1998 "From Jim Crow Racism to Laissez-faire Racism: An Essay on the Transformation of Racial Attitudes in America," in *Beyond Pluralism: Essays on the Conceptions of Groups and Identities in America*, eds. Wendy Katkin and Andrea Tyree. Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. 1997. "Rethinking Racism: Toward a Structural Interpretation." *American Sociological Review*, 62:465-480.

October 5 Background: Racial Attitudes on College Campus

Articles:

Amaury Nora, and Alberto F. Cabrera. 1996. "The Role of Perceptions of Prejudice and Discrimination on the Adjustment of Minority Students to College". *Journal of Higher Education* 67 (2)119-148.

Ancis, J.R., Sedlacek, W.E. & Mohr.J.J. 2000. "Student perceptions of campus cultural climate by race". *Journal of Counseling and Development* 78: 180-185.

Bonilla Silva, Eduardo, and Tyrone A Forman. 2000. "I Am Not a Racist but...": Mapping White College Students' Racial Ideology in the USA." *Discourse & Society*, 11(1), Jan, 50-58.

Dixon, Jeffrey C, and Michael S Rosenbaum. 2004. "Nice to Know You? Testing Contact, Cultural, and Group Threat Theories of Anti-Black and Anti-Hispanic Stereotypes". *Social Science Quarterly* 85(2) June, 257-280.

Iwamasa, Gayle Y. 1996. "Acculturation of Asian American University Students". *Assessment* 1: 99-102.

Lewis, Amanda E, Mark Chesler, and Tyrone a Forman. 2000. "The Impact of "Colorblind"

- Ideologies on Students of Color: Intergroup Relations at a Predominately White University". *The Journal of Negro Education*. 69: 74-91.
- Lopez, Gretchen E. 2004. "Interethnic Contact, Curriculum, and Attitudes in the First Year of College." *Journal of Social Issues* 60(1):75-94.
- Miller, Daniel A, Eliot R Smith, and Diane M Mackie. 2004. "Effects of Intergroup Contact and Political Predispositions on Prejudice: Role of Intergroup Emotions". *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations* 7(3) July, 221-237.
- Sears, David O, Mingying Fu, P J Henry, and Kerra Bui. 2003. "The Origins and Persistence of Ethnic Identity Among the "New Immigrant" Groups". *Social Psychology Quarterly. Special Race, Racism, and Discrimination* 66(4) 419-437.
- Torres, Kim and Camille Charles. 2004. Metastereotypes and the Black-White Divide: A Qualitative View of Race at an Elite College Campus." *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*. 1(1).

October 12 and 19 Survey Research Methodology and Outline of Instrument

Books:

- Fowler, Floyd. 2002. *Survey Research Methods*. Thousand Oaks, California. Sage Publications.
- Fowler, Floyd. 1995. *Improving Survey Questions: Design and Evaluation*. Sage Publications.

Articles:

- Couper, Mick P., Michael W. Traugott, and Mark J. Lamias. 2001. "Web Survey Design and Administration." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 65(2):230-253.
- Schaeffer, Nora Cate and Stanley Presser. 2003. "The Science of Asking Questions" *Annual Review of Sociology* 29: 65-88.
- Schwarz, Norbert. 1999. "Self-Reports: How the Questions Shape the Answers". *American Psychologist* 54(2) Feb, 93-105.
- Willimack, Diane K., Howard Schuman, Beth-Ellen Pennell, and James M. Lepkowski. 1995. "Effects of a Prepaid Nonmonetary Incentive on Response Rates and Response Quality in a Face-To-Face Survey." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 59(1): 78-92.

October 26 Writing a Grant/Research Proposal

Guides:

Instructions for Grants submitted to the National Institute of Health (NIH) – phs398.

Przeworski, Adam and Frank Salomon. 1998. "The Art of Writing Proposals: Some Candid Suggestions for Applicants to Social Science Research Council Competitions." http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/art_of_writing_proposals.page?&_format=printable

November 2 Survey Instrument Development – TBA

November 9 Survey Instrument Development – TBA

November 16 Pre-Testing and Human Subjects (IRB) Approval – TBA

Article:

- Singer, E., D.R. von Thurn, and E.R. Miller. 1995. "Confidentiality Assurances and Response." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 59:66-77.

November 23	NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING BREAK
November 30	Discuss Pre-Test Results/Finalize Instrument
December 7	Wrap-Up
December 14	FINAL PAPERS DUE @ 5PM