

Race, Ethnicity & Social Control – Fall 2013
CLS C161 & CHC/LAT 152A

Tuesday & Thursday, 12:30-1:50, in SSL 290

Prof. Ward (SE II, 2317; email: gward@uci.edu)
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00 to 11:00 am, and by appointment.

T.A.: Adam Dunbar (email: dunbara@uci.edu)
Office Hours: Thursday 11:00 am to 12:00 pm, and by appointment.

Politics of race and ethnicity are central to criminal and juvenile justice in the U.S., and to criminal social control in other racialized societies. Historically and today, threads of these connections are evident in law itself, in patterns of crime and law enforcement, in policing and court organizations, in public attitudes towards crime control, in the use of incarceration and other punishments, and in the collateral consequences of these patterns. Crime and criminal social control not only *reflect* racial and ethnic relations in society but are key to their *reproduction* and *transformation*. This course surveys historical and contemporary aspects of these relationship between race, ethnicity and social control.

The course is organized in three parts. Part 1 (weeks 1-3) builds a conceptual/theoretical foundation; Part 2 (weeks 4-7) applies considers historical illustrations of racialized social control; and, Part 3 (weeks 8-10) considers contemporary relations and the enduring question of achieving racial justice.

The goal of the course is to provide a broad understanding of race theory and racialized social control, and ultimately, a more theoretically nuanced and empirically grounded sense of how racial and ethnic group inequalities are produced and potentially remedied in contexts of crime control.

Course Evaluation:

Grading in this course is based on three exams (Tues. Oct. 22; Tues. Nov. 19; Tues. Dec. 10), each contributing to roughly 33% of your grade.* Exams are in-class, covering topics from readings, lectures and discussions for each course section. Exams are section-specific (not cumulative) and consist of short-answer and essay questions. A Blue Book will be needed for each of the exams.

Readings:

In addition to several articles available in PDF format and distributed via the course website (labeled EEE in the schedule), we will use the following books:

Books:

Michelle Alexander (2012). *The New Jim Crow*. The New Press.
Leo Chavez (2008), *The Latino Threat*. Stanford University Press.
Geoff Ward (2012). *The Black Child Savers*. University of Chicago Press.

* Note: I use a system of “advantageous scaling” where higher exam grades are weighed *slightly* more than lower ones. This will be explained in class.

Schedule

Section 1. Key Concepts in the Study of Racialized Social Control

Week 0 (Sept. 26): *Introduction and Course Overview – Begin readings for Week 1*

Week 1 (Oct. 1 & 3): *Racial Structures, Politics and Ideology – Conceptualizing Racism*

Readings:

Bonilla-Silva, “Rethinking Racism” (EEE)

Brown, et al. *White-Washing Race*, Introduction and Ch. 1 (EEE)

Week 2 (Oct. 8 & 10): *Race, Belonging, and Racialized Social Control*

Readings:

Almaguer, *Racial Fault Lines*, Introduction (EEE)

Ward, *The Black Child Savers*, Ch. 1

Chavez, *The Latino Threat*, Ch. 1

Week 3 (Oct. 15 & 17): *The Complex Mechanics of Racialized Social Control*

Readings:

Kang, “Trojan Horses of Race,” Section I (EEE)

Eberhardt, et al., “Looking Deathworthy” (EEE)

Penner and Saperstein, “How Social Status Shapes Race” (EEE)

Week 4: Exam #1, Tuesday, Oct. 22, In-Class

Section II. Historical Perspective on Racialized Social Control

Week 4, cont. (Thurs. Oct. 24): *The Contested Ordeals of Oppression and Domination through Law*

Readings:

Ward, *The Black Child Savers*, Chs. 2 and 4

Behrens et al., “The Menace of Negro Domination” (EEE)

Week 5 (Oct. 29 & 31): *Race, Ethnicity and Nation: Migration, Crime, and Criminalized Migrants*

Readings:

Lyons, et al. “Neighborhood Immigration, Violence, and...Opportunities” (EEE)

Chavez, *The Latino Threat*, Chs. 2, 3 and 6

Week 6 (Nov. 5 & 7): *Oppositional Movements and Social Transformations – Progress, Repress, Repeat*

Readings:

Ward, *The Black Child Savers*, Chs. 5, 6 and 7

Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*, Ch. 1

Week 7 (Thurs. Nov. 12 & 14): *Nuances of Race, Crime and Punishment in the Post-Civil Rights Period*

Readings:

- Brown et al., *White-Washing Race*, Ch. 4 (EEE)
- Bridges and Steen, "Official Assessments..." (EEE)
- Ward, "Race and the Justice Workforce" (EEE)

Week 8: Exam #2, Tuesday, Nov. 19, In-Class

Section III. The Present and Possible Futures of Racialized Social Control

Week 8, cont. (Nov. 21): *Racialized Mass Incarceration and its Consequences, Pt. 1*

Readings:

- Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*, Chs. 2 and 3

Week 9 (Nov. 26 – No Class on Nov. 28): *Mass Incarceration and its Consequences, Pt. 2*

Readings:

- Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*, Ch. 4
- Pager, "The Mark of a Criminal Record" (EEE)
- Uggen and Manza, "Democratic Contraction" (EEE)

Week 10 (Dec. 3 & 5): *Towards Racial Justice, How?*

Readings:

- Ward, *The Black Child Savers*, Conclusion
- Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*, Ch. 6
- Chavez, *The Latino Threat*, Ch. 7 and Epilogue

Final Exam: Friday, Dec. 13, 10:30am-12:30pm, In-Class