RACE, SCIENCE & DISEASE

Course Description

This course introduces students to contemporary issues of race, ethnicity and the science of disease. "Race" as a biological, social, legal and cultural construct will be examined from three interlinked axes. 1) Genetic Ideologies; 2) Disease Explanations; and 3) Social Inequalities. Historical and current analyses of health and inequality will be explored. Descriptive and explanatory analyses will be examined along with critical analyses of science and health research.

Schedule of Readings

Class 1: Introduction and Course Overview

What is Race?

Class 2:
VIDEO The Difference Between Us: Power of an Illusion Part I

Class 3:
AAA Statement on Race

AAA OMB Response on Race

Duster, Troy

Science of Race: Past and Present

Class 4:
VIDEO The Story We Tell: Power of an Illusion Part II

Class 5:
Nancy Leys-Stepan, "Race and Gender: The Role of Analogy in Science" in Harding Reader
SJ Gould, American Polygeny and Craniometry before Darwin: Blacks and Indians as Separate, Inferior Species In Harding Reader

Class 6:


Class 7:
Goodman, Alan
Six wrongs of racial science, In Race in 21st Century America

Genetic Research and Health Disparities
Pamela Sankar, PhD; Mildred K. Cho, PhD; Celeste M. Condit, PhD; Linda M. Hunt, PhD; Barbara Koenig, PhD; Patricia Marshall, PhD; Sandra Soo-Jin Lee, PhD; Paul Spicer, PhD JAMA. 2004;291:2985-2989. http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/291/24/2985

http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/348/12/1170

Class 8:
Jonathan Kahn
Getting the Numbers Right: Statistical Mischief and Racial Profiling in Heart Failure Research, In Perspectives in Biology and Medicine, 46(4) Autumn 2003: 473-83
http://scbe.stanford.edu/events/pdfs/kahnnumbers.pdf

Michael Montoya, “Purity and Danger: Race and Diabetes on the US/Mexico Border.”


Contemporary Issues Part 1.
Ethnic Inequality and Disease
Class 9:
VIDEO The House We Live In: Power of an Illusion Part III

Class 10:

Toxics Exposure and Residential Patterns – TBA

**Class 11:**
**Midterm**

**The Public and Health**

**Class 12:**
IOM report

Healthy People 2010


**Class 13:**
Kreiger and Bassett

The health of Black-Folk: Disease, Class, and Ideology in Science


**Class 14:**
Chavez et al, Structure and Meaning in models of breast and cervical cancer risk factors: A comparison of perceptions among Latinas, Anglo Women, and physicians MAQ 9(1)40-74

William Vega and Hortensia Amaro

Latino Outlook: Good Health, Uncertain Prognosis, In LaVeist (ed) Public Health Reader

Andrew John Karter, “Race and Ethnicity: Vital constructs for diabetes research”

Diabetes Care 26:2189-2193, 2003

http://care.diabetesjournals.org/cgi/content/full/26/7/2189

Luisa Franzini et al, “Understanding the Hispanic Paradox,” In LaVeist (ed) Reader

**Contemporary Issues Part 2.**

**Class 15:**
**Genetics**

Lewontin, Biology as Ideology pp 19-83


Contemporary Issues Part 3
Borders, Threats, and Racializations
Class 16
Leo Chavez, “Immigration and Medical Anthropology,” In Anthropology and Contemporary Immigration

Alan Kraut, “Viruses and Bacteria Don’t Ask for a Green Card”: New Immigrants and Old Fears, In Silent Travelers: Germs, Genes and the “Immigrant Menace.”


Class 17:
Mei Zhan on SARS


Class 18:
Sections from Santiago-Irizarry

Class 19: Ethics and Injustice
Velez Ibanez, Carlos on Sterilization

La Operacion VIDEO


Endings and Beginnings
Class 20:

Laura Nader, “Introduction” in Naked Science: Anthropological Inquiry into Boundaries, Power, and Knowledge


Nancy Krieger, Ecosocial Theory
Suggested Readings

SIDA: The Economic, Social, and Cultural Context of AIDS among Latinos

Merrill Singer; Candida Flores; Lani Davison; Georgine Burke; Zaida Castillo; Kelley Scanlon; Migdalia Rivera


Stable URL:
http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0745-5194%28199003%292%3A4%3A1%3C72%3ASTESAC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Y

Readings

http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/348/12/1081


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