

Chc/Lat 152

Race and Citizenship in America
Political Science 124D/Chicano-Latino Studies 152
T/Th 2:00 – 3:20 pm, SE2 1304
Winter 2004

W04

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This course looks at American political history through the lens of race relations. It begins by looking at the importance of citizenship policy and its relationship to social constructions of race and "whiteness." It then turns to look at the historical experiences of different racial/ethnic groups in order to understand the evolution of what it has meant to be an American "citizen" throughout US history, and how that process is related to changing understandings of the "meanings" of different "races." The goal of this course is to have you spend some time thinking about what it means to be an "American," what legal, political and social rights should accompany that definition, and what it will mean politically in the United States in the future, especially in light of the events of September 11th.

Course Requirements

1. Participation – 10%
 - Your participation entails your participation in online discussions. The noteboard for the class may be found at <http://ccc.uci.edu/toolbox/noteboard/index.php?board=1795>. You are expected to post one question or substantive comment each week, beginning in week 2.
2. Attendance – 10%
 - I expect you to attend lecture, and there will be a sign-in sheet for you to sign each day.
3. Midterm Exam – 25%
 - The midterm will be held in class on **Tuesday, February 17th**. The exam will consist of a few short essay questions and one long essay. The midterm will include material from lectures, readings and discussion section.
4. Citizenship Inquiry Exercise and Paper – 25%
 - During week 9 of the quarter, you will complete a citizenship inquiry exercise. This is a web-based activity that you will do outside of class. In this activity the students will use the transcripts of the California constitutional convention debates to analyze the arguments that were made regarding the citizenship status of Anglo Americans, African Americans, Mexican Americans and Native Americans in California. You will choose one racial/ethnic group, analyze the debates and write a five-page paper discussing your findings. The paper will be due in my box on **Thursday, March 11th**.
5. Final Exam – 30%
 - The final will be held from **1:30-3:30 on Thursday, March 25th**. The format will be the same as the midterm.

Readings

There is one book required for this course and one reader. The book is currently available at the university bookstore. The book and the reader will also be available on reserve at the main library. The reader will be available from Mozena publishing and may be purchased in class during the first two class sessions or by calling (800) 444-TEXT. In the course outline, an asterisk (*) indicates readings that can be found in the reader. The required book is:

Ronald Takaki. 1993. *A Different Mirror: A Multicultural History of America*. Boston: Back Bay Books.

Course Outline

Week 1

1/13 Introduction

1/15 Film: "Race: the Power of an Illusion, part II"

Readings:

*Omi and Winant, "Introduction," pp. 3-7; "Paradigms of Race: Ethnicity, Class and Nation," pp. 9-13; "Racial Formation," pp.53-76; and "The Racial State," pp. 77-91

Week 2

1/20 The social construction of race

1/22 The lessons of citizenship, the constitution and the law

Readings:

*Smith, Rogers, "Introduction," pp. 1-12 and "The Hidden Lessons of US citizenship Laws," pp. 13-39

*Haney López, Ian, "The Legal Construction of Race," pp. 111-154

Week 3

1/27 The role of "whiteness" in US national identity

Readings:

*Jacobson, Matthew Frye, "The Manufacture of Caucasians," pp. 201-2; "The Crucible of Empire," pp. 203-222; "Naturalization and the Courts," pp. 223-245

*Lipsitz, George, "Introduction," pp. vii-xx; "The Possessive Investment in Whiteness," pp. 1-23 and "Law and Order: Civil Rights Laws and White Privilege," pp. 24-46

1/29 Film: "Race: the Power of an Illusion, part III"

Week 4

2/3 & 2/5 U.S. Race and Citizenship Policy: Native Americans

Readings:

Takaki, chs. 1 and 2, pp. 1-50; ch. 4, pp. 79-105; ch. 9, pp. 225-245

*Treaty of Hopewell with the Cherokees

*President Jefferson on the Indian Trading Houses

*President Jefferson to William Henry Harrison

*President Jackson on Indian Removal

*Indian Removal Act

Week 5

2/10 & 2/12 U.S. Race and Citizenship Policy: African Americans
Readings:
Takaki, ch. 3, pp. 51-78; ch. 5, 106-138; ch. 13, pp. 340-372

Week 6

2/17 ****Midterm Exam****
2/19 Film: "Abandoned: the Betrayal of America's Immigrants"

Week 7

2/24 & 2/26 U.S. Race and Citizenship Policy: Mexican Americans
Readings:
Takaki, ch. 7, pp. 166-190; ch. 12, pp. 311-339
*Menchaca, Martha, "The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the Racialization of the Mexican Population," pp. 215-276.

Week 8

3/2 & 3/4 U.S. Race and Citizenship Policy: Chinese Americans and Japanese Americans
Readings:
*Chang, Iris, introduction to *The Chinese in America*, pp. vii-xvi
Takaki, ch. 8, pp. 191-224 and ch. 10, pp. 246-276

Week 9

3/9 U.S. Race and Citizenship Policy: Irish Americans
Readings:
Takaki, ch. 6, pp. 139-165
*Ignatiev, Noel, "The Tumultuous Republic," pp. 124-147; and "From Protestant Ascendancy to White Republic," pp. 148-176.

3/11 **No class – citizenship inquiry exercise due**

Week 10

3/16 Current Issues: the U.S. Patriot Act, military tribunals, and changes in immigration policy
3/18 Conclusions
Readings:
Takaki, ch. 14, pp. 373-428