

**Political Science 519**  
**Comparative Racial and Ethnic Politics: Selected Readings**

SPRING 2009: Thursday 1-3:20

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**Description**

This course is a seminar on comparative racial and ethnic politics, with an emphasis on the United States. It is designed to explore conceptual and methodological issues, while focusing on how racial and ethnic groups shape and are shaped by political systems.

**Requirements**

I will begin each seminar with an introduction to the readings, providing some context and general background about the problem or issue in question. However, the majority of the class time will be devoted to group discussion. Your primary obligation on a weekly basis is to complete the readings and be prepared to play an active role in our efforts to understand the strengths, weaknesses, and purposes of the field.

You will be required to write a short reaction paper each week. They should be no longer than one typed, single-spaced page each, and should be reflections on or critiques of the assigned readings. The following is a list of different approaches you might take: juxtapose and comment on alternative explanations or approaches to a substantive topic; criticize the methodologies used and propose other strategies of research; criticize the conceptualization or measurement of a particular construct; analyze the implications of a set of findings; suggest new questions and hypotheses for research; or develop similarities or contrasts with themes covered in previous weeks. The papers do not need to cover all of the readings for a week, but they should contain an argument and not merely a summary or description of the readings.

These papers must be turned in to me no later than noon on the Wednesday before the scheduled Thursday session. Please email them to me as attachments (preferably as pdf files). These essays will serve as the starting point for group discussion.

In addition to these short essays, you will write a research paper on a topic of your choice. (It is also possible to write a research proposal instead of the paper; it would include all the elements of a published article, except for the empirical section.)

Electronic versions of almost all of the reading materials will be available on the course Compass website.

Recommended Book:

Horowitz: *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*  
Becker: *Writing for Social Scientists*

Recommended Video:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPfN\\_zYKxNQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPfN_zYKxNQ) (on the role of the critic from *Ratatouille*)

## Class Schedule & Readings

**Jan 22**            **Introduction**

**Jan 29:**            **Conceptualizations and Definitions**

Readings:

Brubaker, Rogers. 2002. "Ethnicity Without Groups." *European Journal of Sociology* 43: 163-189.

Chandra, Kanchan. 2006. "What is Ethnic Identity and Does It Matter?" *Annual Review of Political Science* 9: 397-424

Diamond, Jared. 1994. "Race Without Color." *Discover* 15: 82-89.

Glazer, Nathan and Daniel Patrick Moynihan. *Ethnicity: Theory and Experience*. Chapter 1 ("Introduction"). Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Haney-Lopez, Ian. 1996. *White by Law: The Legal Construction of Race*. Chapter 3 ("The Prerequisite Cases"). New York: New York University Press.

Horowitz, Donald L. 1985. *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*. Chapter 2 ("A Family Resemblance"). Berkeley: University of California Press.

Mountain, Joanna L. and Neil Risch. 2004. "Assessing Genetic Contributions to Phenotypic Differences Among 'Racial' and 'Ethnic' Groups." *Nature Genetics* 36: S48-S53.

**Feb 5:**            **Measurement and Study of Race/Ethnicity**

Readings:

Brady, Henry E. and Cynthia S. Kaplan. 2000. "Categorically Wrong? Nominal Versus Graded Measures of Ethnic Identity." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 35: 56-91.

Nobles, Melissa. 2004. "The Other Side of American Exceptionalism." *APSA-Comparative Politics Newsletter* 15: 13-15.

Segura, Gary M. and Helena Alves Rodrigues. 2006. "Comparative Ethnic Politics in the United States." *Annual Review of Political Science* 9: 375-395.

Skerry, Peter. 2000. *Counting on the Census?: Race, Group Identity, and the Evasion of Politics*. Chapter 3 ("Creating Racial and Ethnic Categories"). Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press.

Telles, Edward E. "Racial Ambiguity Among the Brazilian Population." 2002. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 25: 415-441.

Urla, Jacqueline. 1993. "Cultural Politics in an Age of Statistics: Numbers, Nations, and the Making of Basque Identity." *American Ethnologist* 20: 818-843.

Walton, Hanes, Jr., Cheryl Miller, and Joseph P. McCormick. 1995. "Race and Political Science: The Dual Traditions of Race Relations and African American Politics." In John Dryzek, James Farr, and Stephen Leonard, eds., *Political Science in History*, ed.. NY: Cambridge University Press.

**Feb 12            Group Interests (and Identity)**

Readings:

Brubaker, Rogers, Mara Loveman, and Peter Samatov. 2004. "Ethnicity as Cognition." *Theory and Society* 33: 31-64.

Dawson, Michael C. 1994. *Behind the Mule: Race and Class in African-American Politics*. Chapter 3 ("The Politicization of African-American Racial Group Interests") and Chapter 4 ("Models of African-American Racial and Economic Group Interests"). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Hardin, Russell. 1995. *One for All*. Chapter 3 ("Group Identification"). Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Laitin, David. 1995. "Marginality: A Microperspective." *Rationality and Society* 7: 31-57.

Lee, Taeku. 2008. "Race, Immigration, and the Identity-To-Politics Link." *Annual Review of Political Science* 11: 457-78.

Nagel, Joanne. 1995. "American Indian Ethnic Revival: Politics and the Resurgence of Identity." *American Sociological Review* 60: 947-965.

**Feb 19:            Group Identity (and Interests)**

Readings:

Anderson, Benedict. 1991. *Imagined Communities*. Chapter 10 ("Census, Map, Museum"). London: Verso.

"Symposium: Cumulative Findings in the Study of Ethnic Politics." 2001. *APSA-Comparative Politics Newsletter*, pp. 7-25.

Gibson, James L. 2008. "Group Identities and Theories of Justice: An Experimental Investigation into the Justice and Injustice of Land Squatting in South Africa." *Journal of Politics* 70: 700-716.

Kurzban, Robert, John Tooby, and Leda Cosmides. 2001. "Can Race Be Erased? Coalitional Computation and Social Categorization." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 98: 15387-15392.

Waters, Mary C. 1990. *Ethnic Options: Choosing Identities in America*. Chapter 2 ("Flux and Choice in American Ethnicity") and Chapter 3 ("Influences on Ancestry Choice"). Berkeley: University of California Press.

Waters, Mary C. 1999. *Black Identities: West Indian Immigrant Dreams and American Realities*. Chapter 3 ("Racial and Ethnic Identity Choices") and Chapter 8 ("Identities of the Second Generation"). New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

**Feb 26**            **Prejudice**

Readings:

Bobo, Lawrence D. and Mia Tuan. 2006. Prejudice in Politics: Group Position, Public Opinion, and the Wisconsin Treaty Rights Dispute. Chapter 1 (“Linking Prejudice and Politics”) and Chapter 4 (“Disentangling Racialized Politics: Group Position, Injustice, and Symbolic Racism.” Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Devos, Thierry and Mahzarin R. Banaji. 2005. “American = White?” *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 88: 447-466.

Gibson, James L. and Amanda Gouws. 2000. “Social Identities and Political Intolerance: Linkages Within the South African Mass Public.” *American Journal of Political Science* 44: 272-286.

Pratto, Felicia, James H. Liu, Shana Levin, Jim Sidanius, Margaret Shih, Hagit Bachrach and Peter Hegarty. 2000. “Social Dominance Orientation and the Legitimation of Inequality Across Cultures.” *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* 31: 369-409.

Sniderman, Paul M. and Edward H. Stiglitz . 2008. “Race and the Moral Character of the Modern American Experience.” *The Forum* 6: Article 1.

Tarman, Christopher and David O. Sears. 2005. “The Conceptualization and Measurement of Symbolic Racism.” *Journal of Politics* 67: 731-761.

**Mar 5**            **Nativism and Anti-Semitism**

Readings:

Berinsky, Adam and Mendelberg, Tali. 2005. “The Indirect Effects of Discredited Stereotypes in Judgments of Jewish Leaders.” *American Journal of Political Science* 49: 845-864.

Brader, Ted, Nicholas A. Valentino, and Elizabeth Suhay. 2004. “Seeing versus Feeling Threats: Group Cues, Emotions, and Activating Opposition to Immigration.” Unpublished Manuscript.

Coenders, Marcel, Marcel Lubbers, Peer Scheepers, and Maykel Verkuyten. 2008. “More than Two Decades of Changing Ethnic Attitudes in the Netherlands.” *Journal of Social Issues* 64: 269-285.

Gibson, James L. and Marc Morje Howard. 2007. “Russian Anti-Semitism and the Scapegoating of Jews.” *British Journal of Political Science* 37: 193-223.

Sides, John and Jack Citrin. Citrin. 2007. “European Opinion About Immigration: The Role of Identities, Interests and Information.” *British Journal of Political Science* 37: 477-504.

Sniderman, Paul, Louk Hagendoorn, and Markus Prior. “Predispositional Factors and Situational Triggers: Exclusionary Reactions to Immigrant Minorities.” *American Political Science Review* 98: 35-50.

**Mar 12 Intergroup Competition and Conflict**

Readings:

Fearon, James and David Laitin. 2003. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War." *American Political Science Review* 97: 1-16.

Hardin, Russell. 1995. *One for All*. Chapter 6 ("Violent Conflicts"). Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Horowitz, Donald L. 1985. *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*. Chapter 3 ("Conflict Theory and Conflict Motives"). Berkeley: University of California Press.

Kim, Claire Jean. 2000. *Bitter Fruit: The Politics of Black-Korean Conflict in New York City*. Chapter 2 ("Racial Ordering"), and Chapter 4 ("The Red Apple Boycott"). New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

McClain, Paula D., Niambi M. Carter, Victoria M. DeFrancesco Soto, Monique L. Lyle, Jeffrey D. Grynawski, Shayla C. Nunnally, Thomas J. Scotto, J. Alan Kendrick, Gerald F. Lackey, and Kendra Davenport Cotton. 2006. "Racial Distancing in a Southern City: Latino Immigrants' Views of Black Americans." *Journal of Politics* 68: 571-584.

Olzak, Susan. 1992. *The Dynamics of Ethnic Competition and Conflict*. Chapter 3 ("Competition Processes: Arguments and Propositions") and Chapter 11 ("Summary and Conclusions"). Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Varshney, Ashutosh. 2001. "Ethnic Conflict and Civil Society: India and Beyond." *World Politics* 53: 362-398.

**Mar 19 Intergroup Cooperation**

Readings:

Elkins, Zachary and John Sides. 2007. "Can Institutions Create Unity in Multiethnic Societies?" *American Political Science Review* 101: 693-708.

Fearon, James and David Laitin. 1996. "Explaining Interethnic Cooperation." *American Political Science Review* 90: 715-735.

Gaertner, Samuel L., John F. Dovidio, Jason A. Nier, Christine M. Ward, and Brenda S. Banker. 1999. "Across Cultural Divides: The Value of a Superordinate Identity." In Deborah A. Prentice and Dale T. Miller eds., *Cultural Divides: Understanding and Overcoming Group Conflict*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Miguel, Edward. 2004. "Tribe or Nation: Nation Building and Public Goods in Kenya versus Tanzania." *World Politics* 56: 327-362.

Posner, Daniel N. 2004. "The Political Salience of Cultural Difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas Are Allies in Zambia and Adversaries in Malawi." *American Political Science Review* 98: 529-545

Sonenshein, Raphael J. 1993. *Politics in Black and White: Race and Power in Los Angeles*. Chapter 1 ("Overview"), Chapter 7 ("Biracial Victory"), and Chapter 14 ("Biracial Coalition Politics in Los Angeles and New York City"). Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Ture, Kwame and Charles Hamilton. 1992 (1967). *Black Power: The Politics of Liberation*. Chapter 3 (“The Myths of Coalition”). NY: Vintage Books.

## **Apr 2 Race / Ethnicity and Political Parties**

### Readings:

Carmines, Edward G., and James A. Stimson. 1989. *Issue Evolution: Race And The Transformation Of American Politics*. Chapter 2 (“The Politics of Race”). Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Chandra, Kanchan. 2007. “Counting Heads: A Theory of Voter and Elite Behaviour in Patronage-Democracies.” In Herbert Kitschelt and Steven Wilkinson, eds., *Patrons, Clients and Policies*. NY: Cambridge University Press.

Frymer, Paul. 1999. *Uneasy Alliances: Race and Party Competition in America*. Chapter 2 (“Competitive Parties and the ‘Invisibility’ of Captured Groups”), and Chapter 4 (“Capture Inside the Democratic Party”). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Horowitz, Donald L. 1985. *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*. Chapter 7 (“Ethnic Parties and Party Systems”), Chapter 8 (“Competition and Change in Ethnic Party Systems”), Chapter 9 (“Multiethnic Coalitions”), and Chapter 10 (“Multiethnic Alliances and Parties”). Berkeley: University of California Press.

Valentino, Nicholas and David O. Sears. 2005. “Old Times There Are Not Forgotten: Race and Partisan Realignment in the Contemporary South.” *AJPS* 49: 672-688.

## **Apr 9 Institutional Policies**

### Readings:

Cornell, Stephen. 1988. *The Return of the Native*. Chapter 5 (“The Transformation of the Tribe”), Chapter 6 (“New Music, New Parties, A New Dance”). NY: Oxford UP.

Horowitz, Donald L. 2003. “The Cracked Foundations of the Right To Secede.” *Journal of Democracy* 14: 5-17.

Lieberman, Robert C. 1998. *Shifting the Color Line: Race and the American Welfare State*. Chapter 1 (“Race, Institutions, and Welfare in American Political Development”), Chapter 2 (“Race, Class, and the Organization of Social Policy”). Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Lublin, David. 1997. *The Paradox of Representation: Racial Gerrymandering and Minority Interests in Congress*. Chapter 3 (“The Election of Black and Latino Representatives”) and Chapter 6 (“Racial Redistricting and Public Policy”). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Penn, Elizabeth Maggie. 2008. “Citizenship versus Ethnicity: The Role of Institutions in Shaping Identity Choice.” *Journal of Politics* 70: 1-18.

Posner, Daniel. 2005. *Institutions and Ethnic Politics in Africa*. Chapter 4 (“Ethnicity and Ethnic Politics in Zambia”) and Chapter 5 (“Explaining Changing Patterns of Ethnic Politics”). NY: Cambridge University Press.

Sambanis Nicholas. 2000. “Partition as a Solution to Ethnic War: An Empirical Critique of the Theoretical Literature.” *World Politics* 52: 437-483.

**Apr 16**                    **Diversity, Goods, and Growth**

Readings:

Habyarimana, Humphreys, Posner, and Weinstein. 2007. "Why Does Ethnic Diversity Undermine the Provision of Public Goods?" *American Political Science Review* 101: 709-725.

Putnam, Robert D. 2007. "E Pluribus Unum: Diversity and Community in the Twenty-first Century. The 2006 Johan Skytte Prize Lecture." *Scandinavian Political Studies* 30: 137-174.

Marschall, Melissa J. and Dietlind Stolle. 2004. "Race and the City: Neighborhood Context and the Development of Generalized Trust." *Political Behavior* 26: 125-153.

Kymlicka, Will and Keith Banting. 2006. "Immigration, Multiculturalism, and the Welfare State." *Ethics & International Affairs* 20: 281-304.

Alesina, Alberto F., Reza Baqir, and William Easterly. 1999. "Public Goods and Ethnic Divisions." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 1243-1284.

Posner, Daniel N. Forthcoming. "The Implications of Constructivism for Studying the Relationship Between Ethnic Diversity and Economic Growth." In Kanchan Chandra, ed., *Ethnicity, Politics, and Economics*.

Uslaner, Eric. 2008. "Where You Stand Depends Upon Where Your Grandparents Sat: The Inheritability of Generalized Trust." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 72: 725-740.

**Apr 23**                    **Diversity and Threat**

Readings:

Farley, Reynolds. 1999. "Racial Issues: Recent Trends in Residential Patterns and Intermarriage." In *Diversity and Its Discontents: Cultural Conflict and Common Ground in Contemporary American Society*, eds. Neil J. Smelser and Jeffrey C. Alexander. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 85-128.

Gay, Claudine. 2006. "Seeing Difference: The Effect of Economic Disparity on Black Attitudes toward Latinos." *American Journal of Political Science* 50: 982-997.

Glaser, James M. 2002. "White Voters, Black Schools: Structuring Racial Choices with a Checklist Ballot." *American Journal of Political Science* 46: 35-46.

Glaser, James M. and Martin Gilens. 1997. "Interregional Migration and Political Resocialization: A Study of Racial Attitudes Under Pressure." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 61: 72-86.

Hopkins, Daniel J. 2008. "National Debates, Local Responses: The Origins of Local Concern about Immigration in the U.K. and the U.S." Unpublished Manuscript.

Oliver, J. Eric and Tali Mendelberg. 2000. "Reconsidering the Environmental Determinants of White Racial Attitudes." *American Journal of Political Science* 44:574.

Quillian, Lincoln. 1995. "Prejudice as a Response to Perceived Group Threat: Population Composition and Anti-Immigrant and Racial Prejudice in Europe." *American Sociological Review* 60: 586-611.

**Apr 30 Nationalism and Assimilation**

Readings:

Bloom, Stephen. 2008. "Competitive Assimilation or Strategic Nonassimilation?: The Political Economy of School Choice in Latvia." *Comparative Political Studies* 947-970.

Citrin, Jack, Amy Lerman, Michael Murakami, and Kathryn Pearson. 2007. "Testing Huntington: Is Hispanic Immigration a Threat to American Identity?" *Perspectives* 5: 31-48.

Dawson, Michael C. 2001. *Black Visions: The Roots of Contemporary African-American Political Ideologies*. Chapter 3 ("Visions of a Black Nation"). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Givens, Terry. 2007. "Immigrant Integration in Europe: Empirical Research." *Annual Review of Political Science* 10: 67-83.

Hollinger, David. 1995. *Postethnic America: Beyond Multiculturalism*. Chapter 4 ("Pluralism, Cosmopolitanism, and the Diversification of Diversity" and Chapter 5 ("Toward a Postethnic Perspective"). NY: BasicBooks.

Jones-Correa, Michael. 1998. *Between Two Nations: The Political Predicament of Latinos in New York City*. Ithaca: Chapter 3 ("Explaining Participation"), Chapter 5 ("Resistance From Within"), and Chapter 9 ("Wanting In"). Cornell University Press.

Sidanius, Jim, Seymour Feshbach, Shana Levin, Felicia Pratto. 1997. "The Interface Between Ethnic and National Attachment: Ethnic Pluralism or Ethnic Dominance?" *Public Opinion Quarterly* 61: 102-133.

**May 6 Research Paper Due (by 5pm)**