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Office Hours: Mondays 1:00-4:00 PM, or by appointment

## **PO 351. Race and Politics.**

**Fall 2012, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00-11:00 AM,  
CAS 116**

This course examines the role of race and ethnicity in shaping American politics and policy. Combining research from history, political science, sociology, and economics, we will consider a range of important topics: the first portion of the course will feature a broad historical overview, from the 1700s to the present day, exploring the role of American public policy in creating an entrenched racial order. We will then move to investigating how this order shapes contemporary American political behavior and coalition-building. The next section of the course looks at a series of policy case studies—from incarceration to schools—to assess the continuing role of race and ethnicity in driving American policy. We conclude the course by exploring whether major American demographic trends, including immigration and multiracialism, might be reshaping this longstanding racial and ethnic order.

In addition to completing the readings for each week, students will be expected to complete a 4-5 page paper, an in-class midterm, and a take-home final assessing their knowledge of the course material.

### **Required Texts**

Philip Kasinitz et al. (2008). *Inheriting the City: The Children of Immigrants Come of Age*. New York: The Russell Sage Foundation.

Readings marked with a (\*) can be found on Blackboard.

### **Course Requirements**

#### **4-5 Page Paper**

The first assignment for this course will be a 4-5 page (double-spaced, 12 pt font, with 1-inch margins) paper due to me by e-mail ([kleinst@bu.edu](mailto:kleinst@bu.edu)) on October 5 at 9:00 PM. This paper will be based on course lectures and readings

and will not require any outside research. I will distribute a prompt for the paper, with a choice of several possible topics, on September 21 by e-mail.

In order to be fair to students who turn in their papers on time, I will apply late penalties. Students will have a one-hour grace period after the paper's due date to submit it without penalty. After the grace period, students will lose a full letter grade (for example, from A- to B-) for every day or *portion of a day* that the paper is late.

### **Midterm Exam**

There will be a one-hour midterm exam on October 24 in lieu of a class lecture. The exam will be closed book and cover all material in the class up to the date of the midterm. In addition, the lecture on October 22 will be a midterm review session.

### **Final Exam**

The final exam will be a 24-hour take-home exam taking place between 9:00 AM December 17 and 9:00 AM December 18. The exam will be designed to take no more than three hours, not the full 24 hours, and will cover all course material. Students will be able to use books and notes when completing the final exam.

### **Participation**

Lectures will be highly participatory in nature. Students are therefore expected to have done the readings before class and come prepared to participate.

### **Grading**

**4-5 Page Paper** 20%

**Midterm Exam** 30%

**Final Exam** 40%

**Participation** 10%

## **I. Introduction to Race and Politics**

**September 5. Introduction**

**September 7. What is race?**

\*Hirschman, Charles; Richard Alba, and Reynolds Farley. 2000. "The Meaning and Measurement of Race in the U.S. Census: Glimpses into the Future." *Demography* 37: 381-93.

\*John Skrentny. 2002. "Inventing Race" *Public Interest*. 146 (Winter): 97-113.

## **II. American Public Policy and the Creation of Racial/Ethnic Orders**

### ***The Politics of Creating an American Racial Order***

#### **September 10. Slavery**

\*Edmund Morgan, *American Slavery, American Freedom*, Chapter 15

#### **September 12. Civil War and Reconstruction.**

\*Eric Foner, *A Short History of Reconstruction*, Chapter 3, pp. 77-110

#### **September 14. The Emergence of Jim Crow**

\*Richard Wright. "The Ethics of Living Jim Crow: An Autobiographical Sketch."

Listen to personal narrative Charles Gratton:

[http://www.pbs.org/wnet/jimcrow/narrative\\_gratton.html](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/jimcrow/narrative_gratton.html)

#### **September 17. No Class. Rosh Hashanah.**

#### **September 19. Demography, the Cold War, and the Civil Rights Movement**

\*Klinkner and Smith, Chapter 7

#### **September 21. Riots and the Conservative Retrenchment**

\*Klinkner and Smith, Chapter 8

### ***The Politics of Creating an American Ethnic Order***

#### **September 24. 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Asian Immigrants**

Read/watch stories of Masaru Kawaguchi (<http://www.tellingstories.org/internment/mkawaguchi/index.html>) and Bess Chin (<http://www.tellingstories.org/internment/bchin/index.html>)

#### **September 26. No class. Yom Kippur**

#### **September 28. European Immigrants in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

\*Jacobson, *Whiteness of a Different Color*, Chapter 2, pp. 39-68

#### **October 1. Whiteness and 20<sup>th</sup> Century European Immigration**

\*Jacobson, *Whiteness of a Different Color*, Chapter 2, pp. 68-90

**October 3. Rising Hispanic Immigration**

\*Dowell Myers, *Immigrants and Boomers*, Chapter 3

**October 5. The Contemporary American Ethnic Order**

Philip Kasinitz et al. (2008). *Inheriting the City: The Children of Immigrants Come of Age*, Chapter 2

**PAPER DUE**

**III. The Impact of Race/Ethnicity on Contemporary American Political Behavior, Attitudes, and Coalitions**

**October 9. Race, Vote Choice, and Turnout**

\*Michael C. Dawson, *Behind the Mule*, Chapter 3

**October 10. Racially Coded Campaign Appeals**

\*Tali Mendelberg, *The Race Card*, Chapter 6

Watch Willie Horton ad: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EC9j6Wfdq3o>

**October 12. Racially Coded Policy Preferences**

\*Martin Gilens, "How the Poor Became Black: The Racialization of American Poverty in the Mass Media"

**October 15. Conflict/Coalitions: Economics and Racial Conflict**

\*Claire Kim, *Bitter Fruit*, Chapter 4

**October 17. Conflict/Coalitions: Class, Race, and Schools and The Case of Boston Busing**

Letter to black students:

[http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/eyesonthepize/sources/ps\\_boston.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/eyesonthepize/sources/ps_boston.html)

Kevin White and James Brown Speech, April 5, 1968:

<http://www.wgbh.org/articles/From-The-WGBH-Vault-Trying-Times-5453>

**October 19. Conflict/Coalitions: Urban Mayoral Elections**

\*Karen Kaufmann, *The Urban Voter*, Chapter 5

**October 22. Midterm Review**

## **October 24. MIDTERM**

### **IV. The Impact of Race/Ethnicity on Contemporary American Public Policy**

#### **October 26. Incarceration**

Bruce Western. "Reentry: Reversing Mass Imprisonment." July/August 2008. *Boston Review*. <http://www.bostonreview.net/BR33.4/western.php>

#### **October 29. Housing Policy**

Daniel Denvir. "The 10 most segregated urban areas in America." March 29, 2011. [http://www.salon.com/2011/03/29/most\\_segregated\\_cities/](http://www.salon.com/2011/03/29/most_segregated_cities/)

\*Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton, *American Apartheid*, Chapter 3, pp. 81-97

#### **October 31. Family Policy**

Sara McLanahan. 2004. "Diverging Destinies: How Are Children Faring Under the Second Demographic Transition." *Demography* 41: 607-627

#### **November 2. Wealth**

\*Conley, *Being Black, Living in the Red*. "From financial to social to human capital: assets and wages"

#### **November 5. Schools**

Philip Kasinitz et al. (2008). *Inheriting the City: The Children of Immigrants Come of Age*, Chapter 5

#### **November 7. Race and Public Policy: New Orleans. Viewing of *When The Levees Broke*.**

Kaiser Family Foundation. "New Orleans Five Years After the Storm: A New Disaster Amid Recovery." Pp. 1-32

#### **November 9. Race and Public Policy: New Orleans. Viewing of *When The Levees Broke*.**

### **V. The Transformation of the American Racial Order?**

#### **November 12. Is America Post-Racial?**

Take the IAT: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/demo/selectatest.html>

David Hollinger (2008) "Obama, the Instability of Color Lines, and the Promise of a Postethnic Future." *Callaloo* 31 (4): 1033-1037.

Peniel Joseph (2009) "Our National Postracial Hangover." *Chronicle of Higher Education*. <http://chronicle.com/article/Our-National-Postracial/47462/>

Ezra Klein. "Race and the 2012 Election."  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/ezra-klein/wp/2012/08/27/race-and-the-2012-election/>

### **November 14. Multiracialism: Racial Mixture in the US**

*Loving v. Virginia*, 388 [U.S. 1](#) (1967)

\*Renee C. Romano, *Race Mixing*, Chapter 2

### **November 16. Multiracialism: The Politics of the Census**

U.S. House of Representatives (1997) Hearings on "Federal Measures of Race and Ethnicity and the Implications for the 2000 Census," April 23, May 22, and July 25. Testimony of Ramona Douglass, Susan Graham, Carlos Fernandez, Harold McDougall, Newt Gingrich, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Eric Rodriguez, Jacinta Ma.

Office of Management and Budget (1997) *Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity*. Washington D.C., Executive Office of the President, OMB Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.

### **November 19. Multiracialism: Contemporary Politics**

\*Eugene Robinson, *Disintegration*, Chapters 7 and 8

### **November 26. Immigration: Incorporation**

Philip Kasinitz et al. (2008). *Inheriting the City: The Children of Immigrants Come of Age*, Chapter 8

### **November 28. Immigration: Institutional Incorporation**

\*Helen Marrow, *New Destination Dreaming*, Chapter 6

### **November 30. Immigration: Growing Political Power and a Social Contract**

Philip Kasinitz et al. (2008). *Inheriting the City: The Children of Immigrants Come of Age*, Chapter 9

### **December 3. Immigration: Illegal Immigration**

\*Daniel Hopkins. 2010. "Politicized Places: Explaining Where and When Immigrants Provoke Local Opposition."

**December 5. Cohort Change: Racial Attitudes**

Howard Schuman and Willard Rodgers (2004) "Cohorts, Chronology, and Collective Memories." *Public Opinion Quarterly*. 68 (2): 217-54.

Ian Shapira (2009) "Tackling Toni Morrison." *Washington Post*. January 21

**December 7. Cohort Change: Obama and "New Wave" Politicians**

\*Gwen Ifill, *Breakthrough*, Chapters 1 and 2

**December 10. Race and the American Dream**

\*Jennifer Hochschild, *Facing Up the American Dream*, Chapter 3

**December 12. Final Exam Review**