I love America more than any other country in this world, and, exactly for this reason, I insist on the right to criticize her perpetually.

James Baldwin, Notes of a Native Son

Education either functions as an instrument which is used to facilitate integration of the younger generation into the logic of the present system and bring about conformity or it becomes the practice of freedom, the means by which men and women deal critically and creatively with reality and discover how to participate in the transformation of their world. Paulo Freire

We who believe in freedom cannot rest. Ella Baker
Course Description
Since 1950, American communities (neighborhoods, schools, organizations, etc.) have become more diverse and multicultural. There has been an increased belief in the notion of a post-racial society, i.e. race is not a major concern. However, within the past decade a plethora of defining racial events and persistent racial disparities have plagued the United States. Although many of us live, learn, and work in ethnically diverse settings and have colleagues and friends from different socio-economic backgrounds, we often do not have the time or opportunity to critically analyze issues of race, social identity, oppression, privilege, and class.

“Ethnicity and American Communities” is designed to create a learning environment where students explore and examine recent racial issues. The course provides a historical overview of concepts, theories, policies, and laws, which have influenced race-relations in present-day America. We will examine the impact that systems of oppression have on historically marginalized groups (Native Americans, African Americans, Latinx, South East Asians, etc.) and the ways in which these same systems maintain privilege and opportunities for others. We will read and discuss a host of alarming trends including mass incarceration, under-resourced schools, the privatization of public goods, and overly aggressive policing of communities of color. The ultimate goal of this course is to provide students with a historical analysis of race and ethnicity so that they can develop critical and multiple perspectives needed to build democratic societies.

Class Format
Through lectures, films, group activities, writing assignments, and section discussions the class will explore the past and present social and economical conditions that have led to oppression for communities of color. Students should read the assigned readings before class and be prepared to participate in-group discussions or in class written assignments. Because we are all here to acquire knowledge about race and ethnicity issues in our American communities, we will give each and everyone the opportunity to express one’s thoughts, ideas and feeling about topics that we discuss and share experiences and knowledge in this area with us to learn from one another. This will help us to re-learn an inclusive history of the US and help us move forward together as a community.

Course Goals
• To examine policies, laws, concepts, and theories that influence present-day race-relations.
• To make the connections between current race relationships and the history of marginalized communities of color.
• To explore systems of oppression and dehumanizing practices through the lens of both the marginalized and the privileged.
• To develop a critical analysis (written and oral skills) necessary for dismantling oppressive systems and practices.
• To learn from each other, share our experiences, build our community, and BE THE CHANGE NEEDED FOR A MORE JUST WORLD!

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism Policy
All written work submitted by students should be their own. Students should read, understand, and be familiar with the Student Code of Academic Conduct (http://sja.ucdavis.edu/cac.html). In particular please note #6 of the code: “Know what plagiarism is and take steps to avoid it. When using the words or ideas of another, even if paraphrased in your own words, you must cite your source. Students who are confused about whether a particular act constitutes plagiarism should consult the instructor who gave the assignment.” Plagiarism or academic dishonesty are grounds for failing the course and will be reported to the University.

Disability Policy
Davis strives to ensure the accessibility of programs, classes, and services to students with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations can be arranged for students with various types of disabilities, such as documented learning disabilities, vision or hearing impairments, and emotional or physical disabilities. If you require accommodations for a disability, please register with the Student Disability Center http://sdc.ucdavis.edu/ and let your instructor know your needs.

Course Expectations
Class Participation
Attendance and participation are vital components to the understanding and learning of the course. It is impossible to “make-up” the collegial discussions and support you will be receiving from classmates and TA’s. Therefore, students are expected to:

- Be in class on time and for the entire duration of the class.
- Come to lecture having done all readings and assignments on time. The required readings for each lecture are on the syllabus.
- Actively participate in class discussions and activities.
- Limit the use of technology to class assignments.

Writing Assignments
All written assignments must adhere to the 6th edition APA guidelines, which includes: typed, doubled spaced, proofread, 1-inch margins, and should be in font size 11 or 12 (See Canvas). Papers need to be submitted online in the assignment section of Canvas. For additional resources and tips, visit the student writing services [http://success.ucdavis.edu/academic/writing.html](http://success.ucdavis.edu/academic/writing.html).

Email Communication
Emails to Instructors/TA’s should be limited to personal and specific questions. There are a few things to keep in mind when using email:

- Be clear, concise and specific in your request. It saves time for your instructor and helps you get a timely response; do not make your instructor guess who is writing the e-mail nor what you are requesting from them.
- Your instructor teaches your class, teaches other courses, and has numerous other professional responsibilities. Expect responses to email within 72 hours of your request.
- Subject lines are important. Include the class name, CRD 02 and the course section or time of the class, and a word or phrase that will help instructors understand the nature of your request (example: CRD 02)
- Please use appropriate terms of address (Hello, Hi, Dear) versus inappropriate greetings (Hey! What’s up?! The use of ALL CAPS).

Grading Scales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class &amp; Section Engagement</th>
<th>10%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading/Lecture Responses #1</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity Interview</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper#1</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz #1</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading/Lecture Responses #2</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz #2</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Engagement</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grades are distributed by the following percentages of the total points possible.
Writing Assignments and Quizzes

Reading/Class Responses (10 points each)
Students will be required to complete two responses (3 pages each) throughout the quarter. A prompt for students to write a response will be posted on Canvas. The prompt may be a reflection question related to the week's required readings, a survey questionnaire, a letter, a map, or a creative response. The reading/class responses are meant to engage students with the week's readings and discussions. The responses are also a way to prepare you for larger assignments such as presentations and papers. Your two responses will be due Mondays before noon. Late responses will lose 1 point each day, and responses 3 days late (Thursday, noon) will not receive credit. Due: Wednesday, October 9th and Wednesday, November 13th by noon.

Paper #1 (15 points)
On Thursday, October 11th a prompt and instructions for paper #1 (5-6 pages) will be posted on Canvas. Late papers will lose a point each day. Due: Wednesday, October 23rd by noon.

Ethnicity Interview Paper (10 points)
Ethnicity Interview Paper (5 pages): Interview a classmate in your CRD 02 Section about their background (ethnicity, upbringing, family, hometown, prior school experiences, career aspirations, etc.). If possible, this person should belong to different racial ethnic group than yours. The interview should include probing questions that address race, privilege, oppression, and opportunity. Be considerate and sensitive to the interviewee’s experiences. From your interview, write a 5-page summary/life sketch about your classmate. Due: Wednesday, October 16th by noon. Late papers will lose a point each day.

Community Engagement (5 points):
Attend a campus or community event related to issues of cultural diversity, equity, and education. In a two-page double-spaced informal essay, discuss at least two ideas, themes, events, or moments in the campus or community event and relate these to course themes. Make concrete links, using references to course readings and topics. When you make links to course themes, refer to at least two specific moments in course readings or class events. Use the moments as jumping off points, occasions to go deeper in your thinking, to make connections. While clarity and care are important for any writing, formal organization is not as important for this writing.

***All grades are final and your overall grade at the end of the quarter will not be changed.***

A  93-100    C+    77-79
A-  90-92     C    73-76
B+  87-89     C-    70-72
B   83-86     D    60-69
B-  80-82     F    59 and Below
Note: We may read excerpts from some of these writings aloud in class without identifying writers’ names. If there is a part of a writing you do not want aired in class even without your name used, indicate this by writing “Private: Do not read this section aloud.”

Due: Tuesday, November 26th by noon. Late papers will lose a point/day.

Quizzes (5 points each)
Quizzes will consist of five short questions. Questions will be based on the class readings, lectures, films, and sections. Quizzes cannot be made up unless there is a valid reason and an advance notice is given.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS AND READINGS

The professor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus and schedule.

Required texts

Select one of the following for the final exam:

All other assigned readings such as articles, op-eds, etc. will be made available on UC Davis’ Canvas.
Week 1: As American as Apple Pie

Sept. 26th  Introduction and Course Overview

Week 2: The Racialization of Urban America

October 1st  Readings for class:
- Select one reading/podcast from “Current Topic” list.

October 3rd  Readings for class:

Week 3: The Racialization of Urban America

October 8th  Readings for class:
- Coates, T. *Between the World and Me* (Part I, pgs. 1-71).
  In class film: *OJ: Made in America* (ESPN 30 for 30).

October 10th  Readings for class:
- Coates, T. *Between the World and Me* (Part II, pgs. 73-152).

Assignments due: Reading/Lecture Response #1 due Wednesday, Oct. 9th

Week 4: Colonization in America (The Past and Present)

October 15th  Readings for class:
- Zinn, H. *A People’s History of the United States* (Chapters 2 & 9).

October 17th  Readings for class:
- Zinn, H. *A People’s History of America* (Chapter 1 & 7).
  **In class activity:** Applying the pedagogical lenses to selected class readings.

Assignment due: Ethnicity Interview on Wednesday, October 16th
Week 5: Colonization in America (The Past and Present)

October 22nd  Readings for class:
- Zinn, H. *A People’s History of America* (Chapter 1).

October 24th  Readings for class:
- Zinn, H. *A People’s History of America* (Chapter 7).


Assignments due: Paper #1 on Wednesday, October 23rd by noon

Week 6: The Model Minority Theory

October 29th  Readings for class:
- Prois, J. “Asian-Americans In Congress Ask Trump To Meet About Muslims, Immigration, Education.” Huffington Post (December 2, 2016) [http://m.huffpost.com/us/entry/us_58403c24e4b09e21702cf038](http://m.huffpost.com/us/entry/us_58403c24e4b09e21702cf038)

October 31st  Readings for class:
- Roger Viet Chung’s ROOTS.

Quiz #1 in Thursday section
**Week 7: Inequities in Public Education**

Nov. 5th Readings for class:

**Quiz #1 in Tuesday section**

Nov. 7th Readings for class:

**Week 8: Inequities in Public Education**

Nov. 12th Readings for Class:

Nov. 14th Readings for class:
  

**Assignment due: Reading/Lecture Response #2 on Wednesday, November 13th**

**Week 9: This is America**

Nov. 19th Readings for class:
- “Innocent Blacks More Likely Than Whites To Be Wrongfully Convicted.” *Huffington Post.*
  
In class film: 13th (Ava DuVernay)

Nov. 21st Readings for class:

**Assignments Due: Quiz #2 in Sections**
Week 10: This is America

Nov. 26th  Readings for class:
  • Zinn, H. *A People’s History of the United States* (Chapters 21 & 23).

Nov. 28th  No Class

Assignments Due: Community Engagement Reflection Tuesday, November 26th by Noon.

Week 11: America Today

Dec. 3rd  Readings for class:
  • Select one reading/podcast from “Current Topic” list.

Dec. 5th  Course Recap & Preparation for Final Exam

Dec. 10th  Final Papers Due by 12 pm (noon).