

**City and Regional Planning 3101 and 6101
Asian American Studies 3950
American Studies 3950 and 6950**

Race, Space, and Place

Fall 2009
Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:55 – 4:10PM
Goldwin Smith Hall 142

Instructor: Professor Clement Lai

Office Hours: Tu/Th 1:50-2:50PM and Tu 4:30-5PM or by appointment in 317 Sibley Hall
Also W 11AM-12PM in 425 Rockefeller Hall

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The seminar explores race and racism from a spatial perspective and pays particular attention to social justice concerns, whether this latter category includes theoretical work, political mobilization, and/or everyday resistance and refusal. We frame our approach to these issues initially in terms of spatial and racial theory, drawing from the literatures of geography, urban studies, Critical Race Theory, and Ethnic Studies. Specifically, we examine space with respect to the geography and urban studies literature on the production of urban space and spatial scale. Next we investigate different theories of race, including those of Stuart Hall, W.E.B. Du Bois, Michael Omi and Howard Winant, and Evelyn Nakano Glenn. These theories incorporate critiques of capitalism and colonialism and analyses of past and present political economic restructuring with their understanding of race and racism. Together these spatial and racial theories will frame the remaining weeks' readings for this course, which focus on a different scale (body, community, city, region, nation, and beyond) each week to explore the mutual construction of race and space. Our task will be to tease out the interconnections between race and space and between spatial scales. Finally, our readings will consider different sites where race and space are intermeshed, such as the prison-industrial complex, the globalizing neoliberal city, and the world of 1970s leftists of color. You will leave the seminar with a greater understanding of race, space, power, and resistance from a social science perspective.

Format

This is a four-unit, discussion-based, highly reading-intensive seminar. The seminar is cross-listed between Asian American Studies, American Studies, and City and Regional Planning.

Required Texts

1. Nayan Shah, *Contagious Divides*, (University of California Press, 2001)

2. Claire Jean Kim, *Bitter Fruit: The Politics of Black-Korean Conflict in New York City*, (Yale University Press, 2000)
3. Laura Pulido, *Black, Brown, Yellow, and Left: Radical Activism in Los Angeles*, (University of California Press, 2006)
4. Katharyne Mitchell, *Crossing The Neoliberal Line: Pacific Rim Migration and the Metropolis*, (Temple University Press, 2004)
5. Ruth Wilson Gilmore, *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California*, (University of California Press, 2007)
6. Peter Linebaugh and Marcus Rediker, *The Many Headed Hydra: The Hidden History of the Revolutionary Atlantic*, (Beacon Press, 2002)
7. Charlotte Brooks, *Alien Neighbors and Foreign Friends: Asian Americans, Housing, and the Transformation of Urban California*, (University of Chicago Press, 2009)

The assigned texts can be bought at the Cornell Store and will be found stocked in the City and Regional Planning textbook section.

Where noted, several of the assigned articles can be downloaded from the Cornell University Library website. Please see me if you do not know how to download articles from online databases.

The remaining readings will be posted to the course Blackboard site. You will have to register on the Blackboard site to access the articles.

Although there are supplemental readings listed throughout the syllabus, these readings are not required for seminar. I have provided the titles for those of you want to follow up on a particular topic. In some cases the supplemental readings provide theoretical background for the assigned readings, but in other cases the readings provide additional case studies or arguments for you to consider.

Course requirements

Your grade will be based on each of the following areas:

Participation: Students are required to attend and participate in seminar. Participation is an important part of the course experience, providing the opportunity to critically evaluate course materials, debate, and share ideas. Participation will be graded based on a student's active and critical engagement. It is imperative that each student complete the weekly readings to be able to participate effectively and fully. To facilitate discussion each student will be required to submit a set of discussion questions and/or comments and post them to the course Blackboard site no later than midnight the day before seminar session.

Response papers: Students must submit **2-3 page response papers** (double-spaced, 12 point font) throughout the semester on the readings. These will provide an opportunity to write lengthier reflections on the readings, e.g. what you liked or disliked about the argument, how the reading related to other readings in this course, or what points needed clarification. Please note that graduate students will be expected to write lengthier and more substantive responses. In

total you are responsible for **five** papers. This means that you can pick and choose which readings are more compelling for you to write on. Please submit the responses (hard copy) at the end of Tuesday's seminar for the week after the reading was completed. Post them to the course Blackboard site as well. I will not accept late responses. I also strongly suggest that you not wait until the end of the semester to turn in your five.

Short presentation: Groups of two to three students will be expected to help lead weekly discussion. Presentations will begin with a short discussion of key points and a very brief summary of the arguments in the readings. The small groups should collect the submitted discussion questions from all seminar participants and use these for the basis of structuring the remainder of discussion. As this is a small class, students will have to present more than once. You will have the option of choosing the week on which you present. The presenting group is responsible for readings assigned for the full week.

Term paper: Students will submit a 10-15 page term paper at the end of the semester, which will focus on a topic related to the themes of this course. Graduate students will be expected to submit longer and more polished papers. Please submit a detailed 3-page prospectus of your paper topic in **Week 6** of the seminar after consultation with the course instructor. The final draft of the term paper must be submitted on **Thursday, December 10, 2009**. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Participation	25%
Small group presentation	10%
Response Papers	30%
Prospectus	5%
Term Paper	30%

I do encourage you all to come see me at some point during the semester for my office hours. It helps me get to know you.

Course Rules and "Etiquette"

I welcome you to this course and hope to make it an informative, productive, and engaging experience for all. There are a few classroom rules to abide by.

Please be prompt and attend seminar on time. It is very disruptive for students to walk into class late.

While I recognize that the use of cell phones and laptop computers with wireless access are an indispensable part of life on and off campus, I ask that you refrain from text messaging, using email, or surfing the Web while in class. Such activities do not facilitate an optimal learning environment for fellow students and can, in many instances, constitute rude behavior.

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity, see < <http://cuinfo.cornell.edu/Academic/AIC.html>>. Any work submitted by a student

in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. For this course, collaboration is allowed for group presentations, but your written response papers and research paper must be your own work. If you paraphrase or quote from another source, then you must cite it properly. Any form of plagiarism on any of the assignments will result in a failing grade for the course.

In compliance with the Cornell University policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for students with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the first three weeks of the semester, except for unusual circumstances, so arrangements can be made.

For a definition of what constitutes plagiarism, please refer to the following website:
<<http://plagiarism.arts.cornell.edu/tutorial/index.cfm>>.

Topics and Reading Assignments

Week 1: Openings (Thu 8/27)

Introductions

View part of “The Road to Guantánamo” and “When the Levees Broke”

Week 2: Considering Theory and this Moment of Danger (Tu 9/1 and Thu 9/3)

Required Reading:

For Tuesday 9/1:

Barbara Christian, “The Race for Theory,” *Cultural Critique*, v. 6, (Spring, 1987), 51-63.

Download from Cornell Library website using JSTOR.

Avery Gordon, “Theory and Justice,” In *Keeping Good Time: Knowledge, Power, and People*, by Avery Gordon, 99-105, Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers. Download from course Blackboard site.

For Thursday 9/3:

Amy Kaplan, “Where is Guantánamo?” *American Quarterly*, v. 57, n. 3, (September 2005), 831-858. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST database.

Ananya Roy, “Praxis in the time of empire,” *Planning Theory*, v. 5, n. 1, (2006), 7-29.

Download from Cornell Library website using SAGE Premier database.

Clyde Woods, “Do you know what it means to miss New Orleans?: Katrina, trap economics, and the rebirth of the Blues,” *American Quarterly*, v. 57, n. 4, (December 2005), 1005-1018.

Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE

Continue watching “When the Levees Broke.”

Supplemental Reading:

Antonio Gramsci, Selection from *Prison Notebooks* concerning intellectuals, Translated by Q. Hoare and G. N. Smith, (International Publishers, 1971).

http://www.marxists.org/archive/gramsci/prison_notebooks/problems/intellectuals.htm

Katherine McKittrick and Clyde Woods, "Chapter One: 'No one knows the mysteries at the bottom of the ocean,'" In *Black Geographies and the Politics of Place*, edited by Katherine McKittrick and Clyde Woods, 1-13, Cambridge, MA: South End Press.

Week 3: The Production of Spatial Scale (Tu 9/8 and Thu 9/10)Required Reading:

For Tuesday 9/8:

Neil Smith, "Contours of a spatialized politics: Homeless vehicles and the production of geographical scale," *Social Text*, v. 33, 1993, 55-81. Download from Cornell Library website through JSTOR.

Sallie Marston, "The social construction of scale," *Progress in Human Geography*, v. 22, 2000, 219-242. Download from Cornell Library website through PROQUEST.

David Delaney and Helga Leitner, "The political construction of scale," *Political Geography*, v. 16, n. 2, (1997), 93-97. Download from Cornell Library website using ScienceDirect database.

For Thursday 9/10:

Laura Pulido, "Rethinking environmental racism: white privilege and urban development in Southern California," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 90, n. 1, (2000), 12-40. Download from Cornell Library website using Academic Search Premier.

Melissa Gilbert, "'Race,' Space, and Power: The survival strategies of working poor women," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 88, n. 4, (1998), 595-621. Download from Cornell Library website using Academic Search Premier.

Supplemental Reading:

Tim Cresswell, Chapter 1: Introduction and Chapter 2: Genealogy of Place, from *Place: A Short Introduction*, (Blackwell Publishers, 2004), pp. 1-51.

Neil Smith and Cindi Katz, "Grounding metaphor: Toward a spatialized politics," In Michael Keith and Steven Pile, eds. *Place and the Politics of Identity*, Routledge, 1993, 67-83

Mark Gottdiener, Chapter 4, *The Social Production of Urban Space*, University of Texas Press, 1994, 110-194

Doreen Massey, Chapter 10, *Space, Place, and Gender*, (University of Minnesota Press, 1994), 212-248

Rosalyn Deutsche, Part II – Men in Space, Boys Town, Chinatown Part 4? What Jake Forgets About Downtown, *Evictions: Art and Spatial Politics*, (The MIT Press, 1998), 193-253

Week 4: Racial Theory and State Theory, Part I (Tu 9/15 and Thu 9/17)

Required Reading:

For Tuesday 9/15:

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, “The Social Construction and Institutionalization of Race and Gender: An Integrative Framework,” in *Revisioning Gender*, edited by Myra Marx Fereee, Judith Corber, and Beth Hess, (Sage, 1999). Download from course Blackboard site.

Stuart Hall, “Gramsci’s Relevance for the Study of Race and Ethnicity,” *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, v. 10, n. 2, pp. 5-27. Download from course Blackboard site.

June Manning Thomas, “Educating Planners: Unified Diversity for Social Action,” v. 15, pp. 171-182. Download from course Blackboard site.

For Thursday 9/17:

Selection from James Scott, *Seeing Like a State*, (Yale University Press, 1999). Download from course Blackboard site.

W.E.B. Du Bois, Chapter XIV – Counter-Revolution of Property, Selection from *Black Reconstruction in America, 1860-1880*, pp. 580-636. Download from course Blackboard site.

Supplemental Reading:

Mario Barrera, Conclusion, *Race and Class in the Southwest: A Theory of Racial Inequality*, (University of Notre Dame Press, 1979).

Week 5: Racial Theory, Part II: The Social Construction of Race (Tu 9/22 and Thu 9/24)

Required Reading:

For Tuesday 9/22:

Michael Omi and Howard Winant, *Racial Formation in the United States*, (Routledge, 1994). Chapters 4 & 5.

For Thursday 9/24:

Howard Winant, “Race and racism: Toward a global future,” *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 29, n. 5, (September 2006), 986-1003. Download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

Week 6: Considering the Racialized Body (Tu 9/29 and Thu 10/1)

Required Reading:

Nayan Shah, *Contagious Divides: Epidemics and Race in San Francisco's Chinatown*, (University of California Press, 2001).

Exact chapters TBD

PAPER PROSPECTUS DUE IN CLASS TODAY

Week 7: The Racialized Home (Tu 10/6 and Thu 10/8)

Required Reading:

Charlotte Brooks, *Alien Neighbors and Foreign Friends: Asian Americans, Housing, and the Transformation of Urban California*, (University of Chicago Press, 2009)

Exact chapters TBD

Week 8: Racialized community politics – Dystopia? (Thu 10/15)

No class on Tu 10/13

Claire Jean Kim, *Bitter Fruit: The Politics of Black-Korean Conflict in New York City*, (Yale University Press, 2000). Read entire book.

Exact chapters TBD

Supplemental Reading:

Mike Davis, *City of Quartz*, Revised edition, (Verso Books, 2007)

Week 9: Racialized community politics – Utopia? (Tu 10/20 and Thu 10/22)

Required Reading:

Laura Pulido, *Black, Brown, Yellow, and Left: Radical Activism in Los Angeles*, (University of California Press, 2006). Read entire book.

Exact chapters TBD

Week 10: Neoliberalism, Race, and the City (Tu 10/27 and Thu 10/29)

Required Reading:

Katharyne Mitchell, *Crossing The Neoliberal Line: Pacific Rim Migration and the Metropolis*, (Temple University Press, 2004)

Exact chapters TBD

Week 11: Considering the Racialized City: Housing, Redevelopment, and Property (Tu 11/3 and Thu 11/5)

Required Reading:

For Tuesday 11/3

George Lipsitz, Selections from *Possessive Investment in Whiteness*, (Temple University Press, 2006).

Cheryl Harris, "Whiteness as Property," *Harvard Law Review*, v. 106, (1993), 1707-1791.
Download from Cornell Library website using JSTOR.

Nick Blomley, "Law, property, and the geography of violence: The frontier, the survey, and the grid," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 93, n. 1, (2003), 121-141.
Download from Cornell Library website using Academic Search Premier database.

For Thursday 11/5:

Greg Hise, "Border city: Race and social distance in Los Angeles," *American Quarterly*, v. 56, n. 3, (December 2004), 583-605. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE.

Sánchez, George, "What's good for Boyle Heights is good for the Jews:" Creating multiracialism on the Eastside during the 1950s." *American Quarterly*, v. 56, n. 3, (December 2004), 633-661.
Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE.

Josh Sides, "Straight out of Compton: American dreams, urban nightmares, and the metamorphosis of the Black suburb," *American Quarterly*, v. 56, n. 3, (December 2004), 545-558. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE.

Dana Cuff, "The figure of the neighbor: Los Angeles past and future," *American Quarterly*, v. 56, n. 3, (December 2004), 559-582. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE.

Supplemental Reading:

Donald Mitchell, "SUV model of citizenship," *Political Geography*

Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton, *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*, Harvard University Press, 1993. Chapters on the FHA and the re-emergence of segregation.

Thomas Sugrue, *Origins of the Urban Crisis*, Princeton University Press, 1997. Introduction

Neil Smith, *The New Urban Frontier: Gentrification and the Revanchist City*, Routledge, 1996. Introductory chapter on gentrification as an ‘urban frontier’.

Robert Beauregard, *Voices of Decline: The Postwar Fate of US Cities*, Blackwell, 1993. Introduction.

Week 12: Considering the Carceral State (of Banality or Exception) (Tu 11/10 and Thu 11/12)

Required Reading:

Ruth Wilson Gilmore, *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California*, (University of California Press, 2007). Read entire book.

Exact chapters TBD

Supplemental Reading:

Richard Foglesong, “Chapter 8: Planning and contradiction,” in *Planning the Capitalist City: The Colonial Era to the 1920s*, (Princeton University Press, 1986), 233-257

Toni Negri, “Crisis of the planner-state,” in *Revolution Retrieved*, (Red Notes Collective, 1988), 91-149.

Week 13: The Racialized Nation (Tu 11/17 and Thu 11/19)

Required Reading:

For Tuesday 11/17:

Amy Kaplan, “Manifest domesticity,” *American Literature*, v. 70, n. 3, (1998), 581-606.

Download from PROQUEST.

Mae Ngai, “The architecture of race in American immigration law: A reexamination of the Immigration Act of 1924,” *The Journal of American History*, v. 86, n. 1, (June 1999), 67-92. Available for download through Cornell Library website using JSTOR or PROQUEST.

Stuart Hall, “Race, articulation, and societies structured in dominance,” In *Sociological Theories: Race and Colonialism*, 305-345. Paris: UNESCO.

For Thursday 11/19:

David Goldberg, "Racial Europeanization," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 29, n. 2, (March 2006), 331-364. Available for download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

Claire Kim, "Imagining race and nation in multiculturalist America," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 27, n. 6, (November 2004), 987-1005. Available for download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, "From bi-racial to tri-racial: Towards a new system of racial stratification in the USA," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 27, n. 6, (November 2004), 931-950). Available for download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

Week 14: Globalizing from Below? Viewing our future's past (Tu 11/24)
No class Thu 11/26

Required Reading:

For Tuesday 11/24:

Peter Linebaugh and Marcus Rediker, *The Many Headed Hydra: The Hidden History of the Revolutionary Atlantic*, (Beacon Press, 2002)

Exact chapters TBD

Week 15: Conclusions (Tu 12/1 and Thu 12/3)

Required Reading:

For Tuesday 12/1:

Article to be assigned

Applied Research Center, "Race and Recession 2009: How Inequity Rigged the Economy and How to Change the Rules," (May 2009). Download from course Blackboard site.

For Thursday 12/3:

Concluding discussion regarding student term papers. Give brief presentation on paper topic and findings.