

Sociology Department

College of Liberal Arts

Wayne State University

AFS5570/SOC5570

Winter 2002

Race Relations in Urban Society

Day & Time: Monday and Wednesday 3:00pm - 4:25pm
 Location: State Hall 0111
 Instructor: Rob Silverman
 Office: F/AB 2253
 Hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:30pm - 2:30pm (and by appointment)
 Phone: (313) 577-3285
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The Course:

This course focuses on the dynamics of race in contemporary urban settings with a particular emphasis on the implications of changing spacial and demographic patterns as they relate to African-American communities. During the semester we will examine urban race relations within the context of structural change in the economy and at the community level. In essence, the course will be split into three modules. During the first part of the semester we will explore the intersection of race and the urban economy. During the second part of the semester we will focus on racial dynamics in urban neighborhoods. During the last part of the semester we will examine the impact of race on public institutions in urban areas. The primary goal of the course is twofold: to gain a holistic understanding of race as it relates to contemporary institutional processes, and to enhance our understanding of how race relations are influenced by the intersection of economic, community, and governmental spheres of urban life.

The activities and requirements for the course are outlined in this syllabus. During each class session we will discuss the assigned readings. This course will be organized as a colloquium and students are expected to contribute to weekly discussions. Readings must be completed in advance and students should come to each meeting with questions, comments, critiques and insights to share with the class. Regular attendance and participation is required for full credit. All assignment are due at the beginning of class on respective due dates. Barring extreme circumstances, late assignments will not be accepted.

If you have any questions during the semester, please bring them to my attention. I will be available during my office hours and by appointment. Also, you may contact me using e-mail.

Required Text and Reserve Readings for Undergraduate and Graduate Students:

- [The required books are available in the WSU Bookstore and Marwil's Bookstore]
 Farley, Reynolds, Sheldon Danzinger, and Harry J. Holzer. 2000. *Detroit Divided*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
 Hartigan, John. 1999. *Racial Situations: Class Predicaments of Whiteness in Detroit*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
 Pattillo-McCoy, Mary. 1999. *Black Picket Fences: Privilege and Peril Among the Black Middle Class*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
 Squires, Gregory D. and Sally O'Connor 2001. *Color and Money: Politics and Prospects for Community Reinvestment in Urban America*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press.

Waldinger, Roger. 1999. *Still the Promised City?: African-Americans and New Immigrants in Postindustrial New York*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Required Reserve Readings are available in the Undergraduate Library.

Optional Text for Undergraduate and Graduate Students:

[The optional book is available in the WSU Bookstore and Marwil's Bookstore]

Turbian, Kate L.. 1993. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Sixth Edition*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Course Requirements:

Exams: There are three take-home exams given during the semester. Combined, the three exams account for 90% of the final grade. Each exam will focus on the material covered in the readings and lectures which precede it in the syllabus. Each response must be double spaced, in 12 point font, use standard margins, and have page numbers in the upper right hand corner of each page. Citations and references must be in the same style that is used in the most current volumes of the *American Sociological Review*. Exam questions will be distributed in class on February 6, March 18, and April 15. Exams are due on February 13, March 25, and April 22. Late exams will not be accepted.

Class Participation: Class participation influences 10% of the final grade. This aspect of the course will be based on attendance and an assessment of the student's overall contribution to weekly discussions. In order to receive full credit, students must attend all scheduled lectures and share their impressions of the readings. Interactions during scheduled class meetings are an important part of the learning process, and will assist students in developing their responses to exam questions.

Grading Policy:

Your grade will be based on the following scale:

Exam #1	30 points
Exam #2	30 points
Exam #3	30 points
Class Participation	30 points

Grading Scale:

Undergraduate Students		Graduate Students	
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>
A	94-100	A	94-100
A-	90-93.99	A-	90-93.99
B+	87-89.99	B+	87-89.99
B	84-86.99	B	84-86.99
B-	80-83.99	B-	80-83.99
C+	77-79.99	C+	77-79.99
C	74-76.99	C	70-76.99
C-	70-73.99	F	0-69.99
D+	67-69.99		
D	64-66.99		
D-	60-63.99		
E	0-59.99		

Academic Standards:

Students are expected to approach the course with seriousness and integrity. It is important to complete assignments on time, attend class regularly, and foster a collegial learning environment. Plagiarism and other instances of academic misconduct will result in a failing grade on a respective assignment, exam, or paper. Students should refer to the *WSU Undergraduate Bulletin* and/or the *WSU Graduate Bulletin* for clarification on the University's policies and procedures.

SYLLABUS**January 7: Introduction to the Course****January 9: Race Relations Paradigms***Assigned Readings:*

Lipsitz, George. 1995. "The Possessive Investment in Whiteness: Racialized Social Democracy and the 'White' Problem in American Studies." *American Quarterly*, 47.3, 369-387.

(RESERVE)

Steinberg, Stephen. 1998. "The Role of Social Science in the Legitimation of Racial Hierarchy."

Race & Society, 1.1, 5-14. **(RESERVE)**

January 14 & January 16: Economic Restructuring*Assigned Readings:*

Farley, Danzinger, and Holzer: Ch 1, 2, 3

Waldinger: Ch. 1, 2, 3

Johnson, James H. Jr., Walter C. Farrell Jr. and Melvin L. Oliver. 1993. "Seeds of the Los Angeles Rebellion of 1992." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*,

17.1:115-118. **(RESERVE)**

January 21: Martin Luther King Holiday**January 23 and January 28: Labor Markets and Hiring Queues***Assigned Readings:*

Farley, Danzinger, and Holzer: Ch 4, 5

Waldinger: Ch. 4, 5, 6, 7

Bonacich, Edna. 1972. "A Theory of Ethnic Antagonism: The Split Labor Market." *American Sociological Review*, 37: 547-559. **(RESERVE)**

Kirschenman, Joleen and Kathryn M. Neckerman. 1994. "'We'd Love to Hire Them, But...': The Meaning of Race for Employers." In *Race and Ethnic Conflict: Contending Views on Prejudice, Discrimination, and Ethnoviolonce*, edited by Fred L. Pincus and Howard J.

Ehrlich, 115-123. San Francisco: Westview Press. **(RESERVE)**

January 30, February 4 and February 6: Entrepreneurship and Inner-City Business*Assigned Readings:*

Squires and O'Connor: 6, 8

Waldinger: Ch. 8, 9

Bonacich, Edna 1973. "A Theory of Middleman Minorities." *American Sociological Review*, 38: 583-594. **(RESERVE)**

Porter, Michael E.. (1995) The Competitive Advantage of the Inner City. *Harvard Business*

Review, May-June, 55-71. (RESERVE)

Wong, Charles Choy. 1977. "Black and Chinese Grocery Stores in Los Angeles' Black Ghetto." *Urban Life*, 5.4: 439-464.

Other Activities:

Exam #1 will be distributed on February 6, 2002

February 11: TBA

February 13: Exam #1 due

February 18 and February 20: Segregation and Lending Discrimination

Assigned Readings:

Farley, Danzinger, and Holzer: Ch. 6, 7

Squires and O'Connor: Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7

February 25 & February 27: Race Relations and Working-Class Neighborhoods

Assigned Readings:

Hartigan: Introduction, Ch. 1, 2

DeSena, Judith N.. 1994. "Local Gatekeeping Practices and Residential Segregation." *Sociological Inquiry*, 64.3: 307-321. (RESERVE)

Owens, Michael Leo. 1997. "Renewal in a Working-Class Black Neighborhood." *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 19.2: 183-205. (RESERVE)

Pardo, Mary. 1991. "Creating Community: Mexican American Women in Eastside Los Angeles." *Aztlan*, 20: 39-71. (RESERVE)

March 4 and March 5: Race Relations and Middle-Class Neighborhoods

Assigned Readings:

Hartigan: Ch. 3

Pattillo-McCoy: Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Lampe, David. 1993. "The Role of Gentrification in Central City Revitalization." *National Civic Review*, 82.4: 363-369. (RESERVE)

March 11 and March 13: Spring Break

March 18:

Other Activities:

Exam #2 will be distributed on March 18, 2002

March 20: TBA

March 25: Exam #2 Due

March 27: Mass Culture, Attitudes and Stereotypes

Assigned Readings:

Farley, Danzinger, and Holzer: Ch. 8

Patillo-McCoy: Ch. 6, 7

April 1 & April 3: Oppression and Political Power

Assigned Readings:

- Becker, Penny Edgell. 1998. "Making Inclusive Communities: Congregations and the 'Problem' of Race." *Social Problems*, 45.4, 451-472. **(RESERVE)**
- Blauner, Robert. 1969. "Internal Colonialism and Ghetto Revolt." *Social Problems*, 16.4, 393-408. **(RESERVE)**
- Chung, Angie Y. and Edward Taehan Chang. 1998. "From Third World Liberation to Multiple Oppression Politics: A Contemporary Approach to Interethnic Coalitions." *Social Justice*, 25.3: 80-100. **(RESERVE)**
- Otis, Eileen M. 2001. "The Reach and Limits of Asian Panethnic Identity: The Dynamics of Gender, Race, and Class in a Community-Based Organization." *Qualitative Sociology*, 24.3: 349-379. **(RESERVE)**
- Stoll, Michael A. 2001. "Race, Neighborhood Poverty, and Participation in Voluntary Associations." *Sociological Forum*, 16.3: 529-557. **(RESERVE)**

April 8 and April 10: Structural Dimensions of Race and Urban Politics.*Assigned Readings:*

- Farley, Danzinger, and Holzer: Ch. 9
Squires and O'Connor: 9 & 10
- Green Leigh, Nancey and Catherine L. Ross. 2000. "Planning, Urban Revitalization, and the Inner City: An Exploration of Structural Racism." *Journal of Planning Literature*, 14.3: 367-380. **(RESERVE)**
- Marquez, Benjamin. 1993. "Mexican American Community Development Corporations and the Limits of Direct Capitalism." *Economic Development Quarterly*, 7.3: 287-295. **(RESERVE)**
- Reed, Adolph. 1988. "The Black Urban Regime: Structural Origins & Constraints." In *Power Community and the City: Comparative Urban Community Research Volume 1*, edited by Michael Peter Smith, 138-189. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Books. **(RESERVE)**

April 15:*Other Activities:*

Exam #3 will be distributed on April 15, 2002

April 17: TBA**April 22: Exam #3 Due**