Ethnic Studies 200A 
History of Ethnic Studies 

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Office Hours: Tues 12:30-1:30; Wed: 1-3

Required Texts: (available at Groundworks Books on campus)
1) Thomas F. Gossett, Race: The History of an Idea
2) W.E.B. Du Bois, Black Reconstruction in America
5) Robin Kelly. Yo’ Mama’s Disfunktional! Fighting the Culture Wars in Urban America
6) Henry Yu, Thinking Orientals: Migration, Contact, and Exoticism in Modern America
10) Yen Le Espiritu. Home Bound
11) Le Thi Diem Thuy. The Gangster We Are All Looking For

12) Course Reader available on E-Reserves

1. Class Presentations. Each student will lead one class discussion. The attached handout provides guidelines for your presentations.
2. Response Papers. Each student will write two 4-5 pp. response papers on assigned readings for two different weeks. Response papers are due at the beginning of class on the day that the readings are scheduled for discussion. See attached handout.
3. Term Paper: Each student will write a 10pp. paper due on December 8. The paper will answer the following question: “How have questions of race and ethnicity been treated by such disciplines as sociology, anthropology, literature, and history and how has work in Ethnic Studies challenged those readings and generated new perspectives and practices?”
   Instruction:
   i. Choose one discipline
   ii. locate the main journal of that discipline
   iii. do a content analysis of articles on race and ethnicity since 1970.
   iv. Characterize the predominant ways in which questions of race and ethnicity have been treated over time in the journal.
   v. Then point to how scholars in Ethnic Studies have critiqued and transformed these approaches.

4. Attendance and active participation in weekly class discussions.
Class and Reading Schedule

NOTE: * denotes readings on Department’s Graduate Reading List

Week 1. Sept. 29th—Introduction: Ethnic Studies and Ghostly Matters
   Avery Gordon. *Ghostly Matters: Haunting and the Sociological Imagination*
   Yen Le Espiritu, “Disciplines Unbound: Notes on Sociology and Ethnic Studies”
   * Stuart Hall, “Gramsci’s Relevance for the Study of Race and Ethnicity.”

Week 2. Oct. 6th—History of Ideas: Power and Knowledge
   * Thomas F. Gossett, *Race: The History of an Idea*
   * Chandra Mohanty, “Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourse.”
   Donna Harraway, “Situated Knowledges: The Science Question in Feminism and the Privilege of Partial Perspective.”

Week 3. Oct. 13th—The Immigrant and Ethnicity Paradigm
   Heny Yu, *Thinking Orientals*
   * Michael Omi and Howard Winant, “Ethnicity”

Week 4. Oct. 20th—Culture and Power
   Robin Kelly. *Yo’ Mama’s Disfunktional! Fighting the Culture Wars in Urban America.*
   Oscar Lewis, “Introduction.”
   Oscar Lewis, “Manuel.”
   Laura Briggs, “‘I Like to be in America’: Postwar Puerto Rican Migration, the Culture of Poverty, and the Moynihan Report.”

Week 5. Oct. 27th—Class, Race, and the Possessive Investment in Whiteness
   * W.E.B. Dubois, *Black Reconstruction in America.*
   * David Roediger, “Class, Coons and Crowds in Antebellum America.”
   * Cheryl Harris, “Whiteness as Property”
   * George Lipsitz, “Possessive Investment in Whiteness.”
**Week 6. Nov. 3rd--American Exceptionalism, Race, and Postcolonial Studies**
* Reginald Horseman. *Race and Manifest Destiny*
Geoffrey M White and Ty Kawika Tengan's "Disappearing Worlds: Anthropology and Cultural Studies in Hawai'i and the Pacific."
*Gayatri Spivak. “Can the Subaltern Speak”

**Week 7. Nov. 10th—Intersectionality I: Gender, Sex, Race, and Nation**
Rod Ferguson, “The Nightmares of the Heteronormative.”

**Week 8. Nov. 17th—Intersectionality II: Gender, Sex, Race, and Nation**
Anne McClintock, “The Lay of the Land: Genealogies of Imperialism.”

**Week 9. Nov 24th—Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies**
Claire Kim. “Manufacturing Outrage”

**Week 10. Dec. 1—Global Historical Perspective on Ethnic Studies**
Yen Le Espiritu. *Home Bound*
Le Thi Diem Thuy. *The Gangster We Are All Looking For*
Yen Le Espiritu and Denise Ferreira da Silva: “City Heights: Refugee Lives in a Global’hood.” (research proposal)
Guidelines for Seminar Presentations and Response Papers

In your presentations and response papers, do not merely summarize the author(s)’s arguments, but instead critically reflect on the main arguments of the text, using the following questions as guidelines:

a. What is the object of study in this book?
b. What is the key research question raised in this book?
c. What is at stake in this question? Why does it matter?
d. What conversation is this book participating in? Who is it answering? What disciplinary context exerts the most influence on it?
e. What are the sources of evidence used to support the arguments in the book?
f. What is the generative and original contribution of this book?
g. What new questions does the book generate? What questions does it leave unanswered?