History of Ethnic Studies

Ethnic Studies 200A
Fall 2006
Tuesday 2:00 – 4:50PM, SSB 103

Course materials available at: http://dss.ucsd.edu/~rfrank

Course Description

This course traces dominant modes of research on Race and Ethnicity as they have developed within the disciplines of Anthropology, Sociology, History, and Literature, among others. Within this historical and intellectual context, we look for the ways that scholars related to Ethnic Studies have critiqued, extended, challenged, and incorporated elements of other disciplines, generating new perspectives and areas of research centering Race and Ethnicity in the process.

Books ordered. Available at Groundwork Books:


Evaluation
Seminar assignments will consists of:

1) Discussion: attendance and active participation in the group discussions of the weekly readings during the seminar meetings;

2) Presentation: lead one seminar discussion during the quarter (see guidelines below);

3) Response: write two 4-5 page response papers, each covering the assigned readings for a different week. Response papers are due at the beginning of class on the day that the readings are scheduled for discussion (see guidelines below);

4) Term Paper: one 10 page paper due December 6, in which you answer the question: "How have the disciplines such as sociology, anthropology, literature, and history addressed questions of race and ethnicity, and how has work from Ethnic Studies challenged those readings, and generated new perspectives and practices?"

Instructions:
- Choose a discipline;
- Identify the major journal of the discipline;
- Analyze the content of the journal for articles on race and ethnicity published since 1970;
- Characterize the predominant ways in which the articles published by the journal concerning questions of race and ethnicity have changed over time;
- Explain how scholars of Ethnic Studies have critiqued and transformed these approaches.

5) Colloquium: lead the discussion about a selected Colloquium presenter in the seminar following the presentation.

Weekly assignments will be chosen by seminar participants during class in Week 1 or 2 to allow for as much flexibility as possible during the quarter.

Individual work will be evaluated as follows (100 points):
A. Discussion and seminar presentations form 50% of the grade:
   1) = 20 points; 2) = 20 points; 5) = 10 points;
B. The three written papers form 50% of the grade, as follows: 3) = 10 points each; 4) = 30 points.

You may make appointments to discuss seminar participation at any time.
I will be available to give mid-term evaluations in office hours after the Week 5 meeting.

If this seems complicated you may forget about it entirely, so long you do the work.
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:

1. What is the object of study in this book?
2. What is the key research question raised in this book?
3. What is at stake in this question? Why does it matter?
4. What conversation is this book participating in? Who is it answering? What disciplinary context exerts the most influence on it?
5. What are the sources of evidence used to support the arguments in the book?
6. What is the generative and original contribution of this book?
7. What new questions does the book generate? What questions does it leave unanswered?

Syllabus

Readings are marked in the syllabus according to the following:

*readings from the Ethnic Studies Graduate Reading List

G available at Groundwork Bookstore.
D will be distributed to the seminar.
W available on course website: http://weber.ucsd.edu/~rfrank
R on reserve online at: http://reserves.ucsd.edu
NOTE: remote access by proxy instructions:
http://www-no.ucsd.edu/documentation/squid/

Week 1: September 28  Introduction & Organization - What is Ethnic Studies?

Please read the following for the Week 1 seminar:


http://www.pacificnews.org/jinn/stories/4.18/980902-ethnicstudies.html
Week 2: October 4 History of Ideas: Power and Knowledge


Colloquium

Presentation

Response

Week 3: October 11 The Immigrant and Ethnicity Paradigm


Colloquium ________________________________________________________________
Presentation _______________________________________________________________
Response _________________________________________________________________

Week 4: October 18 Culture and Power

Colloquium ________________________________________________________________
Presentation _______________________________________________________________
Response _________________________________________________________________

Week 5: October 25 Class, Race, Whiteness, and Property
Week 6: November 1 American Exceptionalism, Racial Others, and the Postcolonial

Week 7: November 8 Intersectionality I: Gender, Sex, Race, and Nation

Colloquium
Presentation
Response
Week 8: November 15  Intersectionality II: Culture, Consumption, Race, and Nation


Colloquium  
Presentation  
Response  

Week 9: November 22  Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies


Colloquium  
Presentation  
Response  

Week 10: November 29  Global Historical Perspectives on Ethnic Studies


Colloquium  
Presentation  
Response