

ETHN 183: Gender, Race, Ethnicity and Class
MWF 1:00-1:50, CSB 004
Spring 2009

Instructor: Grace Kim
Office: SSB 232
Office hours: Mondays 2-5, Wednesdays 2-3, or by appointment
Phone: 312 730 0732 (please no calls or texts after 10PM)
E-mail: kimumi@yahoo.com

Overview:

Moving beyond the idea that differences of race, gender, ethnicity and class represent “layers of oppression,” this course examines how these categories intersect and are co-constitutive in the making of social identities both in the United States and beyond. Beginning with a conceptual overview of how these intersecting categories of difference organize social, political and economic life, we will then analyze the ways in which “intersectionality” has played out historically in fiction, music and film. We will also consider how the larger historical processes of immigration, colonialism, imperialism and globalization have mediated the construction of “intersectional” identities and engaged other social categories of difference such as sexuality, nation and diaspora.

Required Texts:

- 1) Toni Morrison. *The Bluest Eye*. Vintage, 2007 ed.
- 2) Ernesto Quinonez. *Bodega Dreams*. Vintage, 2000.
- 3) Course Reader – available for purchase from University Readers online at <http://www.universityreaders.com/students> or call 800 200 3908. Also available at the UCSD Library through E-Reserves.

*All texts, including the reader, are on reserve at Geisel Library.

Grading and Course Requirements:

Attendance and active class participation	20%
Essay #1 (2-3 pages), due week 3	10%
Essay #2 (4-6 pages), due week 5	25%
Essay #3 (4-6 pages), due week 8	25%
Final examination	20%

Scale: A	93-100 points	C	73-75
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	86-89	D+	66-69
B	83-85	D	63-65
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	76-79	F	below 60

*Attendance and participation constitute a significant portion of your grade. Arrive to each class session on time and stay for its duration. Tardiness and absences will be noted and result in the lowering of your grade.

*Active participation means thoughtful engagement in the readings/lectures, meaningful contributions to class discussions, and respectful collegiality toward your classmates and instructor. Visits to my office hours will also count toward class participation.

*As this is a fairly writing-intensive class, I strongly suggest that you see me during my office hours to discuss your drafts and/or visit the Office of Academic Support & Instructional Services (OASIS) for writing support. You can drop by OASIS on the 3rd floor of Center Hall, M-F 8am-4:30pm, or contact them at 858 534-3760 or oasis@ucsd.edu.

*All written work must be typed in 12 pt Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins. For proper essay format and citation guidelines, please refer to the MLA stylebook. Proofread, spell-check, paginate and staple all work before handing in.

*The final exam will consist of both short and long essays. It will focus primarily on the 2nd half of class, but will ask students to integrate concepts and perspectives covered in the 1st half.

Policies:

*All course requirements must be completed by the specified due date and time in order to pass the course and receive a grade. Any one missing assignment will result in a course failure. If you are taking the course P/NP, you must complete all assignments and receive at least a 70% on each.

*Ten points will be deducted from your papers for every 24 hours they are late. In order to receive an extension, you must contact me at least 24 hours **PRIOR** to the due date and time. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** In the case of a medical/personal emergency, you must produce a doctor's note or other documentation in order for an exception to be made.

*Please complete readings by at least Wednesday of the week they are assigned, and bring the text(s) with which we are currently covering to class.

*Turn off phones and refrain from text messaging during class.

Schedule (subject to change):

Week 1 (30 March-3 April): Race, Gender, Class, and Ethnicity as Categories of Analysis

- 1) Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. "Racial Formation," *Racial Formation in the United States: From the 1960s to the 1990s* (New York: Routledge, 1994), 53-76.
- 2) Scott, Joan. "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis," *Gender and the Politics of History* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1999), 28-50.
Film: *Paris Is Burning*

Week 2 (6-10 April): Intersectionality—The Foundational Texts

- 1) Crenshaw, Kimberlé. "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex." In Joy James and T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting, eds., *The Black Feminist Reader* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2000), 208-238.

- 2) Spelman, Elizabeth. "Gender and Race: The Ampersand Problem in Feminist Thought." In Kum-Kum Bhavnani, ed., *Feminism and 'Race'* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), 74-88.
- 3) Anzaldúa, Gloria. "La conciencia de la mestiza/Towards a New Consciousness," *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (San Francisco: Aunt Lute Books, 1999), 99-113. (READER)

****ESSAY #1 DUE FRIDAY, 17 APRIL**

Week 3 (13-17 April): Black Feminism and the *Bluest Eye* I

- 1) Morrison, *Bluest Eye* (first half)
- 2) Collins, Patricia Hill. "The Social Construction of Black Feminist Thought." In Kum-Kum Bhavnani, ed., *Feminism and 'Race'* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), 184-202.
- 3) hooks, bell. "Black Women: Shaping Feminist Theory." In Kum-Kum Bhavnani, ed., *Feminism and 'Race'* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), 33-39.

Week 4 (20-24 April): Black Feminism and the *Bluest Eye* II

- 1) Morrison, *Bluest Eye* (second half)
- 2) Hammonds, Evelyn. "Toward a Genealogy of Black Female Sexuality: The Problematic of Silence." In *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures* (New York: Routledge, 1997), 170-182.
- 3) Carby, Hazel V. "It Jus Be's Dat Way Sometime": The Sexual Politics of Women's Blues" In Ruiz and Dubois, eds., *Unequal Sisters: A Multicultural Reader in US Women's History* (New York: Routledge, 1994), 330-340.

**** ESSAY #2 DUE FRIDAY, 1 MAY**

Week 5 (27 April-1 May): Black Masculinity and White Womanhood

- 1) Carby, Hazel V. "The Souls of Black Men," *Race Men* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1998), 9-41.
- 2) Davis, Angela. "Race, Racism, and the Myth of the Black Racist." In Kum-Kum Bhavnani, ed., *Feminism and 'Race'* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), 50-64.
Film: *The Murder of Emmett Till*

Week 6 (4-8 May): Masculinities and Miscegenation

- 1) Quinonez, *Bodega Dreams* (first half)
- 2) Pascoe, Peggy. "Race, Gender, and the Privileges of Property: On the Significance of Miscegenation Law in the US West." In Valerie J. Matsumoto and Blake Allmendinger, eds., *Over the Edge: Remapping the American West* (Berkeley, University of California Press, 1999), 215-230.

Week 7 (11-15 May): Labor, Race and Masculinities

- 1) Quinonez, *Bodega Dreams* (second half)

- 2) Foley, Neil. "The Whiteness of Manhood," *The White Scourge: Mexicans, Blacks, and Poor Whites in Texas Cotton Culture* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997), 141-162.
Film: *I Like It Like That*

****ESSAY #3 DUE FRIDAY, 22 MAY**

Week 8 (18-22 May): Labor, Race and Femininities

- 1) Lowe, Lisa. "Work, Immigration, Gender: Asian 'American' Women," *Immigrant Acts: On Asian American Cultural Politics* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1996), 154-173.
- 2) Espiritu, Yen Le, "We Don't Sleep Around Like White Girls Do: The Politics of Home and Location," *Home Bound: Filipino American Lives Across Cultures, Communities and Countries* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003), 157-178.

****NO CLASS, MONDAY, 25 MAY (Memorial Day)**

Week 9 (27-29 May): Transnational and Third World Feminisms

- 1) Sandoval, Chela, "US Third World Feminism." In Kum-Kum Bhavnani, ed., *Feminism and 'Race'* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), 261-280.
- 2) Alexander, M. Jacqui and Chandra Mohanty, "Genealogies, Legacies, Movements," In Kum-Kum Bhavnani, ed., *Feminism and 'Race'* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), 492-515.

Week 10 (1-5 June): What Now?

- 1) Grewal, Inderpal. "Transnational America: Race and Gender after 9/11," *Transnational America: Feminisms, Diasporas, Neoliberalisms* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2005), 296-220.

****FINAL EXAMINATION, THURSDAY, 11 JUNE, 11:30-2:30, ROOM TBD**