COURSE DESCRIPTION
How have racial categories and ideologies been constructed through performance and displays of the body in the United States and other sites? This course considers racial formation through popular performances such as world’s fairs, minstrelsy, film, fashion, and political protests. Nineteenth-century colonial exhibits like museums and ethnographic entertainment contributed to the objectification and commodification of culture. However, we will pay particular attention to how racialized subjects use performance to deconstruct dominant ideologies of racial and cultural difference and engage in forms of social and political mobilization.

Required Texts (available at Groundwork Bookstore, 452-9625, and on reserve at SSH Library)


There are also articles available for download as pdf documents through the course website on WebCT: http://webctweb.ucsd.edu. Each such reading has the notation “*” in the syllabus. I strongly advise that you print out all of the articles at the beginning of the quarter to avoid any problems with downloading and printing.

Students are expected to complete and comprehend the material by the beginning of class. By this, you are required not only to read the material but to read critically and process it, whether that means taking notes, writing an outline, or reviewing with classmates. Please bring all assigned readings for the current week and previous week to class.

Requirements
1) Participation and In-class Assignments: 20%
Attendance is critical and mandatory for you to succeed in this class. Lateness and absenteeism will result in deductions from your participation grade. Merely being present and sitting passively means you will receive a failing participation grade, while those who actively listen and contribute to class discussion or group work will be rewarded. Moreover, I recognize
thoughtful and quality participation, not quantity. Film and media shown in class will not be available for re-screening.

2) Warm-up group project (week 3, April 14): 20%  
   Group Presentation (10%) and 2-page paper (10%)  

3) Reading and/or media quizzes (dates unannounced): 10%  

4) Midterm examination (week 5, April 28): 20%  

5) Group Performance Paper and Presentation (week 10, June 2): 30%  
   Individual Paper and Portfolio (20%) and Presentation (10%)  

Course Policies

- Classroom conduct: Please be respectful to other students and the professor. The use of laptops is not allowed in class. Phones must be turned off in the classroom. Please do not arrive late or leave early, read unrelated material while in class, or converse about unrelated topics.
- No early or make-up quizzes and assignments will be scheduled, and no incompletes will be given in this course. All assignments must be submitted to receive a final grade.
- Writing assignments are due at the beginning of class and must be submitted as hard copies only; no e-mailed papers accepted. Late papers will receive one-half letter grade deduction for each day they are submitted past the due date, and no papers will be accepted more than one week after the due date. Professor reserves the right to make copies of student papers and assignments.
- If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please bring a notification letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities outlining your approved accommodations.
- Students are responsible for following all oral and written directions for assignments. Please keep in mind that your grade may be adversely affected for disregarding guidelines. Please ask questions if you require clarification.
- Your grade is not an entitlement; it must be earned. Furthermore effort alone will not guarantee a high grade. If you submit careless and mediocre work, you will receive a grade that correlates with your submission. However, continual excellent work will be rewarded.

Academic Honesty Policy

Plagiarism is a serious violation, whether intentional or inadvertent. Easily recognized, plagiarism is insulting to those who take the time to read your work, but an embarrassment to you most of all. All work submitted in this course must be your own and original. You may not copy sentences or paragraphs from books, websites, or any other source. The use of sources such as ideas, quotations, paraphrases, or anything written by someone else must be properly acknowledged and cited. If you have questions about when and how to use citations, please refer to this guide: Charles Lipson, Doing Honest Work in College: How to Prepare Citations, Avoid Plagiarism, and Achieve Real Academic Success. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004.
Each student is expected to be familiar with UCSD’s Policy on Integrity of Scholarship, available at [http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm#AP14](http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm#AP14).

## Course Schedule

### Week 1. March 31. Introduction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media</th>
<th>“The Couple in the Cage: a Guatinaui Odyssey” (Coco Fusco, 1993, 31 min.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Week 2. April 7: Race and Alterity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 3. April 14. Colonialism and Displays of the Body

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>“Bontoc Eulogy” (Marlon E. Fuentes, 1995); 2010 Olympics, First Nations ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments Due</td>
<td>Warm-up Group Presentations and Individual Short Paper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Media | Barack Obama Father’s Day Speech; NWA Straight Outta Compton |
| Assignments Due | Group Performance Paper Topic and Method (1 page, typed) |

**Week 5. April 28: The Politics of Popular Culture**

| Media | Merrie Monarch hula festival; “Twilight” (2008) |
| Assignments Due | Midterm Examination in class |

**Week 6. May 5. Fashion and Commodity (Sub)Cultures**


Media | “Da Ali G Show” (2004-05)

Week 8. May 19. Group field research; prepare presentations


| Assignment Due | Group Presentations
| Individual Performance Portfolios collected


Readings | *Hip: The History*. Ch. 7, 10, 15
*Michael Rogin, *Blackface, White Noise: Jewish Immigrants in the Hollywood Melting Pot*. Chs. 1, 2, 3-44.

Media | TBA

Ethnic Studies Major or Minor at UCSD

Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because they’re interested in the topic or simply need to fulfill a social science, non-contiguous, or other college requirement. Often students have taken three or four classes out of interest yet have no information about the major or minor and don’t realize how close they are to a major, minor, or even a double major. An Ethnic Studies major is excellent preparation for a career in law, public policy, government and politics, journalism, education, public health, social work, international relations, and many other careers. If you would like information about the Ethnic Studies major or minor at UCSD, please contact Yolanda Escamilla, Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Ethnic Studies at 858-534-3277 or yescamilla@ucsd.edu.