This course critically examines inter and intra-ethnic/racial politics in the United States at the turn of the 21st century. "Politics" here refers not only to election-related matters but anything that involves collective identification and action between groups vying for power and social justice in society. We will explore various theorizations and case studies of how racial, ethnic, pan-ethnic, national, colonial, gender, sexual, and class identities influence how power is distributed and how individuals within and between racial/ethnic groups have attempted to secure that power. More specifically, we will address "divides" within and between various groups "of color" and the possibilities and obstacles for overcoming these divides.

**Required Readings:**

All readings for this class will be available for download via our course's blackboard website which can be accessed at [http://ted.ucsd.edu](http://ted.ucsd.edu) or through electronic reserves.

***NOTE: Readings and assignments are subject to change. This syllabus is not a contract, so make sure you stay up to date on any possible changes to the readings or the schedules. If I do make changes, I mention it in class and email you notifying you of these changes***

**Projects, Assessment, and Grade Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation and attendance</td>
<td>10% e/a = 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Essay #1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Essay #2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes (2 of them)</td>
<td>5% e/a = 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For due dates, please see "Weekly Schedule" below*
Attendance and Participation

I expect you to attend all class meetings and participate actively. I will take points off for every absence (I only make exceptions if you bring me a valid medical or written excuse). I will also take points off if you don’t participate in class and show me that you’re keeping up to date with the reading and the discussion. If you are a shy person and do not feel as comfortable as others speaking in class, please try to make up for this by stopping by my office hours for a chat, which also counts toward participation or by emailing me your questions or observations about the readings or lectures.

Critical Essays (2 of them)

You will have to complete two 5pp. long “critical essays” over the course of the quarter. I will send you writing prompts for these. You can choose to come up with an original argument (as long as you clear it with me at least a week in advance before the paper is due). For paper deadlines, please see the reading schedule below. All paper assignments will be uploaded to Turnitin.com (via our TED Blackboard). That means you don’t have to turn in a paper copy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay #1</td>
<td>Sunday, April 28 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay #2</td>
<td>Thursday, May 23 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Late Work Policy

All papers will be uploaded to Turnitin.com via our course’s blackboard website (i.e., ted.ucsd.edu). Late submission of assignments will be accepted only in verifiable emergencies, and only by arrangement with me prior to 2:00 p.m. on the due date. Assignments turned in late without prior approval will be graded down **7 points** for each 24-hour period past the due date (**no exceptions**).

Final Exam

Our final exam is scheduled for Monday, June 10 from 8:00-11:00am. You will receive a study guide for this exam a week before.

Academic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty is any act by a student that misrepresents the student's own academic work or that compromise the academic work of another. Examples include cheating on assignments or exams, unauthorized collaboration on assignments or exams, sabotaging another student’s work and plagiarizing. Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s work as your own, intentionally or not, by failing to put quotation marks around passages taken from a text or failing to properly cite quoted material. The University
guideline for penalizing academic misconduct is determined by the professor of the course. Any act of academic dishonesty may result in one’s failing the course.

**My Email Policy**

Please email me with questions and/or concerns about the course. I will respond within the next 24 hours. If you have an important personal question such as inquiring about a grade or class discussion, please visit me during office hours or schedule an appointment with me.

**A Note About Reading Volume**

Research indicates that the average U.S. college student reads about 20 pages per hour. As you will notice below, I’ve assigned about 80-100 pages of reading per week (i.e., 4-5 hours of reading per week). Please make sure that you stay on top of the readings.

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**Majoring or Minoring in Ethnic Studies at UC San Diego**

Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because the topic is of great interest or because of a 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, a 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 Daisy Rodríguez, our Ethnic Studies Undergraduate Advisor, at 858-534-3277 or d1rodriguez@ucsd.edu.
Weekly Schedule

***Remember, all these readings will be posted as PDF files on our blackboard homepage***

I. Theorizing Racial/Ethnic Politics in the United States

Session 1A, April 1

First Day of Class – No Reading

Session 1B, April 3 (46pp. of reading, or approx. 2.5 hours):

Omi, Michael, and Howard Winant. Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 of Racial Formation in the United States: From the 1960s to the 1990s. 2nd ed. New York: Routledge, 1994, 48-94 (46pp.)

Session 1C, April 5 (22pp. of reading, or approx. 1 hour):


Session 2A, April 8 (20pp. of reading, or approx. 1 hour):


Session 2B, April 10 (24pp. of reading, or approx. 1.5 hours):


Session 2C, April 12 (30pp. of reading, or approx. 2 hours):


II. Unpacking Ethnicity and its Political Uses and Abuses: “Place-taking” and “Space-making”

Session 3A, April 15 (27pp. of reading, or approx. 1.5 hours):

**Session 3B, April 17 (29pp. of reading, or approx. 1.5 hours):**


**Session 3C, April 19 (53pp. of reading, or approx. 2.5 hours):**


**Session 4A, April 22 (27pp. of reading, or approx. 1.5 hours):**


**Session 4B, April 24 (50pp. of reading, or approx. 2.5 hours):**


**Session 4C, April 26: Day to catch up on Das Gupta readings.**

**Session 5A, April 29 (55pp. of reading, or approx. 2.75 hours):**


**Session 5B, May 1 (16pp. of reading, or approx. 1 hours):**


**Session 5C, May 3 (39pp. of reading, or approx. 2 hours):**


**Session 6A, May 6 (47pp. of reading, or approx. 2.5 hours):**


**Session 6B, May 8 (21pp. of reading, or approx. 1 hours):**


**Session 6C, May 10 (21pp. of reading, or approx. 1 hours):**


**IV. Troubling Latinidad**

**Session 7A, May 13 (18 pp. of reading, or approx. 1 hours):**


**Session 7B, May 15 (42 pp. of reading, or approx. 2.25 hours):**


**Session 7C, May 17 (27 pp. of reading, or approx. 1.5 hours):**


V. Black-Brown Anti-Racism: Coalitional Possibilities and Traps

Session 8A, May 20 (49pp. of reading, or approx. 2.5 hours):


Session 8B, May 22 (48pp. of reading, or approx. 2.5 hours):


Session 8C, May 24 (28pp. of reading, or approx. 1.5 hours):


Session 9A, May 27 (Memorial Day Holiday) – No Class

VI. Ethnic Politics at the Crossroads of Race and Class

Session 9B, May 29 (31pp. of reading, or approx. 1.5 hours):


Session 9C, May 31 (20pp. of reading, or approx. 1 hour):

Hayduk, Ron, and Susanna Jones. “Immigrants and Race in the Us: Are Class-Based Alliances Possible?”. Socialism and Democracy 22, no. 3 (2010): 75-95 (20pp.)

VII. Racial/Ethnic Political Future: California as the First Modern “Majority/Minority” State
Session 10A, June 3 (30 pp. of reading, or approx. 1.5 hours):


Session 10B, June 5 (20pp. of reading, or approx. 1 hours):

Johnson, Kevin R. “Law and Politics in Post-Modern California : Coalition or Conflict between African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latina/Os?” *Ethnicities* 4, no. 3 (2004): 381-401 (20pp.)

**VIII. Conclusion**

Session 10C, June 7- *No reading; conclusion and Review*