POLI 100O: Perspectives on Race
MWF 11-11:50am
Center Hall 113
Spring 2016

Professor: Marisa Abrajano
Office: Room 393 Social Sciences Building
Email: mabrajano@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday, 1:30-3pm or by appointment

Teaching Assistants:
Dotan Haim, (dhaim@ucsd.edu), Wednesday, 10-11, SSB 350
David Searle (dsearle@ucsd.edu), Monday, 10-11, SSB 330
Liesel Spangler (lspangle@ucsd.edu), Wednesday 12:30-1:30, SSB 326

Course Description

This class is a survey of historical and contemporary issues of ethnic and racial minority politics in the U.S.; race and ethnicity in the context of U.S. politics; and comparisons of racial and ethnic group experiences in the U.S. We will pay special attention to the experiences of the three major racial groups in the U.S.- African Americans, Latinos and Asian Americans.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance and Class Readings

Attendance and readings are mandatory. All readings for a given date should be done before the beginning of class. You must complete all assignments to pass this course.

Excuses Policy (extensions, make-up exams, etc.)

Extensions and make-up exams will be allowed on a case-by-case basis. You must have a medically documented reason for not being able to take an exam or turn in a graded assignment at the scheduled time. You will need to bring in supporting documentation to be granted a make-up, and if you do so, your final will count as your midterm grade. For example, instead of the final being 40% of your grade, it will now count for 70% of your grade should you miss the midterm.

Tardiness to Exams

It is expected that you will arrive to exams on time. Arriving late to exams is a disruption for your colleagues and increases the probability that exam information has been shared. Students who arrive more than 20 minutes late will not be allowed to sit for the midterm. Exceptions to this policy will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Grades

You can retrieve your grades when we distribute the exam in class and/or during office hours. Grades will not be communicated via email or any other type of correspondence. It is your responsibility to retrieve your grades.

There are no grade appeals for either of the exams.
Please write your name on all the assignments as it is officially registered with the University Registrar. Otherwise, we may not be able to enter your grades properly.

**Academic Honesty**

Cheating, plagiarism and other violations of academic honesty are serious offenses. Graded assignments are not collaborative efforts in this class. You must work independently on all exams and papers. Please refer to the UCSD policy on integrity of scholarship for further details. If you are caught cheating in this course (this includes plagiarism), you will be awarded a letter grade of an F.

**Required Readings**


Other readings will be available on the course website: https://tritoned.ucsd.edu/webapps/login/

**Grading**

*Midterm Exam* (35%): This will be an in-class exam and will take place on Friday, **April 29, 2016**.

*Final Exam* (45%): The final is an in-class exam and will take place on **June 10, 2016** from 11:30am-2:30pm.

*Attendance and In-Class Participation* (20%): Students who attend lecture regularly, contribute to class discussion, and participate in periodic in-class assignments throughout the quarter can earn an additional 20 percentage points toward their grade.
I. THE PROBLEMS

Week 1- Introduction: Understanding Race and Ethnicity: Concepts and Definitions


Abrajano and Alvarez, Introduction and Chapter 1

Week 2- Discrimination

Alexander, Michelle. Introduction and Chapter 1


II. PERCEPTIONS OF THE PROBLEM

Week 3- Racial Attitudes in the U.S.


IAT Tests – take home assignment; go to https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html
Take the Arab-Muslim IAT, Asian IAT and Race IAT. we will discuss results in class.

Week 4- Media Coverage of Racial/Ethnic Minorities


II. SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM

Week 5- Racial/Ethnic Identity in the Political Arena


Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapters 2 and 4

**Week 6- Political Participation and Mobilization**


Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapters 3, 5, and postscript

**Week 7- Political Participation and Mobilization, continued**


Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapter 6

**III. PRESSING ISSUES AND DEBATES**

**Week 8- Immigration**


**Week 9 - The Criminal Justice System**

Alexander, Michelle. *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*

**Week 10- Conclusion**