ANTHROPOLOGY 423: CULTURE AND IDENTITY
SPRING 2018

MWF * 3:10-4:00pm * Liberal Arts 106

PROFESSOR: Dr. Richard A. Sattler
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OFFICE: Social Science 222
OFFICE HOURS: TW 11:00-12:00am
R 1:00-2:00pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course examines the comparative study of identity formation along and across racial, ethnic, and ethno-national lines. Emphasis is placed on issues of ethnogenesis, cultural resistance, and transformation. The roles of cultural domination and colonialism are examined, as well as cultural sharing to understand both the cultural commonalities and differences in identity formation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. Students will gain an appreciation of the nature and processes of ethnic identity formation.
2. Students will acquire an understanding of the flexibility, fluidity, and dynamic nature of ethnic identities.
3. Students will increase their knowledge of the role of social conflict and inequality in identity formation.
4. Students will gain a familiarity with the literature and current research on the topic.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Evaluation:
Examinations - There will be three take-home exams. All exams will consist of four essay questions and each will be worth 100 points. The final exam will not be comprehensive. Each examination is worth 15% of your grade.

Discussion – This class invites discussion and a portion of each week will be set aside for discussion. You are expected to actively participate in this discussion. Discussion is worth 20% of your grade.

Reading Journal: All students will post a weekly reading journal entry over that week’s assigned readings. These will be posted on Moodle and are due on by midnight Tuesday of the week assigned. (Students have until Saturday at midnight on the first week of class). Reading Journals are worth 10% of your grade. See “Guide to Reading Journals” on Moodle.

Research Papers - Each student must write a ten to twelve (10-12) page research paper using at least ten (10) sources other than the required course texts on a topic of their choice relating to the subject of the class. You must submit your topic for approval by the instructor by the end of the fifth week of class (Feb 23). The paper is to be posted on Moodle and is due in by midnight on Friday, Apr 27. The paper is worth 25% of your grade. If you need assistance in starting your paper, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. See “Guide to Research Papers” on Moodle for details.

Students with Disabilities: If you need special accommodations, you should contact Disability Services for Students to make arrangements and let me know if there is anything I need to be aware of or that I need to do.

Graduate Students: Graduate students are required to write a fifteen to twenty (15-20) page research paper with at least 15 sources on a topic of their choice relating to the subject of the class. Graduate students will be graded on individual academic performance.

Extra Credit: Students wishing to earn extra credit may write a 2-4 page critical review of any book dealing with ethnic or racial identities, with the consent of the instructor. Reviews are worth up to 20 points each and only one (1) review can be accepted per student. See “Guide to Reviews” on Moodle for details. There may be other extra credit opportunities over the course of the semester which will be announced in class. All extra credit is to be posted on Moodle and due on the Friday before finals week by midnight.
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Late Work and Make-Ups: Students are expected to turn in all work on the scheduled due date listed in the syllabus. Make-ups will only be given in the case of unavoidable absences. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible in such cases and to arrange for a make-up. Late work is subject to a 1/3-letter grade penalty per day (exclusive of weekends and holidays). No late work will be accepted after the regularly scheduled final examine unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Academic Honesty: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code.

Required Readings:

Online Readings: Available on-line on Moodle

PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK 1
INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW
READINGS: Eriksen, Ch. 1; Song, “Introduction;” Therborn, “Human, Nasty, and Short;” Therborn, “Three Kinds of (In)equality”

WEEK 2
THEORIZING ETHNICITY I
READINGS: Eriksen, Ch. 2-4; Song, Ch. 1, 2
Jan 29 (Mon) - Video: Race: The Power of an Illusion, pt 2

WEEK 3
THEORIZING RACE
Feb 5 (Mon) - Video: Race: The Power of an Illusion, pt 3

WEEK 4
MAKING & CHANGING IDENTITIES
READINGS: Eriksen, Ch. 5; Song, Ch. 3; Albers, “Changing Patterns of Ethnicity in the Northeastern Plains, 1780-1870”; Haaland, "Cultural Content and Ethnic Boundaries”; Sattler, "Remnants, Renegades, and Runaways"

WEEK 5
LANGUAGE, PLACE, RELIGION, & IDENTITY
Feb 19 (Mon) PRESIDENTS’ DAY (NO CLASS)
Feb 23 (Fri) PAPER TOPICS DUE
Feb 25 (Sun) 1st MIDTERM DUE

WEEK 6
MULTIETHNICITY & PLURALISM: OVERVIEW
Feb 26 (Mon) - Video: The blending of culture

WEEK 7
PLURALISM: ETHNIC STRATIFICATION & INEQUALITY I
READINGS: Eriksen, Ch. 7; Song, Ch. 7; Werbner, "Essentialising Essentialism, Essentialising Silence”; Van Dijk, “Discourse and Racism”; Essed, “Everyday Racism”
Mar 5 (Mon) - Video: Unnatural causes: Pt. 1: In sickness and in wealth

WEEK 8
PLURALISM: ETHNIC STRATIFICATION & INEQUALITY II
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READINGS Eriksen, Ch. 8; Fee, “The Political and Economic Marginalization”; Lee, “The Economic Marginality of Ethnic Minorities”; Motzafi-Haller, "When Bushmen are Known as Basarwa"; Solomos and Schuster, “Racism, Politics, and Mobilization"

Mar 12 (Mon) - Video: Unnatural causes: Pt. 2: When the bough breaks

WEEK 9 ETHNIC CONFLICT


Mar 19 (Mon) - Video: Don’t fence me in

WEEK 9 SPRING BREAK

MAR 26-APR 1 No Classes

WEEK 11 ETHNICITY & NATIONALISM


Apr 8 (Sun) 2nd MIDTERM DUE

WEEK 12 GLOBAL ETHNICITY: COLONIALISM


Apr 9 (Mon) - Video: The Africans, a triple heritage. Pt. 4, Tools of exploitation

WEEK 13 GLOBAL ETHNICITY: POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS


Apr 16 (Mon) - Video: Song of Umm Dalaila

WEEK 14 GLOBAL ETHNICITY: THE GLOBAL & THE LOCAL


Apr 27 (Fri) PAPERS DUE

WEEK 15 HYBRIDITY & THE FUTURE OF ETHNICITY

READINGS: Eriksen, Ch. 9; Song, Ch. 4, 8; Baker-Cristales, “Salvadoran Transformations”; Hintzen, “The Caribbean”; Johnsson, “Mien Alter-Natives in Thai Modernity”

Apr 30 (Mon) - Video: Multiracial identity

WEEK 15 FINALS WEEK

May 8 (Tue) @ 5:00pm FINAL EXAM DUE