

Professor Camille Guerin-Gonzales
History 943
5245 Humanities, Tuesday 10:00-12:00
Spring 2006

Office Hours:
Tuesday, 4119 Humanities, 3:00-4:00
Thursday, 313 Ingraham Hall, 2:30-3:30
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RACE AND NATIONALISMS: COMPARATIVE AND THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES

This is an advanced reading seminar on historical intersections of race and nationalisms. We will focus on cultural, ideological, analytical, and political tensions between understandings of race and nationalism. Some of the questions we will address are: how have race and nation defined one another? how do racial categories become equated with legitimacy? what methods have scholars used to study race and nationalism? Our readings are interdisciplinary, but we will identify and analyze tensions between race and nationalisms, as well as understandings of the meaning of both race and nationalism, at particular historical moments. Rather than a comprehensive survey of the literature of this vast area of study, we will focus on selected readings that will explore questions of the origin of race and nationalisms, the position and status of a variety of nationalisms and anti-colonial nationalisms; and the contemporary debates over postmodernism, postindustrialism, postcolonialism, and multinationalism.

Course Requirements

1. General:

Faithful attendance and participation in discussions.

2. Written Work:

First paper, due week 10: a 2,000-2,500-word (approximately eight- to ten-page) critical analysis of Ali Behdad, *A Forgetful Nation: On Immigration and Cultural Identity in the United States* in which you incorporate all relevant readings, reports, and class discussions from weeks Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, and Ten. Please adhere closely to the required paper length (this is a common length requirement for submissions of review essays for publication in journals).

Second paper, due week 16: a 5,000-word (approximately twenty-page) essay on one of the themes relating to race and nationalisms that we address in this course. Your paper should be based on the seminar readings. It is not intended to be a research paper. You should identify an important question related to race and nationalisms and then develop an argument that addresses your question by drawing on all course readings, student reports, and class discussions. Please adhere closely to the required paper length (this is a common length requirement for submission of shorter articles for publication in journals and anthologies).

3. Co-Facilitation and In-Class Report:

Each week, one student will join me in co-facilitating class discussion. In the week that you co-facilitate, you will also read and report on one of the supplemental readings. Your report should last *no more* than 15-20 minutes, and it should serve as both an introduction to the book you've read and as a springboard for further discussion of the readings assigned to the entire class. In other words, you will be responsible for making connections between the reading you have done on your own and the assigned weekly readings. Your report should: a) give a very brief overview of the book (no more than *five* minutes); b) situate the book in the historiography of race and nationalisms; and c) evaluate its contribution to our understanding of race and nationalisms. Please adhere closely to the 15-20 minute limit.

Grade Distribution:

Class Participation (discussion, co-facilitation, report):	50%
First writing assignment (critical review essay):	20%
Second writing assignment (article-length paper):	30%

Readings

The following books are available for purchase at the University Bookstore, 711 State Street, and are on reserve in Helen C. White College Library.

Required:

Ali Behdad, *A Forgetful Nation: On Immigration and Cultural Identity in the United States* (Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 2005). 0-8223-3619-7 \$21.95

Michael Omi and Howard Winant, *Racial Formation in the United States from the 1960s to the 1980s*, 2d ed. (New York: Routledge, 1994). 0-415-90864-7

Paul Gilroy, *"There Ain't No Black in the Union Jack": The Cultural Politics of Race and Nation* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987). 0-226-29427-7

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities* (London & New York: Verso Press, 1991). 0-86091-546-8

Anne McClintock, *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest* (New York: Routledge, 1995). 0-415-90890-6

Tony Ballantyne and Antoinette Burton, eds., *Bodies in Contact: Rethinking Colonial Encounters in World History* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2005). ISBN 0-8223-3467-4

Dana Nelson, *National Manhood: Capitalist Citizenship and the Imagined Fraternity of White Men* (Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 1998). 0-8223-2149

Alys Eve Weinbaum, *Wayward Reproductions: Genealogies of Race and Nation* (Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 2004). 0-8223-3315-5

Pablo Mitchell, *Coyote Nation: Sexuality, Race, and Conquest in Modernizing New Mexico, 1880-1920* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005). 0-226-53243-7

Tricia Rose, *Black Noise: Rap Music and Black Culture in Contemporary America* (Hanover and London: Wesleyan University Press, 1994). 0819562750

Paul Gilroy, *Small Acts: Thoughts on the Politics of Black Cultures* (London: Serpent's Tail Press, 1993). 1-85242-298-x

Nikhil Pal Singh, *Black is a Country: Race and the Unfinished Struggle for Democracy* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2004). 0-674-01300-x

Required:

In addition to the above readings, you will read ten articles (see “Calendar and Reading Assignments” for titles). These are available in a coursepak at Bob’s Copy Shop (Randall Tower, 1314 W. Johnson Street; 251-2936) and will be on reserve in Helen C. White College Library.

Reports (Required Readings; Please select one from the list):

Nina Glick Schiller and Georges Eugene Fouron, *Georges Woke Up Laughing: Long-Distance Nationalism and the Search for Home* (New York: Routledge, 2001). 0-8223-2791-0

Ian F. Haney López, *White By Law: The Legal Construction of Race* (New York: New York University Press, 1996). 0-8147-5137-7

David Roediger, *Wages of Whiteness: Race and the Making of the American Working Class*, 2nd ed. (London and New York: Verso, 1999). 1-85984-240-2

Emilio Bejel, *Gay Cuban Nation* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2001). 0226041743

Mary Renda, *Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism, 1915-1940* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001). 0807849383

Florencia Mallon, *Peasant and Nation: The Making of Postcolonial Mexico and Peru* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995). 0-520-08505-1

Gail Bederman, *Manliness and Civilization* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995). 0226041395

Michael Salman, *The Embarrassment of Slavery: Controversies Over Bondage and Nationalism in the American Colonial Philippines* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001). 0520220773

John Leland, *Hip: The History* (New York: HarperCollins, 2004). 0-06-052817-6

George Lipsitz, *Dangerous Crossroads: Popular Music, Postmodernism and the Poetics of Place* (New York and London: Verso Press, 1994). 1859849350

Calendar and Reading Assignments

Week 1

January 17

Introduction

Week 2

January 24

“Forgetting ‘the Exclusion of Otherness’”

Ali Behdad, *A Forgetful Nation: On Immigration and Cultural Identity in the United States*.

Doreen Massey, “Travelling Thoughts,” in *Without Guarantees: In Honour of Stuart Hall*, eds. Paul Gilroy, Lawrence Grossberg, and Angela McRobbie (London and New York: Verso Press, 2000), pp. 225-232.

Report: Nina Glick Schiller and Georges Eugene Fouron, *Georges Woke Up Laughing: Long-Distance Nationalism and the Search for Home*.

Week 3
January 31

“Theorizing Race and Nation”

Michael Omi and Howard Winant, *Racial Formation in the United States from the 1960s to the 1980s*, 2d ed.

Barbara J. Fields, “Ideology and Race in American History,” in *Region, Race, and Reconstruction: Essays in Honor of C. Vann Woodward*, eds. J. Morgan Kousser and James M. McPherson (New York: Oxford University Press, 1982), pp. 143-176.

Report: Ian F. Haney López, *White By Law: The Legal Construction of Race*.

Week 4
February 7

“Theorizing Race and Racism”

Paul Gilroy, “*There Ain’t No Black in the Union Jack*”: *The Cultural Politics of Race and Nation*.

Étienne Balibar, “Class Racism,” in *Race, Identity, and Citizenship*, eds. Rodolfo D. Torres, Louis Mirón, and Jonathan Xavier Inda (New York: Blackwell, 1999), pp. 322-331.

Stuart Hall, “New Ethnicities,” in *Stuart Hall: Critical Dialogues in Cultural Studies*, eds. David Morely and Kuan-Hsing Chen (New York: Routledge, 1996), pp. 441-449.

Report: David Roediger, *Wages of Whiteness: Race and the Making of the American Working Class*, 2nd ed.

Week 5
February 14

“Theorizing Nation and Nationalisms”

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*.

Homi Bhabha, “DissemiNation: Time, Narrative, and the Margins of the Modern Nation,” in *Nation and Narration*, ed. Homi Bhabha (New York: Routledge, 1990), pp. 291-322.

Jean Franco, “The Nation as Imagined Community,” in *Dangerous Liaisons: Gender, Nation, and Postcolonial Perspectives*, eds. Anne McClintock, Aamir Mufti, and Ella Shohat, (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1997), pp. 130-137.

Report: Emilio Bejel, *Gay Cuban Nation*.

Week 6
February 21

“Sexing Race and Nation”

Anne McClintock, *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest*.

Chandra Talpade Mohanty, “Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses,” in *Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism*, eds. Chandra Talpade Mohanty, Ann Russo, and Lourdes Torres (Bloomington: University of Indiana Press, 1991), pp. 51-80.

Report: Mary Renda, *Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism, 1915-1940*.

Week 7
February 28

“Engendering Nation and Nationalisms”

Tony Ballantyne and Antoinette Burton, eds., *Bodies in Contact: Rethinking Colonial Encounters in World History*.

Report: Florencia Mallon, *Peasant and Nation: The Making of Postcolonial Mexico and Peru*.

Week 8
March 7

“Engendering Race and Nation”

Dana Nelson, *National Manhood: Capitalist Citizenship and the Imagined Fraternity of White Men*.

Elizabeth Young, “Confederate Counterfeit: The Case of the Cross-Dressed Civil War Soldier,” in *Passing and the Fictions of Identity*, ed. Elaine K. Ginsberg (Durham and London: Duke University Press, 1996), pp. 181-217.

Report: Gail Bederman, *Manliness and Civilization*.

Week 9:

Spring Break

Week 10
March 21

Paper Due*

No class meeting

Submit paper no later than 4:00 p.m

**Late papers will receive significantly reduced grades; no electronic submissions accepted*

Week 11
March 28

“Embodying Race and Nation”

Alys Eve Weinbaum, *Wayward Reproductions: Genealogies of Race and Nation*

Week 12:
April 4

“Shapeshifting Race”

Pablo Mitchell, *Coyote Nation: Sexuality, Race, and Conquest in Modernizing New Mexico, 1880-1920*.

Jane Tompkins, “Indians”: Textualism, Morality, and the Problem of History,” in *“Race,” Writing, and Difference*, ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1986), pp. 59-77.

George Lipsitz, “Mardi Gras Indians: Carnival and Counter-Narrative in Black New Orleans,” in *Time Passages: Collective Memory and American Popular Culture* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1990), pp. 233-253.

Report: Michael Salman, *The Embarrassment of Slavery: Controversies Over Bondage and Nationalism in the American Colonial Philippines*.

Week 13
April 11

“Empowering Riffs and Shout Outs”

Tricia Rose, *Black Noise: Rap Music and Black Culture in Contemporary America*.

George Lipsitz, “Cruising Around the Historical Bloc: Postmodernism and Popular Music in East Los Angeles,” in *Time Passages: Collective Memory and American Popular Culture* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1990), pp. 133-160.

Angela McRobbie, “Recent Rhythms of Sex and Race in Popular Culture,” *In the Culture Society: Art, Fashion, and Popular Culture* (New York: Routledge, 1999), pp. 111-121.

Report: John Leland, *Hip: The History* (New York: HarperCollins, 2004).

Week 14
April 18

“Living Dangerously on Racial Borders”

Paul Gilroy, *Small Acts: Thoughts on the Politics of Black Cultures*

Angela McRobbie, “Art, Fashion, and Music in the Culture Society,” *In the Culture Society: Art, Fashion, and Popular Culture* (New York: Routledge, 1999), pp. 3-21.

Report: George Lipsitz, *Dangerous Crossroads: Popular Music, Postmodernism and the Poetics of Place* (New York and London: Verso Press, 1994).

Week 15
April 25

“Constructing New Spaces of Hope and Justice”

Nikhil Pal Singh, *Black is a Country: Race and the Unfinished Struggle for Democracy*

David G. Gutierrez, “Migration, Emergent Ethnicity, and the ‘Third Space’: The Shifting Politics of Nationalism in Greater Mexico,” in *Journal of American History* 86 (September 1999)2:481-517.

Angela McRobbie, “Post-Marxism and Cultural Studies,” *PostModernism and Popular Culture* (New York: Routledge, 1994), pp. 44-60.

Neil Lazarus, “Unsystematic Fingers at the Conditions of the Times: Afropop and the Paradoxes of Imperialism,” in *Nationalism and Cultural Practice in the Postcolonial World* (Cambridge, England: University of Cambridge Press, 1999), pp. 196-225.

Week 16
May 5

Final Paper Due

Submit no later than **2:00 p.m.**, 4119 Humanities

**late papers receive significantly reduced grades; no electronic submissions accepted*