

City and Regional Planning 395.03 and 679.03
Asian American Studies 395 and 679
Africana Studies and Research Center 395
American Studies 385

Race, Space, and Place

Spring 2008
W 2:00 – 4:30PM
Sibley 318

Instructor: Professor Clement Lai

Office Hours: Tu and Th 2-3PM and Tu 4-5PM or by appointment in 317 Sibley Hall
Also W 11AM-12PM in 425 Rockefeller Hall

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The seminar explores race and racism from a spatial perspective and pays particular attention to social justice concerns, whether this later category includes theoretical and/or ideological work, political mobilization, and/or everyday resistance and refusal. We frame our approach to these issues initially in terms of spatial and racial theory, drawing from the literatures of geography, urban studies, Critical Race Theory, Ethnic Studies, and contrarian polemic. Specifically, we examine space with respect to urban studies and geographical literature on the production of urban space and spatial scale. This will be followed by an investigation of racial theory from scholars and organic intellectuals like Stuart Hall, Michael Omi and Howard Winant, and Evelyn Nakano Glenn. These theories incorporate critiques of capitalism and colonialism and analyses of past and present political economic restructuring, such as contemporary globalization. Together these spatial and racial theories will frame the remaining weeks' readings for this course, which focus on a different spatial scale to examine the mutual constitution of space, place, and race. These scales include the body, community, city, region, nation, and beyond. Our task will be to tease out the interconnections between scales and with respect to race and space – what can be thought of as the production of social and spatial difference through the exercise of power and its contestation by those 'on the ground.' Our readings will also consider different sites where race and space are intermeshed, such as the prison-industrial complex, the globalizing neoliberal city, and the world of 1970s leftists of color. You will leave the seminar with a greater understanding of race, space, power, and resistance from a social science perspective.

Format

This is a four-unit, discussion based, reading-intensive seminar. The seminar is cross-listed between Asian American Studies, Africana Studies and Research Center, American Studies, and City and Regional Planning.

Required Texts

1. Nayan Shah, *Contagious Divides*, (University of California Press, 2001)
2. Michael Omi and Howard Winant, *Racial Formation in the United States, From the 1960s to the 1990s*, 2nd edition, (Routledge, 1994)
3. Claire Jean Kim, *Bitter Fruit: The Politics of Black-Korean Conflict in New York City*, (Yale University Press, 2000)
4. Laura Pulido, *Black, Brown, Yellow, and Left: Radical Activism in Los Angeles*, (University of California Press, 2006)
5. Jason Hackworth, *The Neoliberal City: Governance, Ideology, and Development in American Urbanism*, (Cornell University Press, 2007)
6. Ruth Wilson Gilmore, *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California*, (University of California Press, 2007)
7. Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World*, (The New Press, 2007)

The assigned texts can be bought at the Cornell Store and will be found stocked in the City and Regional Planning textbook section. I will also place the texts on reserve at Olin Library in the Government Reading Room on the 4th Floor.

Where noted, several of the assigned articles can be downloaded from the Cornell University Library website. Please see me if you do not know how to download articles from online databases.

The remaining readings are photocopied chapters from books and will be available for you to photocopy in 420 Rockefeller Hall at the Asian American Studies Resource Center and in the City and Regional Planning Graduate Student Lounge (309 Sibley Hall), where my teaching assistant will set up a box or folder for the readings.

Although there are supplemental readings listed throughout the syllabus, these readings are not required for seminar. I have provided the titles for those of you want to follow up on a particular topic. In some cases the supplemental readings provide theoretical background for the assigned readings, but in other cases the readings provide additional case studies or arguments for you to consider.

Course requirements

Your grade will be based on each of the following areas:

Participation: Students are required to attend and participate in seminar. Participation is an important part of the course experience, providing the opportunity to critically evaluate course materials, debate, and share ideas. Participation will be graded based on a student's active and critical engagement. To facilitate discussion each student will be required to submit a set of discussion questions and/or comments and post them on the course's Blackboard site at least a day before we meet.

Response papers: Students must submit **2-3 page response papers** throughout the semester on the readings. These will provide an opportunity to write lengthier reflections on the readings, i.e. what you liked or disliked about the argument, how the reading related to other readings in this course, or what points needed clarification. Please note that graduate students will be expected to write lengthier and more substantive responses. In total you are responsible for **seven** papers. This means that you can pick and choose which readings are more compelling for you to write on. Please submit the responses at the end of Wednesday's seminar for the week that the reading must be completed. I will not accept late responses. I also suggest that you not wait until the end of the semester to turn in your seven.

Short presentation: Groups of two to three students will be expected to help lead weekly discussion. Presentations will begin with a short discussion of key points and a very brief summary of the arguments in the readings. The small groups should collect the submitted discussion questions from all seminar participants and use these for the basis of structuring the remainder of discussion. As this is a small class, most likely students will have to present more than once. The presenters should post their presentation notes/summaries on the Blackboard site.

Term paper: Students will submit a 10-15 page term paper at the end of the semester, which will focus on a topic related to the themes of this course. Please submit a detailed 3-page prospectus of your paper topic in **Week 6** of the seminar after consultation with the course instructor. The final draft of the term paper must be submitted on **May 7**. **NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Participation	25%
Small group presentation	10%
Response Papers	30%
Prospectus	5%
Term Paper	30%

I do encourage you all to come see me at some point during the semester for my office hours. It helps me get to know you.

Course Rules and "Etiquette"

I welcome you to this course and hope to make it an informative, productive, and engaging experience for all. There are a few classroom rules to abide by.

Please be prompt and attend seminar on time. It is very disruptive for students to walk into class late.

While I recognize that the use of cell phones and laptop computers with wireless access are an indispensable part of life on and off campus, I ask that you refrain from text messaging, using email, or surfing the Web while in class. Such activities do not facilitate an optimal learning environment for fellow students and can, in many instances, constitute rude behavior.

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity, see < <http://cuinfo.cornell.edu/Academic/AIC.html>>. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. For this course, collaboration is allowed for group presentations, but your written response papers and research paper must be your own work. If you paraphrase or quote from another source, then you must cite it properly. Any form of plagiarism on any of the assignments will result in a failing grade for the course.

In compliance with the Cornell University policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for students with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the first three weeks of the semester, except for unusual circumstances, so arrangements can be made.

For a definition of what constitutes plagiarism, please refer to the following website:
<http://plagiarism.arts.cornell.edu/tutorial/index.cfm>.

Topics and Reading Assignments

Week 1: Openings (Jan. 23)

Introductions

View part of *The Road to Guantánamo*

Week 2: Considering Theory and this Moment of Danger (Jan. 30)

Required Reading:

Amy Kaplan, "Where is Guantánamo?" *American Quarterly*, v. 57, n. 3, (September 2005), 831-858. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST database.

Ananya Roy, "Praxis in the time of empire," *Planning Theory*, v. 5, n. 1, (2006), 7-29. Download from Cornell Library website using SAGE Premier database.

Clyde Woods, "Do you know what it means to miss New Orleans?: Katrina, trap economics, and the rebirth of the Blues," *American Quarterly*, v. 57, n. 4, (December 2005), 1005-1018. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE

Barbara Christian, "The Race for theory," *Cultural Critique*, v. 6, (Spring, 1987), 51-63. Download from Cornell Library website using JSTOR.

Supplemental Reading:

Antonio Gramsci, Selection from *Prison Notebooks* concerning intellectuals, Translated by Q. Hoare and G. N. Smith, (International Publishers, 1971).

http://www.marxists.org/archive/gramsci/prison_notebooks/problems/intellectuals.htm

Katherine McKittrick and Clyde Woods, "Chapter One: 'No one knows the mysteries at the bottom of the ocean,'" In *Black Geographies and the Politics of Place*, edited by Katherine McKittrick and Clyde Woods, 1-13, Cambridge, MA: South End Press.

Week 3: The Production of Spatial Scale (Feb. 6)

Required Reading:

Neil Smith, "Contours of a spatialized politics: Homeless vehicles and the production of geographical scale," *Social Text*, v. 33, 1993, 55-81. Download from Cornell Library website using JSTOR.

Sallie Marston, "The social construction of scale," *Progress in Human Geography*, v. 22, 2000, 219-242. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST.

David Delaney and Helga Leitner, "The political construction of scale," *Political Geography*, v. 16, n. 2, (1997), 93-97. Download from Cornell Library website using ScienceDirect database.

Laura Pulido, "Rethinking environmental racism: white privilege and urban development in Southern California," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 90, n. 1, (2000), 12-40. Download from Cornell Library website using Academic Search Premier.

Ed Soja, "The social-spatial dialectic," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 70, n. 2, (June 1980), 207-225. Download from Cornell Library website using JSTOR.

Michel Foucault, "Of other spaces," *Diacritics*, v. 16, n. 2, (Spring 1986), 22-27. Download from Cornell Library website using JSTOR.

Supplemental Reading:

Tim Cresswell, Chapter 1: Introduction and Chapter 2: Genealogy of Place, from *Place: A Short Introduction*, (Blackwell Publishers, 2004), pp. 1-51.

Melissa Gilbert, "'Race,' Space, and Power: The survival strategies of working poor women," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 88, n. 4, (1998), 595-621. Download from Cornell Library website using Academic Search Premier.

Neil Smith and Cindi Katz, "Grounding metaphor: Toward a spatialized politics," In Michael Keith and Steven Pile, eds. *Place and the Politics of Identity*, Routledge, 1993, 67-83

Mark Gottdiener, Chapter 4, *The Social Production of Urban Space*, University of Texas Press, 1994, 110-194

Doreen Massey, Chapter 10, *Space, Place, and Gender*, (University of Minnesota Press, 1994), 212-248

Rosalyn Deutsche, Part II – Men in Space, Boys Town, Chinatown Part 4? What Jake Forgets About Downtown, *Evictions: Art and Spatial Politics*, (The MIT Press, 1998), 193-253

Week 4: Racial Theory, Part I (Feb. 13)

Required Reading:

Articles available at Asian American Resource Center and in City and Regional Planning Graduate Student Lounge (309 Sibley Hall):

Stuart Hall, “Gramsci’s Relevance for the Study of Race and Ethnicity,” *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, v. 10, n. 2, pp. 5-27

Selection from Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism*, 5 pages

W.E.B. Du Bois, Chapter XIV – Counter-Revolution of Property, Selection from *Black Reconstruction in America, 1860-1880*, pp. 580-636

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, “The Social Construction and Institutionalization of Race and Gender: An Integrative Framework,” in *Revisioning Gender*, edited by Myra Marx Fereee, Judith Corber, and Beth Hess, (Sage, 1999).

Selection from James Scott, *Seeing Like a State*, (Yale University Press, 1998).

Supplemental Reading:

Mario Barrera, Conclusion, *Race and Class in the Southwest: A Theory of Racial Inequality*, (University of Notre Dame Press, 1979).

Week 5: Racial Theory, Part II: The Social Construction of Race (Feb. 20)

Required Reading:

Michael Omi and Howard Winant, *Racial Formation in the United States*, (Routledge, 1994).
Read entire book.

Week 6: Considering the Racialized Body (Feb. 27)

Required Reading:

Nayan Shah, *Contagious Divides: Epidemics and Race in San Francisco’s Chinatown*, (University of California Press, 2001). Read entire book.

Week 7: Racialized community politics – Dystopia? (Mar. 5)Required Reading:

Claire Jean Kim, *Bitter Fruit: The Politics of Black-Korean Conflict in New York City*, (Yale University Press, 2000). Read entire book.

Supplemental Reading: Mike Davis, *City of Quartz*, Revised edition, (Verso Books, 2007)

Week 8: Racialized community politics – Utopia? (Mar. 12)Required Reading:

Laura Pulido, *Black, Brown, Yellow, and Left: Radical Activism in Los Angeles*, (University of California Press, 2006). Read entire book.

Week 9: Spring Break (Mar. 19)**Week 10: Neoliberalism and the Inner city (Mar. 26)**Required Reading:

Jason Hackworth, *The Neoliberal City: Governance, Ideology, and Development in American Urbanism*, (Cornell University Press, 2007). Read entire book.

Week 11: Considering the Racialized City: Housing, Redevelopment, and Property (Apr. 2)Required Reading:

Articles available at Graduate Student Lounge and Asian American Studies:

George Lipsitz, Selections from *Possessive Investment in Whiteness: How White People Profit from Identity Politics*, Revised and Expanded Edition, (Temple University Press, 2005).

Assigned article: Peggy Pascoe, "Race, Gender, and the Privileges of Property: On the Significance of Miscegenation Law in the U.S. West," in *Over the Edge: Remapping the American West*, edited by Valerie Matsumoto and Blake Almendinger, University of California Press, pp. 215-230. Available online at the Cornell Library web site. Run a title search.

Greg Hise, "Border city: Race and social distance in Los Angeles," *American Quarterly*, v. 56, n. 3, (December 2004), 583-605. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE.

Sánchez, George, "What's good for Boyle Heights is good for the Jews:" Creating multiracialism on the Eastside during the 1950s." *American Quarterly*, v. 56, n. 3, (December 2004), 633-661. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE.

Josh Sides, "Straight out of Compton: American dreams, urban nightmares, and the metamorphosis of the Black suburb," *American Quarterly*, v. 56, n. 3, (December 2004), 545-558. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE.

Supplemental Reading:

Cheryl Harris, "Whiteness as Property," *Harvard Law Review*, v. 106, (1993), 1707-1791. Download from Cornell Library website using JSTOR.

Nick Blomley, "Law, property, and the geography of violence: The frontier, the survey, and the grid," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, v. 93, n. 1, (2003), 121-141. Download from Cornell Library website using Academic Search Premier database.

Dana Cuff, "The figure of the neighbor: Los Angeles past and future," *American Quarterly*, v. 56, n. 3, (December 2004), 559-582. Download from Cornell Library website using PROQUEST or Project MUSE.

Donald Mitchell, "SUV model of citizenship," *Political Geography*

Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton, *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*, Harvard University Press, 1993. Chapters on the FHA and the re-emergence of segregation.

Thomas Sugrue, *Origins of the Urban Crisis*, Princeton University Press, 1997. Introduction

Neil Smith, *The New Urban Frontier: Gentrification and the Revanchist City*, Routledge, 1996. Introductory chapter on gentrification as an 'urban frontier'.

Robert Beauregard, *Voices of Decline: The Postwar Fate of US Cities*, Blackwell, 1993. Introduction.

Week 12: Considering the Carceral State (of Banality or Exception) (Apr. 9)

Required Reading:

Ruth Wilson Gilmore, *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California*, (University of California Press, 2007). Read entire book.

Supplemental Reading:

Richard Foglesong, "Chapter 8: Planning and contradiction," in *Planning the Capitalist City: The Colonial Era to the 1920s*, (Princeton University Press, 1986), 233-257

Toni Negri, "Crisis of the planner-state," in *Revolution Retrieved*, (Red Notes Collective, 1988), 91-149.

Week 13: The Racialized Nation (Apr. 16)

Required Reading:

Amy Kaplan, "Manifest domesticity," *American Literature*, v. 70, n. 3, (1998), 581-606.
Download from PROQUEST.

Mae Ngai, "The architecture of race in American immigration law: A reexamination of the Immigration Act of 1924," *The Journal of American History*, v. 86, n. 1, (June 1999), 67-92.
Available for download through Cornell Library website using JSTOR or PROQUEST.

Howard Winant, "Race and racism: Toward a global future," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 29, n. 5, (September 2006), 986-1003. Available for download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

David Goldberg, "Racial Europeanization," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 29, n. 2, (March 2006), 331-364. Available for download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

Claire Kim, "Imagining race and nation in multiculturalist America," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 27, n. 6, (November 2004), 987-1005. Available for download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

Peter Wade, "Racial identity and nationalism: A theoretical view from Latin America," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 24, n. 5, (September 2001), 845-865. Available for download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

Supplemental Reading:

Stuart Hall, "Race, articulation, and societies structured in dominance," In *Sociological Theories: Race and Colonialism*, 305-345. Paris: UNESCO.

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, "From bi-racial to tri-racial: Towards a new system of racial stratification in the USA," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 27, n. 6, (November 2004), 931-950). Available for download through Cornell Library website using Informaworld database.

Week 14: Globalizing from Below? Viewing our future's past (Apr. 23)

Required Reading:

Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World*, (The New Press, 2007).

Week 15: Conclusions (Apr. 30)

Brief presentations on paper projects