

ANTH 344 - Gender, Race and Class
Fall 2005 - Office: Susquehanna 200
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Dr. Carole Counihan
Office Hours: Tu 1:30-2:30
Th 11-12, 1:30-2:30
F 9:30-11:30

Gender, Race and Class

This course is an upper-level general education "Perspectives" course and is also an elective in the anthropology and sociology majors and minors. It is about the interconnected effects of gender, race and class on people in the United States. It aims to expand students' awareness of how structured systems of inequality work; how they affect people's health, life chances, self-concept, and material well being; and how they come to be accepted as "natural." The course aims not only to show the adverse effects of institutionalized inequality on subordinated people, but also its positive effects on people of privilege, and thus to show the connections between power and powerlessness, wealth and poverty, confidence and despair. We will examine the specific ways in which gender and class interact with racial/ethnic vectors in the lives of African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and European-Americans.

Course Objectives

1. Students will learn facts about the political, economic, and social conditions of gender, race, class, and other forms of stratification
2. Students will learn interdisciplinary approaches and perspectives across race, class, and gender groups.
3. Students will learn how to recognize and think critically about institutionalized forms of privilege, prejudice, and discrimination.
4. Students will develop their skills in oral and written communication.

Required Books

Alexie, Sherman. 2005. The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fist-Fight in Heaven. New York: Harper Perennial. 2nd edition.

Anderson, Margaret L. and Patricia Hill Collins. 2004. Race, Class, and Gender: An Anthology. 5th edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Ortiz Cofer, Judith. 1995. The Latin Deli: Prose and Poetry. New York: W.W. Norton.

Williams, Sherley Anne. 1999. Dessa Rose: A Novel. New York: Harper Perennial.

Requirements

1. Class attendance and participation (25 points—one point for each class attended). Attend class on time. Do the assigned readings before the class for which they are assigned and be prepared to discuss them in class.
2. Hand in Eight Reaction Papers (RPs) (5 points each, 40 points total)
Reaction papers (RPs) are due as shown on the syllabus. They must be kept in a folder and all handed in again on December 8. Five must be on articles in Anderson and Collins; the other three must be one each on the three other required books. Pick articles in A&C that are particularly meaningful to you. Reaction papers should be 300-500 words. They should

describe the point of the reading, the material described, and the reasons why you found it meaningful.

3. Five extracurricular events (5 points each, 25 points total).

Attend 5 extra-curricular events (ECEs) on campus and hand in a one-page reaction paper to each within a week of attendance. Reaction papers should briefly summarize the **content** of the event and discuss its **relevance** to the course. Events are listed on the syllabus; others will be announced in class and students are welcome to contribute information about relevant extra-curricular events.

4. Group reading presentation (10 points). Each student must pair up with one other student and present one day's readings orally to the class. Presentations should be no more than five minutes total and should briefly describe the two-four most salient points of the article and include one thoughtful reaction from each student.

5. Write a term paper (50 points). The paper will be on the topic of "Gender, Race, and Class in My Life." It will be based on your personal experience as illuminated by the course readings. It must make thoughtful reference to at least five of the course readings and show how they have contributed to understanding how your gender, your race, your class, and other significant social identities have affected your life. It should be 5-8 pages (1200-2400 words), word-processed, double spaced. It is due on November 22. The revised draft is due on Tues, Dec. 13, at 2:45 pm.

Total points:	150	A	135-150
Class attendance	25	B	120-134
8 reaction papers	40	C	105-119
ECEs	25	D	90-104
Presentation	10	F	below 90
Term paper	50		

SYLLABUS

<u>date</u>	<u>topic & assignment</u>
8/30	course overview--gender, race, and class
9/1	privilege - McIntosh, "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack" in A&C #9
9/6	racism - Yamato, "Something about the Subject " in A&C #8
RP #1 due	- "Conceptualizing Race, Class, and Gender" in A&C pp. 75-98
9/8	perspectives - Takaki, "A Different Mirror" in A&C #6 - <u>Dessa Rose</u> pp. 1-72
9/13	oppression - Frye, "Oppression" in A&C #5 - Williams, "Of Race and Risk" in A&C #10 - Lorde, "Age, Race, Class, & Sex " in A&C #7

- 9/15 **oppression**
 - Ferber, "What White Supremacists Taught a Jewish Scholar" in A&C #12
 - West, "Race Matters" in A&C #13
RP #2 due - Dessa Rose pp. 73-172

Sunday, September 18, 2005, 6:45 pm, Women's Film Series: *Voices of Change* (92 minutes), Myers Aud., McComsey

- 9/20 **oppression**
 - Arnott & Matthaei, "Race, Class, Gender & Women's Works" in A&C #24
 - Dill, "Our Mothers' Grief," in A&C #29
 - Dessa Rose pp. 173-208

- 9/22 **oppression**
 - Moore, "Racist Stereotyping in the English Language" in A&C #34
 - Davis, "The Harm that Has No Name" in A&C #55

- 9/27 **oppression in action**
 - Zia, "Where Race and Gender Meet" in A&C #58
 - Dessa Rose pp. 209-260--pick out your favorite passage; be prepared to read it and discuss what issues it illustrates

RP #3 on Dessa Rose due

Wednesday, September 28, 7:30 Lehr Room, Dr. Psyche Forson-Williams: "Traveling the Chicken Bone Express: Food and African American Travel Narratives".

- 9/29 **Native American experience**
 - Snipp, "The First Americans: American Indians," in A&C #40
 - Lone Ranger and Tonto first third

- 10/4 **Native American experience**
 - Churchill, "Crimes Against Humanity," in A&C #35
 - Lone Ranger and Tonto second third--pick out your favorite passage; be prepared to read it and discuss what issues it illustrates

- 10/6 **Native American experience**
 - Paula Gunn Allen, "Angry Women are Building" in A&C #4
 - Lone Ranger and Tonto finish--pick out your favorite passage; be prepared to read it and discuss what issues it illustrates

RP #4 on Lone Ranger and Tonto due

Thurs, Oct 6, 7:30 pm, SMC MPR, "Spoken Word Café" with Saul Williams, lead actor and co-writer of "Slam", the 1998 Sundance Winner and Best First Feature at the Cannes Film Festival

Sun, Oct 9, 6:45 pm, Women's Film Series: *New Directions* (90 minutes), Myers Aud., McCom
 Sun, Oct 9, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm and midnight Film: *Hotel Rwanda*, SMC MPR

- 10/11 **Latinos in the U.S.**
 - Madrid, "Missing People and Others," in A&C #1
 - Moraga, "La Güera," in A&C #2
 - Alvarez, "A White Woman of Color" in A&C #21

- 10/13 **Latinos in the U.S.**
 - Martinez, "Seeing More than Black and White" in A&C #11
 - The Latin Deli pp. 3-60

Thurs, Oct 13, 7:30 SMC MPR, "One Race One People," a theatrical performance whose goal is to increase awareness of homophobia, racism, and prejudice through drama, poetry, dialogue

10/18 *NO CLASS TUESDAY OCTOBER 18, FALL BREAK*

Weds, October 19, 2005, 7:30 p.m., SMC MPR, Speaker: Paul Rusesabagina

- 10/20 **Latinos in the U.S.**
 - Smith, "Mexicanness' in New York" in A&C #47
 - The Latin Deli pp. 61-116--pick out your favorite passage or poem; be prepared to read it, discuss why you chose it and what issues it illustrates

- 10/25 **Latinos in the U.S.**
 - The Latin Deli pp. 117-170-- pick out your favorite passage or poem; be prepared to read it, discuss why you chose it and what issues it illustrates

RP #5 on The Latin Deli due

- 10/27 **sexuality and gender**
 - Weston, "Straight is to Gay as Family is to No Family" in A&C #33
 - Schwartz and Rutter, "The Gender of Sexuality" in A&C #50

- 11/1 **sexuality and gender**
 - Gluckman and Reed, "Where has Gay Liberation Gone" in A&C #52
 - West, "Black Sexuality: The Taboo Subject" in A&C #51

- 11/3 **Class and U.S. culture**
 - Brown, "The Indignities of Unemployment" in A&C #25
 - Newman, "The Invisible Poor" in A&C #27

RP #6 due - Hondagneu-Sotelo, "Doméstica" in A&C #28

Sun, Nov. 6 6:45 pm, Women's Film Series: *First Person Plural* (1933, 78 minutes) Myers Aud., McComsey

- 11/8 **Class and U.S. culture**
 - Langston, "Tired of Playing Monopoly?" in A&C #15
 - Conley, "Wealth Matters" in A&C #16

- 11/10 **Class and U.S. culture**
 - Collins and Veskel, "Economic Apartheid in America" in A&C #14
 - Jennings & Kushnick, "Poverty as Race, Power and Wealth" in A&C #17
 - Collins, "Aid to Dependent Corporations" in A&C #43

Thursday, November 10, 2005, Dr. Suzanne Oboler, 7:00 pm, Lehr Room, topic TBA

Sun, Nov 13, 6:45 pm, Women's Film Series: *Afro-Argentines* (75 mins), Myers, McComsey

- 11/15 **Ethnicity and migration.**
 - Rubin, "Is This a White Country or What?" in A&C #45
RP #7 due - Waters, "Optional Ethnicities: For Whites Only?" in A&C #46

Weds, November 16, 7:30 pm, Lehr Room, Prof Miriam Gomez, "Afroargentines"

- 11/17 **Asian-Americans in the U.S.**
 - Sayeed, "Chappals and Gym Shorts" in A&C #49
 - Kibria, "Migration and Vietnamese American Women," in A&C #48
 - Espiritu, "Ideological Racism and Cultural Resistance" in A&C #20

Sunday, Nov. 20, 6:45 pm, Film: *The Righteous Babes* (50 minutes), Myers Aud., McComsey

- 11/22 **Gender, race and class--how do they affect each of us?**
 * **"Gender, race and class in my life" paper due**

11/24 NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING BREAK

- 11/29 **Transformation and transcendence**
 - Asetoyer, "From the Ground Up," in A&C #62
 - Miner, "Taking Multicultural, Antiracist Education Seriously" in A&C #39

12/1 NO CLASS - AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASS'N CONFERENCE

- 12/6 **Transformation & transcendence**
 - Anner, "Having the Tools at Hand," in A&C #63
 - Krauss, "Women of Color on the Front Line," in A&C #60

- 12/8 **transformation & transcendence**
 - Jamila, "Can I get a Witness?" in A&C #64
 - Mickelson and Smith "Can Education Eliminate ... Inequality?" in A&C #41

RP #8 due along with all 7 other RPs

Final Exam Period: Tuesday, December 13, 2:45 pm - **Revised "Gender, race and class in my life" paper due (hand in first draft with revised draft) ***