

The University of California, Irvine
Political Science 61A/ Chicano/Latino Studies 64
Race and Ethnicity in Political Science
Fall Quarter 2008
SSL 145 9-9:50 M,W,F

Professor Katherine Tate
Office Hours: Fridays 12-1 or by appt.
Social Science Plaza Bldg A, Room 4177
(949) 824-1869
ktate@uci.edu

Teaching Assistant: TBA
Office Hours: TBA

Course Description:

In this course, we examine the impact of race and ethnicity in American politics.

Books:

McClain, Paula and Joseph Stewart, Jr. 2006. *Can We All Get Along? Racial and Ethnic Minorities in American Politics*, 4d. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

Wilkins, David E. 2002. *American Indian Politics and the American Political System*, 2d. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

Reimers, David M. 1992. *Still the Golden Door: The Third World Comes to America*, 2d. New York: Columbia University Press.

Selections from the CQ Researcher. 2005. *Issues in Race, Ethnicity, and Gender*, 3d. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

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Course Overview:

Discussion sections will begin the second week of class. Every Thursday discussion questions will be assigned as well as distributed. Discussion questions are generally the basis of the exams in this course.

The two take-home examinations are each 25%; the final examination constitutes 50% of your grade. Take-home exams are due at the beginning of class. Make up examinations require my permission.

In general, no drop cards will be signed after the 5th week.

Readings

September 26—Introduction and Overview

WEEK 1

September 29, October 1 and 3—America's Racial Dilemma & Citizenship

READINGS:

Can We All Get Along? 4d, Chapter 1, Paula D. McClain and Joseph Stewart Jr., pp. 1-27.

Film Presentation: *Mendez vs Westminster*

WEEK 2

October 6, 8, 10—Minority Groups and Voting Rights

Can We All Get Along? 4d, Chapter 2, Paula D. McClain and Joseph Stewart Jr., pp. 29-63.

WEEK 3

October 13, 15, and 17—Minorities and the Public Policymaking Process

READINGS:

Can We All Get Along? 4d, Chapters 3 and 4, Paula D. McClain and Joseph Stewart Jr., pp. 65-123.

Film Presentation: *Of Civil Wrongs and Rights: The Fred Korematsu Story*

WEEK 4

October 20, 22, and 24— Federal Indian Policy

READINGS: American Indian Politics and the American Political System, 2d, Chapter 4, David E. Wilkins., pp. 109-124.

Film Presentation: *The Way West* (The American Indian War), Part 1.

1ST Midterm: Distributed October 24th, due in class, Monday, October 27th

WEEK 5

October 27, 29, and 31— American Indians Politics

READINGS: American Indian Politics and the American Political System, 2d, Chapter 2, David E. Wilkins., pp. 45-66.

WEEK 6

November 3, 5, 7— Contemporary Issues for American Indians

READINGS:

Issues in Race and Ethnicity, Selections from the CQ Researcher, Chapter 12, “American Indians,” pp. 267-288.

Film Presentation: *Indian Casinos: What’s Next?*

WEEK 7

November 10, 12, 14— Contemporary Issues for American Blacks and Latinos

READINGS:

Issues in Race and Ethnicity, 3d, Selections from the CQ Researcher, Chapter 5, “Black Colleges,” pp. 105-128, and Chapter 10, “Latinos’ Future,” pp. 223-244.

2ND Midterm: Distributed November 14th and due in class November 17th (Monday)

WEEK 8

November 17, 19, and 21—Affirmative Action and Voting Rights Disputes

READINGS:

Issues in Race and Ethnicity, 3d, Selections from the CQ Researcher, Chapter 1, “Affirmative Action,” pp. 1-22, and Chapter 3, “Redistricting Disputes,” pp. 55-78.

WEEK 9

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

November 24 and 26— U.S. Residency Problems and Federal Policy

READINGS:

Still the Golden Door, The Third World Comes to America, 2d, Chapters 3 and 7, David M. Reimers., pp. 65-123 and 207-252.

Film Presentation: *TBA*.

WEEK 10

December 1, 3, and 5—Contemporary Political Issues in Race and Ethnicity

READINGS:

Still the Golden Door, The Third World Comes to America, 2d, Chapter 9, David M. Reimers., pp 253-264.

Issues in Race and Ethnicity, 3d, Selections from the CQ Researcher, Chapter 9, “Illegal Immigration,” pp. 195-222.

In-Class Final Exam: Wednesday, December 10th, 8-10 a.m.