COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTLINE

Overview and Objectives

This course provides theoretic and methodological tools for the interdisciplinary study of ethnic and race relations; it also illustrates their application to specific institutional sectors of society. The first half of the course reviews basic theory and methods for addressing five key topics: ethnic groups and their demography, ethnic status and racism, ethnic communities and the incorporation of ethnic groups into society, ethnic inequality, and ethnic conflict. The second half of the course explores ethnic and race relations within selected institutional settings, and emphasizes the use of research from diverse disciplines in understanding theoretical and policy issues arising in each. The specific institutional settings selected for emphasis will be based on student interest, and may include: employment relations and the workplace, social and medical service delivery, policing and the administration of justice, and citizenship and immigration policy. The focus will be on comparative ethnic and race relations in Canada and other advanced industrial societies including the United States, Europe, and Australia.

Format of the Course

Class sessions include lecture presentations, discussions based on required readings, and student presentations. Key issues will be identified, and major recent studies reviewed and evaluated. Session topics are listed below, with corresponding required readings (starred), and suggestions for further study.

Required readings are available at the Library, Short Term Loans department at Robarts, within the Periodical Reading Room. All required readings are also available through the library on line, with url listed in some cases following the entry on the reading list. Updated information is available on the blackboard website noted above.

Requirements and Evaluation

Evaluation will be in four parts: a brief ‘discipline essay,’ a mid-term take-home exam, a 15-20 page paper submitted at the end of the term, and an earlier presentation of work in progress. (1) The discipline essay, roughly 3-5 pages, will describe a particular study of ethnic or race relations selected by students as representative of their own discipline. These essays will be discussed in class (during the first part of the term) and debated from inter-
disciplinary perspectives. (2) The mid-term exam covers the five basic concepts covered in the first six sessions of the course. (3) The term paper topic may focus either on ethnic relations theory, or on an issue of policy or professional practice which involves inter-ethnic relations, and should include consideration of the implications of research from at least two disciplines. A one-page proposal (including statement of topic, main questions, and preliminary sources) will be submitted for approval by Oct. 21. (4) The presentation on the term paper will be made in the second half of the term, and will be a progress report on the paper. The presentation is designed to facilitate progress on the paper. Students should prepare an outline either on Powerpoint slides, or handouts distributed in class. Scheduling of presentations will be finalized Oct. 21. Those who present early will have less developed work, and may gain more useful feedback; those who present later will be expected to have more developed work, with less opportunity to incorporate feedback in the final paper.

Weighting and scheduling of each component of evaluation is as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Assigned</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Discipline essay</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Sept. 9 Oct. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Mid-term exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Oct. 21 Oct. 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) 15-20 term paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Sept. 9 Proposal due Oct. 21 Paper due Dec. 6 (Friday after last class)</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Participation (including term paper presentation)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Note: the presentation and participation grade will be composed of components as follows: quantity of commentary in class 5%; quality of commentary in class 5%, term paper presentation 10%. Lateness penalty up to 5%.

Session Topics

1. Interdisciplinary Study of Ethnic and Race Relations Sept. 9

Part 1. Basic Concepts and Methods

2. Ethnic Groups and their Demography Sept. 16
3. Ethnic Communities and the Incorporation of Ethnic Groups into Society Sept. 23
4. Ethnic Status and Racism Sept. 30
5. Ethnic Inequality Oct. 7
   (Note: University Closed on Thanksgiving, Oct. 14)
6. Ethnic Conflict Oct. 21
Mid-term exam (take-home) Distributed Oct. 21, due Oct. 28

Part 2. Research on Ethnic Relations in Specific Institutions

7. Readings and Student Presentation TBA Oct. 28
8. Readings and Student Presentation TBA Nov. 4
9. Readings and Student Presentation TBA Nov. 11
10. Readings and Student Presentation TBA Nov. 18
11. Readings and Student Presentation TBA Nov. 25
12. Readings and Student Presentation TBA Dec. 2
READEINGS FOR EACH SESSION

Important note: Starred (*) readings are required.
Other readings are supplementary for additional interest, or for use as leads on term-work.

1. Uses of the Interdisciplinary Study of Ethnic and Race Relations  Sept. 9


Selected overviews of the field of ethnic and racial studies (for reference):

Part 1. Basic Concepts and Methods

2. Ethnic Groups and their Demography  Sept. 16


3. Ethnic Communities and the Incorporation of Ethnic Groups into Society


http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/118510920/PDFSTART


http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2013.783709


http://journals1.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/tmp/1357814737938178364.pdf


4. Ethnic Status and Racism


Note: the published version of this article is not in the university library, however one can view the NBER working paper which is essentially the same.


5. Ethnic Inequality: Institutions and Treatment within Institutions

http://www.irpp.org
Note: type in this url, then click on ‘English,’ then ‘Publications’ (on the left), and choose ‘IRPP Choices’ and ‘2007.’ Then select the article.

William J. Wilson, The Truly Disadvantaged: The Inner City, the Underclass, and Public Policy, 1987.

(Note: University Closed on Thanksgiving, Oct. 14)

6. Ethnic Conflict and Ethnic Change

http://proquest.umi.com/pqdlink?index=76&did=414785&SrchMode=3&sid=6&Fmt=6&VInst=P ROD&VType=PQD&RQT=309&VName=PQD&TS=1249056437&clientId=12520&aid=4
http://www.slate.com/id/2138731/pagenum/all/

Jeffrey G. Reitz, ”Less Racial Discrimination in Canada, or Simply Less Racial Conflict?: Implications of Comparisons with Britain.” Canadian Public Policy 14,4:424-441.

Mid-term exam

Part 2. Research on Ethnic Relations in Specific Institutions

7. Readings and Student Presentation TBA
   Oct. 28
8. Readings and Student Presentation TBA
   Nov. 4
9. Readings and Student Presentation TBA
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10. Readings and Student Presentation TBA
    Nov. 18
11. Readings and Student Presentation TBA
    Nov. 25
12. Readings and Student Presentation TBA
    Dec. 2

Distributed Oct. 21 Due Oct. 28