

Philosophy and Race: Phil 170
Spring 2018
Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30-10:50
WLH 2204

Instructor:

Prof. Lucy Allais

Office: HSS 8056

Office hours: Tuesday 11:30-12:30; Thursday 12:00-1:00 or by appointment

This course will introduce you to central areas in the philosophy of race and will also use this topic to introduce you to central areas of philosophy. We will think about the nature of the *history of ideas* through a brief examination of the history of the concept of race. We will introduce the subject of *ontology* (study of what exists) through thinking about the question of what races are and whether they really exist. We will look at questions in *social ontology* and *identity theory* through examining possible roles for *racial identity* and *racial solidarity*. The philosophical notion of *phenomenology* will be introduced through considering how being experienced as raced structures our experience of the world. Questions in the *philosophy of mind* about the relation between *beliefs* and *emotions* will be introduced through looking at the question of how to understand *racism*. We will look at accounts of racism as primarily involving belief, as primarily involving emotion, and as a form of disrespect, before going on to look at racism as *ideology*, and in particular at the ideology of *white supremacy*. We will critically examine the differences between *racism*, *white supremacy* and *white privilege*. Questions in *epistemology* (study of knowledge) will be examined by looking at the intersection of race and epistemology in terms of the idea of *epistemic injustice* and *implicit bias*. Finally, we will examine questions in *political philosophy*, in relation to *historical racial injustice*, looking at slavery and the Japanese internment in the USA, and at South Africa.

Requirements:

Three in-class tests: 30% each

Thursday 25 April

Tuesday 23 May

Thursday 6 June

The tests will be easy if you are attending class and doing the reading; they will be for you to keep track of the material we are covering in class and reading. Think of them as simple in-class exercises on the material we have been covering.

Class attendance: 10 %

Students are expected to attend all classes and roll will be taken on a regular basis. Students are expected to come to class having read the set reading, and ready to discuss it.

The readings will be provided on the course Tritoned site.

Topics and Course readings:

Week 1

Some historical background on race and racism

Fredrickson's *Racism: A Short History* chapters

Week 2

2) Ontology: Do races exist? What are races?

Albert Atkin, Chapter 1, 'Is Race Real?', of *The Philosophy of Race* (Acumen, 2012), pp. 11-46

Michael Hardimon, "The Ordinary Concept of Race", *The Journal of Philosophy*, 100(9), 2003

Week 3

Do races exist?

Michael Hardimon, "The Ordinary Concept of Race", *The Journal of Philosophy*, 100(9), 2003

Lawrence Blum, Chapter 8, 'Racialized Groups and Social Constructions', of *I'm Not a Racist, But...* (Cornell University Press, 2002), pp. 147-163 (with endnotes, pp. 221-226)

Optional Further Reading:

Lawrence Blum, 'Races, Racialised Groups and Racial Identity: Perspectives from South Africa and the United States'

Week 4

Phenomenology: Experiencing the world as raced

Extract from Fanon, F, 'The Fact of Blackness', in *Black Skin, White Masks*, trans. Charles Lam Markmann, Pluto Press, 1986, pp 82–108

Extracts from Yancy, George, 'Look! A White: Philosophical Essays on Whiteness', Temple University Press, 2012

Week 5

Social Ontology and Racial Identity

"Is Latina/o Identity a Racial Identity" In *Hispanics/Latinos in the United States*, edited by Jorge J.E. Gracia, Pablo De Greiff (Routledge)

Extracts from Francis Wu Yellow: *Race in America Beyond Black and White* (Basic Books)
and Yen Le Espiritu *Asian American Panethnicity* (Temple).

Tommie Shelby, 'Social Identity and Group Identity', *We Who Are Dark*, chapter 6, 2005

Samantha Vice, "How Do I Live in This Strange Place?" *Journal of Social Philosophy*, 41(3), 2010: 323–342

Week 6

What is racism? Emotion, belief, ideology

Tommy Shelby, "Is Racism in the Heart?" *Journal of Social Philosophy*, 33(3), 2002: 411–420

Joshua Glasgow, 'Racism as Disrespect', *Ethics*, 120, 2009:64–93.

Charles Mills, "Revisionist Ontologies: Theorizing White Supremacy," from *Blackness Visible: Essays on Philosophy and Race*, 97-118

McIntosh, Peggy (1988) "White Privilege and Male Privilege: A Personal Account of Coming to See Correspondences Through Work in Women's Studies," Wellesley: Center for Research on Women.

Optional further reading:

J.L.A. Garcia, 'The Heart of Racism', *Journal of Social Philosophy*, 27(1), 1996: 5-45.

Charles W. Mills, "'Heart' Attack: A Critique of Jorge Garcia's Volitional Conception of Racism," *The Journal of Ethics* 7(1), 2003: pp. 29–62

Mills, Charles, *The Racial Contract*, chapter 1

Week 7

Race and Knowledge

Miranda Fricker, Chapter 1, 'Testimonial Injustice', of *Epistemic Injustice: Power & the Ethics of Knowing* (Oxford University Press, 2007), pp. 147-175, 74

Miranda Fricker, Chapter 7, 'Hermeneutical Injustice', of *Epistemic Injustice: Power & the Ethics of Knowing* (Oxford University Press, 2007), pp. 147-175 74

Charles W. Mills, 'White Ignorance', in *Race and Epistemologies of Ignorance*, ed. Shannon Sullivan & Nancy Tuana (State University of New York Press, 2007), pp. 13-38

Week 9 Historical injustice

Political Philosophy: Responding to race based injustice

Lucy Allais, 'Restorative Justice, Retributive Justice, and the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission', *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 2012, 39(4)

George Hull, 'Affirmative Action and the Choice of Amends', *Philosophia*, 43(1): 113–134.

Week 10 Historical injustice

Political Philosophy: Responding to race based injustice

Thomas McCarthy, "Coming to Terms With Our Past, Part II: On the Morality and Politics of Reparations for Slavery," from *Political Theory*, Dec. 2004: 750-772

Robert Fullinwider, "The Case for Reparations," *Philosophy and Public Policy Quarterly*, volume 20, # 2/3, 2000: 1-8

Disability Accommodations:

Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) which is located in University Center 202 behind Center Hall. Students are required to present their AFA letters to Faculty (please make arrangements to contact me privately) and to the OSD Liaison in the department in advance so that accommodations may be arranged. 858.534.4382

(phone) | osd@ucsd.edu (email) | <http://disabilities.ucsd.edu> (website)

Note:

No extensions will be granted for any assignment or exam, except in cases of genuine emergency (e.g., earthquake, flood, fire, death in the family, illness certified by a doctor).

The UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship must be observed in this course. This includes observance of the following six principles:

As a student,

1. I will not receive or provide unauthorized assistance in examinations.
2. I will not use unauthorized materials during an examination.
3. I will not use materials from sources without proper quotation, acknowledgement or citations.
4. I will not alter examinations, essays, or other assignments for regrading.
5. I will not fabricate data or references.
6. I will not use false excuses to obtain extensions of time for examinations or writing assignments.

Maintaining academic integrity: Though students are strongly encouraged to discuss the assignments with one another, each student must submit answers to the assignments independently of one another, written in her or his own words. Additionally, students agree that by taking this course, their papers will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site.

Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing (i) will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office, (ii) will receive a failing grade on the assignment at issue, and (iii) will be in jeopardy of failing the entire course, depending on the nature of the breach of academic integrity.

The use of technology (phones, tablets, computers, etc.) is prohibited during

class meetings, unless needed for a disability accommodation.

If any accommodations are needed due to a disability or for religious reasons, please notify me during the first class period or as soon as possible.

Note: this schedule is provisional, and may change.