

# Philosophy 170

## Philosophy and Race

### Fall 2015

Prof. Michael Hardimon  
 H&SS 8084  
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WLH 2115  
 MWF 12:00-12:50  
 Office Hours  
 F 1:00-2:00  
 and by apt.

The aim of this course is to bring philosophy to bear on three central questions concerning race: What is race? What is racism? and What is racial identity? We will be pursuing these questions *philosophically*. What *that* comes to – how philosophy can contribute to answering these questions – is an additional issue that we will address. The course presupposes no previous work in race, the philosophy of race or philosophy and can serve as an introduction to these topics. The course will ask you to think rigorously about fundamental questions about race and to question your fundamental assumptions about the topic. It will ask you to reflect carefully about an emotionally charged subject.

#### Class Schedule (Subject to Adjustment)

##### 1. What is Race?

Friday	Sept 25	<i>First Meeting</i>
Monday	Sept 28	<i>What is the racialist concept of race?</i> Appiah 54-56, 67-74. Blum 109-130 Omi & Winant 61-62.
Wednesday	Sept 30	
Friday	Oct 2	
Monday	Oct 5	<i>What is the minimalist concept of race?</i> Anderson 157 -158. Blum167-174. Omi and Winant 14-35
Wednesday	Oct 7	
Friday	Oct 9	
Monday	Oct 12	<i>What is the populationist concept of race?</i> Appiah 67-74.
Wednesday	Oct 14	
Friday	Oct 16	
Monday	Oct 19	<i>What is the concept of socialrace?</i> Omi and Winant 53-76. Blum 147-163
Wednesday	Oct 21	
Friday	Oct 23	

(Readings listed in boxes are for the week)

**First Two-page Paper due in class Friday, October 23**

##### 2. What is Racism?

Monday	Oct 26	<i>What is the original sense of 'racism'?</i> Blum 1-10, 40 Shelby (Racism) 411-420
Wednesday	Oct 28	

Friday	Oct 30	
Monday	Nov 2	<i>What is the moral concept of 'racism'</i> Garcia 5-12, Blum 8-77,
Wednesday	Nov 4	Anderson 44-50
Friday	Nov 6	Kelly and Roedder, 522-540
Monday	Nov 9	<b>What is institutional racism</b> Haslanger "Oppressions" 311-337 Blum 22-26
Wednesday	Nov 11	<b>No Class: Veterans Day</b>
Friday	Nov 13	Anderson 44-88

**Second Two-page paper due in class Friday November 13**

### 3. What is Racial Identity?

Monday	Nov 16	<i>What is "racial identification"?</i>
Wednesday	Nov 18	Appiah 74-105
Friday	Nov 20	
Monday	Nov 23	<i>Are racial identities to be affirmed? I</i>
Wednesday	Nov 25	Shelby (Foundations) 231-266
Friday	Nov 27	Espiritu 1-18, 177,161-177,189
Monday	Nov 30	<i>Are racial identities to be affirmed? II</i>
Wednesday	Dec 2	Alcoff 1-20
Friday	Dec 4	

**Five-page paper due in class Friday December 4**

**Review Session: Friday December 4 7:00-9:00 H&SS 7077**

**Final Exam: Thursday December 10 11:30 - 2:30 am**

### Required Texts

Louise Martin Alcoff	"What Should White People Do?"*	
Elizabeth Anderson	<i>The Imperative of Integration</i>	Princeton U Press
K. Anthony Appiah & Amy Gutmann	<i>Color Consciousness</i>	Princeton U Press
Lawrence Blum	<i>I'm Not a Racist, but...</i>	Cornell U. Press
Yen Le Epiritu	"Ethnicity and Panethnicity"*	
----	"Pan-Asian American Ethnicity"*	
J.L.A. Garcia	"The Heart of Racism"*	
Sally Haslanger	"Oppressions"*	
Daniel Kelly and Erica Roedder	"Racial Cognition and the Ethics of Implicit Bias"*	
Richard Lewontin	"Apportionment of Human Diversity"*	
Michael Omi & Howard Winant	<i>Racial Formation and the United States</i>	Routledge
Noah Rosenberg et al	"Genetic Structure of Human Populations"	
Tommie Shelby	"Is Racism in the Heart?"*	
---	"Foundations of Black Solidarity"*	

Books should be purchased e.g. from Amazon. Articles (\*) available on-line from electronic reserves

### Harvard Implicit Attitude Association Test (Race)

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

## Requirements

- Harvard implicit association test (IAT) on race
- Regular attendance
- Class participation
- Two 2-page papers
- One 5-page paper
- Final examination
- Bring texts to class

*All work must be completed to receive a passing final grade.*

## Papers

Topics will be assigned in class. Due dates subject to revision. Students are required to hand in a hard copy in class on due date *and* to submit an identical copy electronically to [http:// www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com). Class ID: **10752829** Password: **classpass123** (no caps, one word)

Extensions will be granted when circumstances warrant *provided arrangements are made with the instructor at least 24 hours in advance*. There are no automatic extensions. It is better to ask for an extension sooner rather than later. Except in unusual circumstances (e.g. medical emergencies, a disaster that strikes the student or the immediate family), unexcused late papers are subject to the penalty of being dropped at least one letter grade e.g. B>C.

Interpretations or ideas borrowed, directly or indirectly, from secondary sources or other people (apart from the instructor but including fellow students) must be footnoted. Any use of web-based material must be footnoted. Anything else is plagiarism and will be treated as such. Students are encouraged to discuss paper topics but must write the papers **alone**.

Students are responsible for making and keeping an extra copy of their paper in case the original is lost.

## Grade Weights

2-Page Papers	30% (15+15)
5- Paper	30%
Final	40 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Participation** 10 possible bonus points. Class participation can only bring grades *up*, never down  
Bonus points kick in at the half-grade margin (e.g. between a C+ and B-)

## Grade Range

Papers in Philosophy 170 are not graded on a curve. Each student can in principle receive an A. The same holds true for less desirable grades.

The minimal standard of performance for a grade of P shall be the same as that for a grade of C- (including a C- on the final).

## Other Information

Students are expected to have read the material in advance, to bring the text, and to be prepared discuss it in class.

The Academic Honor Code must be observed in this course. Cheating will not be tolerated. Anyone caught cheating will receive an automatic F for the course and be referred to the ADHB for disciplinary action.

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