

Department of Political Science—University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point  
 POLS 315: Racial and Ethnic Politics in America  
 Spring 2007  
 M W F: 1:00-1:50 P.M.

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 Office hours: Office Hours: T W Th 10:00-12:00 A.M. & by Appointment

**Course Description:** This course, which is an interactive learning environment, focuses on racial and ethnic politics in the US political system, focusing primarily on African, Latino, Asian, and Native Americans as they get involved in the political process. While this course is designed to explore conceptual and methodological issues, it also centers on how these racial minority groups shape and have been shaped by the political system. Among the topics to be covered include legal construction of race, political history of these racial minority groups, meaning of race and ethnicity, political participation, and ethnic relationships between these group themselves and between these minority groups and majority community. Instead of examining these topics on a group-by-group basis, this course considers each of the topics and analyzes each topic comparatively across groups. In all, I expect students to leave this course with a firm introductory grasp of political relationship between these racial minority groups on the one hand and American politics on the other.

**Required Text:** McClain, Paula D and Joseph Stewart, Jr. “Can We All Get Along?” Racial and Ethnic Minorities in American Politics. Westview Press, 2001.

All the other required reading materials are **electronically reserved** under the title of the course POLS 315.

**Requirements:** The requirements for this course are the following: (1) two 3 to 5 page reactive papers, critically analyzing the assigned readings from the parts of the course as set forth on the syllabus; (2) leadership rotation of class presentations, preparing questions for discussions on the assigned readings; and (3) both the midterm and final examinations.

**Exams and Grading:** Your course grades will be determined by your performance on the two reactive papers, class presentations, class discussion, and both the midterm and final exams.

Two reactive papers and presentations	40 pts
Class participation	10 pts
Midterm Exam	25 pts
Final Exam	25 pts

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100 pts

The dates of each exam will be announced two weeks before the exam. The midterm exam will come after we have discussed “empowerment, campaigns, and elections.” The final exam is scheduled for 10:15 A.M. on Monday, May 14, 2007. The format of the exams will be essay form. Your course grade will be assigned based on the following scale: An A will be 93% or above, an A- 90%-92%, a B+ 87%-89%, and so on.

**Make-up exams:** If you miss an exam and have a valid written excuse, you may take your make-up exam, but I reserve the right to schedule it. For example, a valid excuse is a note from a nurse or a doctor stating your reasons for missing the exam.

**Class Attendance/Participation:** Attendance at every class and reading each assigned reading before class are mandatory. At the beginning of each class, I will pass an attendance sheet around, and it is your responsibility to sign your name on the attendance sheet. At the end of the semester, I will count the numbers of your class attendances to make up 10 points of your course grade. If you miss a class without a valid excuse, you lost 2 points of your 10 points; if you miss five classes, you lost all your 10 points. A valid excuse for missing a class will not count against your class attendance.

**Class Etiquette:** Academic success hinges upon a classroom-learning environment. To that end, please arrive on time. If you arrive late, please take your seat with a minimum of disruption. If you have to leave early, please clear it with me before class. During class lectures, please do not confer with your classmates and turn off your cell phones and other electronic devices, including your laptop computers. All students are expected to be attentive to the lectures and class discussions and to show respect for your classmates and the professor. Expression of ideas is encouraged in a manner that does not impugn the motives of other students, or personally attack them. Please raise your hand before asking questions. When a student is speaking, please wait until he/she finishes talking before making your comments.

**Academic Integrity:** The issue of academic integrity is governed by the UWSP policy. I strongly recommend that you read the Student Rights and Responsibilities section on page 35 in the 2005-2007 Catalog book. Academic misconduct in this course will result in sanctions, a failing grade in the course or removal from the course.

**Course Outline and Reading Assignments:** We will adhere to the following class schedule, but I reserve the right to delay a particular exam and to modify the reading assignments if I find it necessary or useful to do so.

## January Readings and Presentations

### **Race and Law**

- 22 Introduction/No Reading Assignment
- 24 McClain, Paula and Joseph Stewart Jr. "Can We All Get Along?" 2001, Chapter 1 read and presented by Adams, Rebecca
- Aguirre, Adalbert, Jr. and Jonathan H. Turner. American Ethnicity, 2007, Chapter 3 read and presented by Chang, Yee
- 26 Haney-Lopes, Ian. White by Law: The Legal Construction of Race, 1996, Chapter 3 read and presented by Akason, Kelly
- 29 Hirschmann, Charles, Richard Alba, and Reynolds Farley, "The Meaning and Measurement of Race in the U.S. Census: Glimpses into the Future," Demography 37, 3, (August 2000): 381-93 read and presented by Dalasta, Julie and Young, Cristina

### **Race and Identity**

- 31 Waters, Mary C. Ethnic Option: Choosing Identities in America, 1990, Chapter 2 read and presented by Bornemann, Kalin

## February Readings and Presentations

- 2 Dawson, Michael C. Behind the Mule: Race and Class in African American Politics, 1994, Chapter 3 read and presented by Foesch, Adam
- 5 Lien, Pei-te, M. Margaret Conway, and Janelle Wong. The Politics of Asian Americans, 2004, Chapter 2 read and presented by Giles, Andrew and Yang, Yong Dao
- Citrin, Jack, Beth Reingold, and Donald P. Green. "American Identity and the Politics of Ethnic Change." Journal of Politics 52 (1990): 1124-54 read and presented by Knowlton, Sarah

### **Pressure Groups and Civil Rights Movement**

- 7 McAdam, Dough. Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970, 1982, Chapter 3 read and presented by Hendricks, Jesse

- 9 Lee, Taeku. Mobilizing Public Opinion: Black Insurgency and Racial Attitude in the Civil Rights Era, 2002, Chapter 4 read and presented by Konop, Kelsey
- 12 Lee, Taeku. Mobilizing Public Opinion: Black Insurgency and Racial Attitude in the Civil Rights Era, 2002, Chapter 5 read and presented by Henry, Michael
- 14 Hatamiya, Leslie T. Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and the Passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, 1993, Chapter 1 read and presented by Long, Aime; Chapter 10 read and presented by Mueller, Catherine
- 16 Wilkins, David E. American Indian Politics and the American Political System, 2002, chapter 8 read and presented by Piotrowski, Clinton

### **Demographic and Socioeconomic Profiles**

- 19 Aguirre, Adalbert, Jr. and Jonathan H. Turner. American Ethnicity, 2007, Chapter 5 read and presented by Normington, Wesley; Chapter 6 read and presented by Quinnell, Jereme
- 21 Aguirre, Adalbert, Jr. and Jonathan H. Turner. American Ethnicity, 2007, Chapter 7 read and presented by Osegard, Eric; Chapter 8 read and presented by Reis, Richard
- 23 McClain, Paula D. and Joseph Stewart, Jr. “Can We All Get Along?” 2001, Chapter 2 read and presented by Richardson, Roosevelt

### **Political Visibilities**

- 26 Kilson, Martin L. “An Anatomy of the Black Political Class,” in Wilbur C. Rich. The Politics of Minority Coalitions, 1996, Chapter 1 read and presented by Southworth, Phillip
- Garcia, John A. Latino Politics in America, 2003, Chapters 8 read and presented by Scheppers, Zachary
- 28 Morris, Glenn T. “Coalitions and Alliances: The Case of Indigenous Resistance to the Columbian Quincentenary,” in Wilbur C. Rich. The Politics of Minority Coalitions, 1996, Chapter 13 read and presented by St Martin Chris

Fleming, Walter C. "Politics in the Mainstream: Native Americans as the Invisible Minority," in Wilbur C. Rich. The Politics of Minority Coalitions, 1996, Chapter 14 read and presented by Singleton, Justin

### March Reading and Presentations

- 2 Nakanishi, Don T. "Beyond Redress: The Future of Japanese American Politics on the Mainland," in Wilbur C. Rich, The Politics of Minority Coalitions, 1996, Chapter 5 read and presented by Steiner, Kyle

### Campaigns and Elections

- 5 Carmines, Edward G. and James A. Stimson. Issue Evolution: Race and the Transformation of American Politics, 1989, Chapter 1 read and presented by Sweeney, Paul
- 7 Carmines, Edward G. and James A. Stimson. Issue Evolution: Race and the Transformation of American Politics, 1989 Chapter 2 read and presented by Werra, Nathaniel
- 9 Mendelberg, Tali. The Race Card: Campaign Strategy, Implicit Message, and the Norm of Equality, 2001, Chapter 1 read and presented by Vanden Busch, Daniel
- Mendelberg, Tali. The Race Card: Campaign Strategy, Implicit Message, and the Norm of Equality, 2001, Chapter 6 read and presented by White-Eagle, Maria

12 Review

14 **Midterm Exam**

### Political Participation

- 16 Leighley, Jan. Strength in Number, 2001, Chapter 1 read and presented by Waukau, Pamela; Chapter 2 read and presented by Xiong, Pheng

### **Spring Break**

- 26 Leighley, Jan. Strength in Number, 2001, Chapter 6 read and presented by Xiong Xeng; Chapter 7 read and presented by Adams, Rebecca
- 28 Garcia, John A. Latino Politics in America, 2003, Chapters 6 read by Yang, Yong Dao Chapter 7 read and presented by Young, Cristina

- 30 McClain, Paula D. and Joseph Stewart, Jr. "Can We All Get Along?" 2001, Chapter 3 read and presented by Akason, Kelly
- Lien, Pei-Te, M. Margaret Conway, and Janelle Wong, The Politics of Asian Americans, 2004, Chapter 5 read and presented by Dalasta, Julie and Xiong Xeng

#### April Readings and Presentations

- 2 Wilkins, David E. American Indian Politics and the American Political System, 2002, chapter 7 read and presented by Bornemann, Kalin

#### **Redistricting and Representation**

- 4 Swain, Carol M. Black Face, Black Interests: The Representation of African American in Congress, 1993, Chapter 1 read and presented by Foesch, Adam; Chapter 3 read and presented by Chang, Yee
- 6 Swain, Carol M. Black Face, Black Interests: The Representation of African American in Congress, 1993, Chapter 8 read and presented by Giles, Andrew; Chapter 10 read and presented by Hendricks, Jesse
- 9 Lublin, David. The Paradox of Representation: Racial Gerrymandering and Minority Interests in Congress, 1997, Chapter 2 read and presented by Konop, Kelsey; Chapter 3 read and presented by Henry, Michael
- 11 Lublin, David. The Paradox of Representation: Racial Gerrymandering and Minority Interests in Congress, 1997, Chapter 6 read and presented by Knowlton, Sarah
- Saito, Leland T. "Asian Pacific Americans and Redistricting Challenges in 2001," in Nakanishi, Don T. and James S. Lai, Asian American Politics, 2003, pp. 441-49 read and presented by Mueller, Catherine

#### **Contemporary Public Policy Issues**

- 13 McClain, Paula D. and Joseph Stewart, Jr. "Can We All Get Along?" 2001, Chapter 4 read and presented by Piotrowski, Clinton
- 16 Ong, Paul M. "The Affirmative Action Divide," in Nakanishi, Don T. and

James S. Lai, Asian American Politics, 2003, pp. 377-405 read and presented by Normington, Wesley

18 Garcia, John A. Latino Political in America, 2003, Chapter 9 read and presented by Quinnell, Jereme

20 Walters, Ronald W. White Nationalism, Black Interests, 2003, Chapter 8 read and presented by Long Aime

### **Competition and Conflict**

23 LeVine, Robert A. and Donald T. Campbell. Ethnocentrism: Theories of Conflicts, Ethnic Attitudes, and Group Behavior, 1971, Chapter 3 read and presented by Osegard, Eric

Jennings, James. "Conclusion: Racial Hierarchy and Ethnic Conflict in the United States" in James Jennings, Blacks, Latinos, and Asian in Urban America, 1994, pp. 143-57 read and presented by Richard Roosevelt

25 Grenier, Guillerom J. and Max Castro. "Blacks and Cubans in Miami: The Negative Consequences of the Cuban Enclave on Ethnic Relation," in Michael Jones-Correa, Governing American Cities, 2001, Chapter 5 read and presented by Southworth, Philip

McClain, Paula D. "Coalition and Competition: Patterns of Black-Latino Relations in Urban Politics," in Wilbur C. Rich, The Politics of Minority Coalitions, 1996, Chapter 3 read and represented by Scheppers, Zachary

27 Joyce, Patrick D. "Protest or Violence: Political Process and Patterns of Black-Korean Conflict," in Michael Jones-Correa, Governing American Cities, 2001, Chapter 6 read and presented by St Martin, Chris

### **Cooperation and Coalition**

30 McClain, Paula D. and Joseph Stewart, Jr. "Can We All Get Along?" 2001, Chapter 5 read and presented by Reis, Richard

Jones-Correa, Michael. "Structural Shifts and Institutional Capacity: Possibilities for Ethnic Cooperation and Conflict in Urban Settings," in Michael Jones-Correa, Governing American Cities, 2001, Chapter 7 read and presented by Singleton, Justin

## May Readings and Presentations

- 2      McKeever, Matthew. "Interethnic Politics in the Consensus City," in Michael Jones-Correa, Governing American Cities, 2001, Chapter 9 read and presented by Sweeney, Paul
- Jennings, James. "Changing Urban Policy Paradigms: Impact of Black and Latino Coalitions" in James Jennings, Blacks, Latinos, and Asian in Urban America, 1994, Chapter 1 read and presented by Werra, Nathaniel
- 4      Henry, Charles H. "Urban Politics and Incorporation: The Case of Blacks, Latinos, Asians in Three Cities," in James Jennings, Blacks, Latinos, and Asian in Urban America, 1994, Chapter 2 read and presented by Vanden Busch, Daniel
- Marable, Manning. "Building Coalition among Communities of Color: Beyond Racial Identity Politics," in James Jennings, Blacks, Latinos, and Asian in Urban America, 1994, Chapter 3 read and presented by White-Eagle, Maria

### **Prospects for Pan-Ethnicity: Coalition or Competition**

- 7      Lai, James S. "Asian Pacific Americans and the Pan-Ethnic Question" in Nakanishi, Don T. and James S. Lai, Asian American Politics, 2003, pp. 247-259 read and presented by Waukau, Pamela
- DeSipio, Louis. "More Than the Sun of Its Parts: The Building Blocks of a Pan-Ethnic Latino Identity," in Wilbur C. Rich, The Politics of Minority Coalitions, 1996, Chapter 10 read and presented by Steiner, Kyle
- 9      Moreno, Dario. "Cuban Americans in Miami Politics: Understanding the Cuban Model" in Wilbur C. Rich, The Politics of Minority Coalitions, 1996, Chapter 8 read and presented by Xiong, Pheng
- 11     Review
- 14     **Final Exam 10:15 A.M., Monday, May 14, 2007**