



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Race, Politics and Identity in 20th Century US						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
HIS	4003	45275	2, 2005	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOART
Academic org:	FOA003
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	090305

STAFFING

Moderator: Maurice French

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in Program: BAHN

SYNOPSIS

While 'race' is no longer seen as an appropriate way to categorise individuals, the contemporary United States continues to be preoccupied with issues to do with racial identity. The notion of identity is an important one, and was defining of many of the struggles or marginalised groups in American society through the twentieth century. In order to understand contemporary America, it is necessary to understand the historical development of these ideas and the struggles undertaken by these groups for equality and recognition. This seminar explores the cultural, intellectual and political responses of several groups in American society - African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Native Americans and Mexican-Americans - to racism and discrimination, and their struggle to find a place in this society.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate an understanding of, and familiarity with, the main issues concerning race and the struggle for equality in the US during the twentieth century, including debates about identity politics and its consequences;
2. assess the influence of race and identify politics on the development of the modern United States;
3. critically analyse and discuss debates over the meaning of being an 'American';
4. demonstrate skills in documentary analysis; and
5. demonstrate competency in analysis and writing skills in the History discipline.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Race and Identity Politics: Issues and Debates	5.00
2.	The 19th Century Legacy - Contexts for understanding	5.00
3.	The Harlem Renaissance; the Making of the African-American Identity	10.00
4.	Asian-Americans - the immigrant experience and the question of assimilation	5.00
5.	Asian-Americans and the Second World War	5.00
6.	The African-American Civil Rights Movement I - Martin Luther King and the early movement	10.00
7.	The African-American Civil Rights Movement II - disillusionment; 1968; Black Power	10.00
8.	From Mexican-Americans to Chicanos	10.00
9.	Alcatraz and beyond: Native American activism	10.00
10.	Issues: Feminism, Gender and Race	10.00
11.	Issues: A comparative perspective, the US, Australia and South Africa	10.00
12.	Issues: the barrio and the ghetto - a context for understanding identity politics?	5.00
13.	A final reflection - the US at the beginning of the 21st century - how important is race?	5.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Study Book. Book of Readings

Bayor, RH (ed.) 2003, *Race and ethnicity in America: a concise history*, Columbia University Press, New York.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Branch, T 1998, *Pillars of fire: America in the King years 1963-65*, Simon and Schuster, New York.

Carson, C et al (eds.) 1991, *Eyes on the prize: a civil rights reader*, Penguin, New York.

Johnson, T et al (eds.) 1997, *American Indian Activism: Alcatraz to the longest walk*, University of Illinois Press, Illinois.

Lott, JT 1998, *Asian Americans: from racial category to multiple identities*, Altamira Press, Walnut Creek.

Munoz, C 1989, *Youth, identity, power: the chicano movement*, Verso, New York.

Nagel, J 1997, *American Indian ethnic renewal: red power and the resurgence of identity and culture*, Oxford University Press, New York.

Okihiro, G 1994, *Margins and mainstreams: Asian Americans in American history and culture*, University of Washington Press, Seattle.

Parillo, V 1997, *Strangers to these shores: race and ethnic relations in the United States*, Allyn & Bacon, Boston.

Polenberg, R 1980, *One nation divisible: class, race and ethnicity in the United States since 1938*, Penguin,

Rosales, FA 1996, *Chicano! the history of the Mexican American civil rights movement*, 2nd edn, Arte Publico Press, Houston, Vol REV.

Takaki, R 1989, *Strangers from a different shore: a history of Asian Americans*, Little, Brown, Boston.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Private Study	139.00
Seminars	26.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
SHORT PAPER (800 WORDS)	100.00	15.00	08 Aug 2005 (see note 1)
BOOK ANALYSIS (1500 WORDS)	100.00	25.00	02 Sep 2005
ESSAY (2500 WORDS)	100.00	30.00	28 Oct 2005
EXAM (2 HOURS)	100.00	30.00	END S2 (see note 2)

NOTES

1. The short paper will be based on seminar discussion topics and will be due two weeks after the seminar takes place.
2. Students will be advised of the official exam date after the timetable has been finalised.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:

It is the student's responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval, then a penalty of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each of the first FIVE working days late, after which a zero mark will be given.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by obtaining at least 50% of the total weighted marks for all summative assessment.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
The exam for this course is a CLOSED EXAMINATION, and candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Any deferred or supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (c) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (d) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM Incomplete-Makeup). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study. (e) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).