

HIUS 176/ HIGR 276

Race and Sexual Politics in the United States

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Winter Quarter 2010
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Friday 10-12:50 p.m. HSS 6008
Office Hours: Friday 9-10 am & 2-3 p.m.
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This undergraduate and graduate seminar will explore the history of sexual relations, politics and cultures that both cross and define racial boundaries in the 19th and 20th century in the United States. We will examine the fears and fascination with interracial intimacy and sexual difference; the history of interracial marriage and controversies over government legitimacy; queer and gender dissident social ties and cultural spaces; and the perceived dangers and utopian visions that spotlight a tangle of race, gender and sexual identities. The assignments, research activities, and class discussion will engage with both the theoretical and practical work of analyzing research questions, problems and methods in disciplines that explore the past -- including history, American studies, gender/queer studies, and ethnic studies.

Requirements

Reading and Preparation: Students should come to the weekly seminar meeting, having read all required reading and ready to discuss the reading in depth. In order to ensure effective learning, *students are required to bring all reading to class, along with notes.*

- 1) Assignment #1 Writing assignment on First weeks readings January 8 2010
- 2) Assignment #2 Pascoe Assignment January 15, 2010/
revision + paper January 22, 2010
- 3) Assignment #3 Response Paper Week 4,5, 6
- 4) Assignment #4 Response Paper Week 8, 9, 10
- 5) Assignment #5 Research Paper Proposal Due February 5 and Final Paper Due March 17

Response Papers: (*2 papers*) each paper is 4 pages, typed double-spaced response to the readings assigned for the week.

Research Paper:

(*March 17*) A 16-18 page typed double-spaced interpretive paper on a topic based on additional research combined with course readings and/or historical documents.

** Graduate students will be required to write a 22-25-page paper and a more developed proposal/bibliography**

Participation: Careful reading of all the assigned reading and informed and active participation in the discussion is crucial for the success of this seminar. Therefore, the quality of your class performance, including your final presentation of your research, is an important element of your overall evaluation.

WHERE CAN I GET THE READING:

I. * These required readings would be available in a course packet for purchase from University Readers <http://www.universityreaders.com/>

II Groundworks Bookstore and Amazon.com

Chad Heap, *Slumming: Sexual and Racial Encounters in American Nightlife, 1885-1940* (University of Chicago Press 2009)

John Howard *Concentration Camps on the Home Front: Japanese Americans in the House of Jim Crow* (University Of Chicago Press, 2008)

Peggy Pascoe, *What Comes Naturally: Miscegenation Law and the Making of Race in America* (Oxford University Press, 2008)

Week 1 January 8 Sexual Coercion and Race

*Sharon Block, Chapter Two: "The Means of Sexual Coercion" Rape and Sexual Power in Early America (University of North Carolina Press, 2006), 53-87

*Hannah Rosen, "Not that Sort of Women: Race, Gender and Sexual Violence During the Memphis Riot of 1866" in Martha Hodes, *Sex, Love, Race* pp. 267-293

Week 2 January 15 How to Read for Research and Analytical Argument?

Pascoe , *What Comes Naturally: Miscegenation Law and the Making of Race in America* Introduction, Chapter 1 and Chapter 2

Week 3 January 22 Miscegenation Laws and Making Race

Peggy Pascoe, *What Comes Naturally Miscegenation Law and the Making of Race in America* (Oxford University Press, 2008), Chapters 3-9 and conclusion

+ Peggy Pascoe, "Why the Ugly Rhetoric Against Gay Marriage Is Familiar to this Historian of Miscegenation" History News Network <http://hnn.us/articles/4708.html>

Week 4 January 29 Urban Space and Sociability

Chad Heap, *Slumming*, Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, and 3, pp. 1-153

Recommended:

George Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Chapter 5, pp. 131-150; 405-410 & Chapter 9, pp 227-267, notes 430-437

Nayan Shah, *Contagious Divides*, Chapter Three, "Perverse Geographies and Sexual Contamination" p 77-105 +notes

Week 5 February 5 Migrating Bodies and Borders of Identity

* Linda Espana Maram. "Brown Hordes in McIntosh Suits: Filipinos, Taxi Dance Halls and Performing the Immigrant Body in Los Angeles, 1930s-1940s" *Creating Masculinity in Los Angeles' Little Manila* pp. 105-133; 196-203

*Nayan Shah, "Between Oriental Depravity" and Natural Degenerates": Spatial Borderlands and the Making of Ordinary Americans" *American Quarterly* September 2005, pp. 703-725

Recommended:

Mary Ting Yi Lui, *The Chinatown Trunk Mystery: Murder, Miscegenation and Other Dangerous Encounters in Turn-of-the-Century New York* (Princeton, 2005)

Week 6 February 12 Sexual Publics and Autonomy

Chad Heap. *Slumming*, Chapters 4, 5 and 6 and Epilogue pp. 154-286

*Rochella Thorpe, "'A House Where Queers Go': African-American Lesbian Nightlife in Detroit, 1940-1975," in Lewin, ed., *Inventing Lesbian Cultures in America*, 40-61.

Week 7 February 19 Research Session

TBA

Week 8 February 26 Wartime and Sexual Dissidence/Conformity

John Howard *Concentration Camps on the Home Front: Japanese Americans in the House of Jim Crow* (University Of Chicago Press, 2008)

Week 9 March 5 Queer Diasporas and Nationalism

*Gayatri Gopinath, *Impossible Desires* (Duke University Press) Chapter 6 "Nostalgia, Desire, Diaspora" pp. 161-186, 217-220

*Juana Maria Rodriguez *Queer Latinidad: Identity Practices and Discursive Spaces* (NYU Press, 2003) Chapter 3 "The Subject on Trail: Reading In Re Tenorio as Transnational Narrative", pp. 84-113; 181-184

Week 10 March 12 Terror, Panic and is Identity Stable?

*Jasbir Puar, *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times* (Duke University Press. Chapter 2, "Abu Grahیب and U.S. Sexual Exceptionalism" pp. 79-113, notes, pp 254-262

*Scott Herring, *Queering the Underworld*, (University of Chicago Press, 2007) *Secrets of African American Bisexual Man or the Double Lives of the Down Low*, pp. 191-210, 234-236