

Fall 2019
The Politics of Identity

Office Hours: and by appointment

In many parts of the world, race, ethnicity, language, religion and gender are explicitly linked to politics. In the United States, we tend to link these identities to politics through political parties. In this seminar, we will explore the concepts of race, ethnicity, language, religion, and gender in a comparative context in order to gain a better understanding of their application in the United States. From there we will consider the relationship between race, ethnicity, language, religion, gender and politics, from the perspective of citizens, candidates, policies, and institutions. We will use scholarly texts as the foundation for the course, but we will couple those with newspaper articles and narratives to gain a first-hand perspective as needed. This course does not have a final exam, but you will be asked to work on a group project and make a presentation to the class.

Writing Intensive Course Statement

Diversity Intensive Statement: This class considers the way racial and ethnic groups interact in the political arena in the United States. We will focus national, state, and local politics. There will be an emphasis on social inequality in terms of poverty, affordable housing, job creation, development, voting behavior, and gentrification. This course will also consider representation on in terms of gender, class, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

Students with Disabilities:

If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the Disability Center (<http://disabilitycenter.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 573- 882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for persons with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

Given the nature of this course, you will be asked to complete assignments to help you:

1. Write Analytically
2. Revise writing based on professor and peer feedback
3. Work in groups to produce a product

Requirements

Grades will be based on six (6) small assignments (30% of your grade), a final group project, participation, and one 10-page paper (double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins) that we will revise throughout the semester. There will be four (4) opportunities for feedback and revisions. The final paper is worth 30% of your grade (**late papers = -2pts for each day the paper is late**), which also includes meeting the four revision deadlines. The final group project is worth 15% of your grade. I will provide more information on these assignments in class.

Given the seminar style of this class, Participation is worth 25% of your grade. **Attendance is Mandatory.** You may miss 2 classes without penalty. You do not need to send me an email about your 2 free absences. As part of your participation grade, you will be asked to lead discussion once during the semester with a partner. Please be prepared to discuss topics in class! I expect that you have done the reading before class and view class time as a chance to build on your understanding of the readings (through mini lectures, discussions, in-class assignments, and questions).

Grading

Assignments: 60 points

Final Project: 30 Points

Participation: 50 Points

Final Paper 60 Points

Scale:

A+	99-100%
A	93-98%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	63-66%
D-	60-62%
F	59% and Below

Academic Honesty

Please refrain from cheating or plagiarizing. If you have questions or concerns, please refer to the University Handbook for specific policies and procedures.

Etiquette

Please silence your cell phones! I do not want to see or hear them (even on vibrate). They are distracting to you, your classmates, and me.

Please use the course title in the subject line for ALL email correspondence to me: PS 71. Otherwise, I may not receive your email. Furthermore, please refrain from slang, text/chat abbreviations, and colloquialisms in your email correspondence with me. I will not attempt to decipher the meanings of your messages. ***Please do not use laptops in class. The data suggest you do not learn better when you use them.***

The topics in this class can be emotionally charged. Questions are encouraged and the goal is learning in a safe, respectful environment.

The professor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus, including project due dates and test dates (excluding the officially scheduled final examination), when unforeseen circumstances occur. These changes will be announced as early as possible so that students can adjust their schedules.

Required Texts

*Gyasi, Yaa. 2016. *Homegoing*.

*Adichie, C. Ngozi. 2007. *Half of a yellow sun*. 1st Anchor Books ed. New York: Anchor Books.

*Alvarez, Julia. *In the Time of Butterflies*

*Danticat, Edwidge. *The Farming of Bones*

*Henriquez, Cristina. *The Book of Unknown Americans*.

* Akhtar, Ayad. 2012. *American Dervish: A Novel*.

* Lee, Min Jin. 2017. *Pachinko*

*Benjamin, Andrea. 2017. *Racial Coalition Building in Local Elections: Elite Cues and Cross-Ethnic Voting*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Additional Course materials are available on our Canvas Site.

Introduction

8/22

Welcome, Discussion Leader sign-ups, etc.

1: Definitions

8/24

Diamond, Jared. 1994. "Race Without Color." *Discover* 15: 82-89.

Segura, Gary M. and Helena Alves Rodrigues. 2006. "Comparative Ethnic Politics in the United States." *Annual Review of Political Science* 9: 375-395.

2: Group Identity/Interests

8/29

Homegoing Part I

Lee, Taeku. 2008. "Race, Immigration, and the Identity-To-Politics Link." *Annual Review of Political Science* 11: 457-78.

N. Masuoka. 2008. "Defining the Group: Latino Identity and Political Participation." *American Politics Research*. 2008 36: 33-61.

8/31

TBA

Participation

3: Participation

9/5

Homegoing Part II

Voting Rights Act (Sakai)

Cho, Wendy K. Tam. 1999. "Naturalization, Socialization, Participation: Immigrants and (Non-) Voting." *Journal of Politics* 61:1140-55.

4: Enfranchisement

9/7 Library –we will meet at the library for a class activity

9/12

Half of a Yellow Sun: Chapters 1-2

M.Barreto. 2007. "'Si Se Puede' Candidates and the Mobilization of Latino Voters." *American Political Science Review*. 101

5: Campaigns

9/14

Half of a Yellow: Chapters 3-6

M. Barreto et.al. 2008. "Should They Dance with the One Who Brung 'Em: Latinos and the 2008 Presidential Election." *PS: Political Science and Politics*. October: 753-760.

9/19

Half of a Yellow Sun: Chapters 7-18

Melissa Michelson, "Meeting the Challenge of Latino Voter Mobilization," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* v. 601 September 2005 pp. 85-101.

Draft #1 Due Exact Date TBA

6: Elections and Voting

9/21

Half of a Yellow Sun: Chapters 19-25

J.E. Leighley, and A. Vedlitz. 1999. "Race, Ethnicity and Political Participation: Competing Models and Contrasting Explanations." *Journal of Politics*. 61:4, 1092-1114.

9/26

Half of a Yellow Sun: Chapters 26-28

Public Opinion

7: Public Opinion

9/28

Half of a Yellow Sun: Chapters 29-37

G. Sanchez. 2006. "The Role of Group Consciousness in Latino Public Opinion." *Political Research Quarterly*. 59:3, 435-446.

Draft #2 Due Exact Date TBA

10/3

In the Time of Butterflies Chapters: 1-4

Luker, Kristin. 1984. *Abortion Politics and the Politics of Motherhood*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press. Chapters 1, 7-8.

Political Parties

8: Catch Up

10/5

10/10

In the Time of Butterflies Chapters:5-10

10/12

In the Time of Butterflies Chapters:11-12, Epilogue and Postscript

9: Black and Latino Representation

10/17

The Farming of Bones Chapters: 1-13

Griffin, John D. and Brian Newman. 2008. *Minority Report: Evaluating Political Equality in America*. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press. Chapter 5 (p. 77-115).

Gender

10: Race and Gender

10/24

The Farming of Bones Chapters: 14-26

Hutchings, Vincent L., Hanes Walton Jr., and Andrea Benjamin. 2010. "The Impact of Explicit Racial Cues on Gender Differences in Support for Confederate Symbols and Partisanship." *The Journal of Politics* 72(4): 1-14.

10/26

The Farming of Bones Chapters: 27-33

Harris-Perry, Melissa. 2011. *Sister Citizen*. Yale University Press (Excerpts)

Hardy-Fanta, Carol. 1993. *Latina Politics*. Latino Politics: Gender, Culture, and Political Participation in Boston. 1-36.

Draft #3 Due Exact Date TBA

Policy Issues

11: Immigration, Affirmative Action, and Citizenship

10/31

The Farming of Bones Chapters: 34-41

Linda Lopez and Adrian Pantoja, "Beyond Black and White: General Support for Race Conscious Policies among African Americans, Latinos, Asians and Whites" *Political Research Quarterly* 57:4 December 2004 pp. 633-642.

12: Religion and Politics

11/2

The Book of Unknown Americans Chapters 1-7

Green, John C., Lyman A. Kellstedt, Corwin E. Smidt, and James L. Guth. 2007. "How the Faithful Voted: Religious Communities and The Presidential Vote." In *A Matter of Faith: Religion in the 2004 Presidential Election*, edited by David E. Campbell, p. 15-36. Washington D.C.: Brookings Institution Press.

Draft #4 Due Exact Date TBA

Intergroup Relations

Week 13: Competition

11/9

The Book of Unknown Americans Chapters 8-14

Kim, Claire Jean. 2000. *Bitter Fruit: The Politics of Black-Korean Conflict in New York City*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. Chapter 4 and Chapter 5.

11/14

The Book of Unknown Americans Chapters 15-21

McClain, Paula D., Niambi M. Carter, Victoria M. DeFrancesco Soto, Monique L. Lyle, Jeffrey D. Grynawski, Shayla C. Nunnally, Thomas J. Scotto, J. Alan Kendrick, Gerald F. Lackey, and Kendra Davenport Cotton. 2006. "Racial Distancing in a Southern City: Latino Immigrants' Views of Black Americans." *Journal of Politics* 68: 571-584.

14: Cooperation

11/16

The Book of Unknown Americans Chapters 21-28

Kaufmann, Karen. 2003. "Cracks in the Rainbow: Group Commonality as a Basis for Latino and African-American Political Coalitions" *Political Research Quarterly*, Vol. 56, No. 2, 199-210.
Benjamin 2017 *Racial Coalition Building* Chapter 1

11/17 Group Projects due by 5pm (Via Sakai)

11/21 Group Project Presentations

11/23: No Class (Thanksgiving Holiday)

11/28

American Dervish Chapters: Prologue, 1-6

Benjamin 2017 *Racial Coalition Building* Chapters 2 and Elections Appendix

11/30

American Dervish Chapters: 7-13

Benjamin 2017 *Racial Coalition Building* Chapters 3-4

Week 15: Wrap Up

12/5

American Dervish Chapters: 14-17, Epilogue

Benjamin *Racial Coalition Building* Chapters 5-6

Final Paper Due in Class