

Race, Immigration and American Political Development

Visiting Assistant Professor: Girma Parris
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Office Hours: Wednesday, 12:00 – 1:30 or by appointment (Mather House 222)

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Course Description

American Political Development involves employing history as an active and independent variable (through the use of concepts such as timing and sequence, path dependence, critical junctures, political orders, and intercurrency) to address fundamental questions of political science and political institutional development. Its primary aim is the revelation of factors behind periods of continuity and moments of institutional change through focusing on political phenomena over long stretches of time as opposed to momentary snap shots of history.

Race and immigration policy have been intrinsic aspects of American political development. Building on the contributions of Rogers Smith and Desmond King's 2008 article [Racial Orders in American Political Development](#) and Daniel Tichenor's 2002 book [Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America](#), this class will show the symbiotic relationship between the politics of race and immigration and American Political Development. Although scholars from the race and immigration camps have alluded to the overlap in the politics of each, this class will aim to make those interconnections more explicit. Specifically, the class will show how historical trajectories in immigration politics and racial politics have — at times — reinforced each other and/or interacted, and how the presence or timing of particular events has had direct and indirect influence on the historical trajectories of the other. Ultimately, both have manifested in particular moments in American political development.

Course Goals

The course will use open-ended class discussion (the Socrates Method) to treat these moments of continuity and change in immigration and racial politics and to discuss how the two historical trajectories of race and immigration interacted, reinforced or were intrinsic to the other. Students will acquire the skills necessary to assess political history and isolate the factors involved in periods of continuity and periods of change.

Syllabus for Race, Immigration and American Political Development

Course Requirements: In order to attain a passing grade for the class, all students must attend class regularly participate in class discussion and make a 5-10 minute presentation during the course of the semester and complete three take home examinations covering a third of the course each. Take home exams will count for 70% of your grade (Exam no. 1 = 20%; Exam no. 2= 25%; Exam no. 3= 25%).

Attendance: All students are permitted 2 unexcused absences. Unexcused absences in excess of the two allotted will count against your class participation grade. The course is a seminar course and thus will focus around class discussion. Attendance subsequently is crucial to the functioning of the class.

Class Participation: Students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to discuss the assigned readings. Students will not be docked for their lack of participation but will be rewarded for their thoughtful and active contributions to class discussion. Class participation will make up 10% of your grade.

Presentation: All students are expected to make a presentation of 5-10 minutes during the course of the semester. Students should summarize the major arguments presented in the chosen reading and offer 3 discussion questions for the class. In order to receive full credit, students must either provide a Power Point presentation (or comparable visual accompaniment) or a handout for the class. The presentation will count for 20% of your grade.

Course Schedule

Week 1: What is American Political Development?

Monday, January 13 –
Introduction

Definition and Methodological Foundations of American Political Development

Wednesday, January 15 –
Orren, Karen and Steven Skowronek. The Search for American Political Development (2004): 1-32 (Chapter 1)

Recommended:

Kersh, Rogan. “Rethinking Periodization? APD and Macro History of the United States” *Polity*, 37 (4) (October 2005): 513-522

Pierson, Paul. "Not Just What but When: Timing and Sequence in Political Processes" *Studies in American Political Development*, 14 (1) (April 2000): 72-92

Friday, January 17 –

Smith, Rogers. "Beyond, Tocqueville, Myrdal and Hartz: The Multiple Traditions in America," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 87, No. 3 (September 1993): 549-566.

Week 2: How to Study American Political Development – Sustained Shifts in Authority, Institutional Structure and Coalition Building (viewed historically)

Monday, January 20 – No Class – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Wednesday, January 22

Tichenor, Daniel. *Dividing Lines* (2004) Chapter 1 and 2

Friday, January 24 –

King, Desmond and Rogers Smith. "Racial Orders in American Political Development" in *Race and American Political Development* eds. Lowndes, Novkov, and Warren (2008): 80-105

Week 3:

Race and Ethnicity – Definitions and Historical Origins

Monday, January 27 –

Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. "Racial Formations" in *Racial Formation in the United States* eds. Michael Omi and Howard Winant; Routledge 1994

Wednesday, January 29 –

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Takaki, Ronald. "The Tempest in the Wilderness: Racialization of Savagery" *The Journal of American History*, 79 (3) (December 1992): 892-912

Friday, January 31 –

Fields, Barbara Jeanne. "Slavery, Race and Ideology in the United States of America." *New Left Review*, 181 (1990): 95-118

Week 4:

Monday, February 3 –

Lieberman, Robert "Legacies of Slavery? Race and Historical Causation in American Political Development" in Race and American Political Development eds. Lowndes, Novkov, and Warren (2008): 206-234 (Chapter 10)

Wednesday, February 5 –

Valelly, Richard. *The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle of Black Enfranchisement*- Chapter 2

Friday, February 7 -

Valelly, Richard. *The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle of Black Enfranchisement*- Chapter 3

Week 5:

Monday, February 10 –

Valelly, Richard. *The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle of Black Enfranchisement*- Chapter 4

Wednesday, February 12 –

Valelly, Richard. *The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle of Black Enfranchisement*- Chapter 5

Friday, February 14 –

Valelly, Richard. *The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle of Black Enfranchisement*- Chapter 6

*****Midterm no. 1 posted*****

Week 6:

Immigration and American Political Development: Immigration Racial Hierarchies, and Assimilation

Monday, February 17 –

King, Desmond. *Making Americans: Immigration, Race and the Origins of the Diverse Democracy* (2000): Introductory Chapter and Chapter 2

Hattam, Victoria. “Fixing Race, Unfixing Ethnicity” in *In the Shadow of Race: Jews, Latinos, and Immigrant Politics in the United States* (2007): Chapter 3

Recommended:

Frederickson, George M. “Models of American Ethnic Relations: Hierarchy, Assimilation, and Pluralism” in *Doing Race: 21 Essays for the 21st Century* eds. Marcus and Moya,(2010): 32 – 62

Vilna, Bashi. “Racial Categories Matter Because Racial Hierarchies Matter - A Commentary” *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 21 (5) (1998): 959-968

Wednesday, February 19 -

Daniel Tichenor. “Chinese Exclusion and Precocious State Building in the Nineteenth Century American Polity” in *Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control* (2002): 87-113 (Chapter 4)

Friday, February 21 –

Daniel Tichenor. "Progressivism, War, and Scientific Policymaking" in Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control (2002): 114-149 (Chapter 5)

Ngai, Mae. M. "The Architecture of Race in American Immigration Law: A Re-examination of the Immigration Act of 1924" *Journal of American History*, 86 (1) (June 1999): 59-86

Week 7: The GI Bill, Race and the American Dream

Monday, February 24 –

Katznelson, Ira. "White Veterans Only" in When Affirmative Action was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth-Century America (2006): Chapter 5

Wednesday, February 26 –

Richard Rothstein, "The Making of Ferguson: Public Policies at the Root of its Problems."

Recommended:

Katznelson, Ira and Suzanne Mettler. "On Race and Policy History: A Dialogue about the G.I. Bill." *Perspectives on Politics*; Vol. 6; No. 3; September 2008: 519-537.

Friday, February 28 –

Katznelson, Ira. Black Men, White Cities: Race, Politics, and Migration in the United States, 1900-30 and Britain, 1948-68 (1973): Chapters 4 and 7

***** **Midterm no. 1 due at 11:59 pm*******

Week 8: The Great Migration and Problematic Assimilation in the North

Monday, March 2 -

McAdam, Doug. "The Historical Context of Black Insurgency, 1876- 1954" in Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970 (1982): 65-116 (Chapter 5)

Wednesday, March 4 -

Valelly, Richard. "Heralding the Second Reconstruction: The Coalition of 1948" in The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle for Black Enfranchisement (2004): Chapter 7

Civil Rights and the Second Reconstruction

Friday, March 6 –

Feinstein, Brian D. and Eric Schickler. "Platforms and Partners: The Civil Rights Realignment Reconsidered" *Studies in American Political Development*, 22 (1) (2008): 1-31

*******March 9 – 13 – No Class – Spring Break*******

Week 9 –

Monday , March 16 –

Kersch , Kenneth. "The New Deal Triumph as the End of History? The Judicial Negotiation of Labor Rights and Civil Rights" in The Supreme Court & American Political Development eds. Kahn and Kersch (2006): 169-228

Wednesday, March 18 –

McAdam, Doug. "The Generation of Black Insurgency, 1955- 60" in Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970 (1982): 117-145 (Chapter 6)

Friday, March 20 –

Valley, Richard. “The Coalition of 1960 -1965” in The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle for Black Enfranchisement (2004): Chapter 8

Week 10 – Civil Rights and Immigration Reform

Monday, March 23 –

Milkis, Sidney “The Modern Presidency, Social Movements, and the Administrative State: Lyndon Johnson and the Civil Rights Movement” in Race and American Political Development eds. Lowndes, Novkov, and Warren (2008)

Lieberman, Robert C. “Ideas, Institutions, and Political Order: Explaining Political Change” *American Political Science Review*, 96 (4) (December 2002): 697-712

Wednesday, March 25 –

Valley, Richard “Institutions and Enfranchisement” in The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle for Black Enfranchisement (2004): Chapter 10

Friday, March 27 –

Tichenor, Daniel. “Jewish Refugees, Mexican Guestworkers, and Administrative Politics” in Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control (2002): 150-175 (Chapter 6)

Week 11:

Monday, March 30 –

Daniel Tichenor. “Strangers in the Cold War: The Modern Presidency, Committee Barrons, and Postwar Immigration Politics.” in Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control (2002): Chapter 7

*******Midterm No. 2 Posted*******

Race and Immigration in the Post-Civil Rights Era

Wednesday, April 1 –

Christian Joppke. “Race Attacks the Melting Pot” in Immigration and the Nation State: Germany, Britain and the United States (1999): Chapter 5

Friday, April 3 –

Tichenor, Daniel. "Two Faces of Expansion: The Contemporary Politics of Immigration Reform" in Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control: Chapter 9

Week 12:

Monday, April 6 –

HoSang, Daniel Martinez “The Triumph of Racial Liberalism, the Demise of Racial Justice” in Race and American Political Development eds. Lowndes, Novkov, and Warren (2008): 288-312 (Chapter 12)

Wednesday, April 8 –

Tichenor, Daniel. “Rebirth of American Immigration: The Rights Revolution, New Restrictionism, and Policy Deadlock” in Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control (2002): 242-288 (Chapter 8)

The Institutionalized Poverty of Blacks, Browns

Friday, April 10 – Class Canceled – Attending Conference

Week 13 –

Monday, April 13 –

Hannah-Jones “Living Apart: How the Government Betrayed a Landmark Civil Rights Law.” Segregation Now: Investigating America’s Racial Divide; Pro Publica, June 25, 2015.

Linda Darling-Hammond. "Structured for Failure for Failure: Race, Resources, and Student Achievement" in Doing Race: 21 Essays for the 21st Century eds. Markus and Moya, (2010): 295-31

*******Midterm No. 2 due Tuesday, April 16 at 11:59 pm*****

Wednesday, April 15 –

Alexander, Michelle. *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*: Chapter 1

Recommended:

Lawrence D. Bobo and Victor Thompson. "Racialized Mass Incarceration: Poverty, Prejudice, and Imprisonment" in Doing Race: 21 Essays for the 21st Century eds. Markus and Moya, (2010): 322-355

Counterarguments to the anti-black racist theory of mass incarceration:

Murch, Donna "Who's to Blame for Mass Incarceration?" (a review of Michael Javen Fortner's *Black Silent Majority: The Rockefeller Drug Laws and the Politics of Punishment*) *Boston Review*; October 16, 2015: <http://bostonreview.net/books-ideas/donna-murch-michael-javen-fortner-black-silent-majority>

Fortner, Michael Javen "Historical Method and the Noble Lie" (A Reply to Donna Murch) *Boston Review*; October 23, 2015: <http://bostonreview.net/books-ideas/response-michael-javen-fortner-donna-murch-black-silent-majority>

Friday, April 17 – Class Canceled – Attending Conference

Week 14 – Race, Immigration Politics in Scarce Economic Times

Monday, April 20 –

Huber, Gregory A. and Thomas J. Espenshade. "Neo-isolationism, Balanced-budget Conservatism, and the Fiscal Impacts of Immigrants" *International Migration Review*, 31 (4) (1997): 1031-1054

Sanchez, George. "Face the Nation: Race, Immigration and the Rise of Nativism in Late Twentieth Century America. *IMR*, 13 (4) (Winter, 1997): 1009 – 1030.

Recommended:

HoSang, Daniel Martinez. "Special Interests Highjacked the Civil Rights Movement: Affirmative Action and Bilingual Education on the Ballot." in Racial Propositions: Ballot Initiatives and the Making of Postwar California (2010): 201-243 (Chapter 7)

The Politics of Immigration in the Post 9/11 Era

Wednesday, April 22 –

Beinin, Joel. "Knowing the "Other": Arabs, Islam and the West" in Doing Race: 21 Essays for the 21st Century eds. Markus and Moya (2010): 199-215

Winders, Jamie. "Bringing Back the (B) order: Post-9/11 Politics of Immigration, Borders, and Belonging in the Contemporary US South." *Antipode* 39 (5) (2007): 920-942.

Friday, April 24 –

Desmond, Matthew. *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*: Chapter 1

Stoll, Steven. *Ramp Hollow: The Ordeal of Appalachia*: Chapter 1

*******Midterm No. 3 Posted*******

Week 15 – Race and Immigration in the Obama and Trump Eras

Monday, April 27 –

Junn, Jane and Kerry L. Haynie. New Race Politics in America: Understanding Minority and Immigrant Politics (2008): Chapters 2 and 3

Coates, Ta-Nehisi “The Case for Reparations.” *The Atlantic* (June 2014): <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/>

Recommended:

Evolving Concepts of Race and Ethnicity:

Marcus, Hazel Rose. “Who am I? Race, Ethnicity and Identity.” in Doing Race: 21 Essays for the 21st Century eds. Markus and Moya (2010): 359-389

Jansen, Robert. *The Heart of Whiteness: Confronting Race, Racism, and White Privilege* (2005): Chapters 1 and Conclusion