Texas A&M University
Departmental Request for a New Course
Undergraduate • Graduate • Professional
• Submit original form and attach a course syllabus.

1. This request is submitted by the Department of Political Science

2. Course prefix, number and complete title of course: POLS 660 Gateway Seminar in the Politics of Race and Ethnicity

3. Catalog Course description (not to exceed 50 words): Overview of the race and ethnicity literature in four different subfields: comparative politics, international relations, American politics, and public administration/policy; emphasis on four themes across the subfields: identity, participation (including non traditional participation such as violence), representation, and institutions/structure.

4. Prerequisite(s): None

5. Is this a variable credit course? □ Yes □ No

6. Is this a repeatable course? □ Yes □ No

7. Has this course been taught as 489/689? □ Yes □ No

8. This course will be:
   a. required for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., B.A. in history)
      PhD students in political science with minors in race/ethnicity
   b. an elective for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., M.S., Ph.D. in geography)
      PhD students in political science

9. If other departments are teaching or are responsible for related subject matter, the course must be coordinated with these departments. Attach approval letters.

10. Prefix Course # Title (excluding punctuation)

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<th>POLS</th>
<th>660</th>
<th>POLITICS</th>
<th>RACE / ETHNICITY</th>
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Approval recommended by:
James R. Rogers 4/22/09

Chair, College Review Committee
Patricia A. Hanks 4-27-09

Dean of College
Donald A. Reed 5-14-09

Date

Submitted to Coordinating Board by:
Associate Director, Curricular Services

Date

Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845-8201 or sandra-williams@tamu.edu.
Curricular Services – 12/08
Texas A&M University

Departmental Request for a New Course
Undergraduate • Graduate • Professional

Submit original form and attach a course syllabus.

1. This request is submitted by the Department of [ ]
   [ ] Political Science

2. Course prefix, number and complete title of course:
   [ ] POLS 660 Gateway Seminar in the Politics of Race and Ethnicity

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   Overview of the race and ethnicity literature in four different subfields: comparative politics, international relations, American politics, and public administration/policy; emphasis on four themes across the subfields: identity, participation (including non traditional participation such as violence), representation, and institutions/structure.

4. Prerequisite(s): [ ] None
   Cross-listed with: [ ] None

   Cross-listed courses require the signature of both department heads.

5. Is this a variable credit course? [ ] Yes [ ] No
   If yes, from _______ to _______

6. Is this a repeatable course? [ ] Yes [ ] No
   If yes, this course may be taken ______ times.
   Will this course be repeated within the same semester? [ ] Yes [ ] No

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      PhD students in political science with minors in race/ethnicity
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   POLS 660  Politics / Race / Ethnicity

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   Approval recommended by: [ ]
   [ ] Level 5

   [ ] Chair, College Review Committee
   [ ] Date

   Department Head - Type Name & Sign
   [ ] Date

   [ ] Dean of College
   [ ] Date

   [ ] if cross-listed course
   [ ] Date

   Submitted to Coordinating Board by:
   [ ] Department Head - Type Name & Sign
   [ ] Date

   [ ] Dean of College
   [ ] Date

   [ ] Date
   [ ] Effective Date

Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845-8201 or sandra.williams@tamu.edu.
Curricular Services – 3/09
POLITICAL SCIENCE 660

GATEWAY SEMINAR IN THE POLITICS OF RACE AND ETHNICITY

Ken Meier
Office: 2033
Office Hours: M 2:00-4:00 and by appointment
kmeier@polisci.tamu.edu

This seminar is the gateway seminar for the Race and Politics subfield minor in political science. The seminar is designed to give the student an overview of the race and ethnicity literature in four different subfields: comparative politics, international relations, American politics, and public administration/policy. The class will stress four themes across the subfields: identity, participation (including non traditional participation such as violence), representation, and institutions/structure. The seminar will be structured in two halves. In the first half the focus will be on international relations and comparative politics. In addition to the assigned readings, students will be expected to search for and read related literature on the topic. For the concept paper, students are expected to write a paper pursuing a question in more depth and suggesting additional readings. The student will also be expected in this session to bring and be able to defend the relevance of two potential preliminary exam questions to class for discussion. The second half of the course will focus on literature in public administration and public policy and American politics. The structure and requirements for the second half repeat those for the first half.

Course Objectives: The seminar will give the student an overview of the race and ethnicity literature in four different subfields: comparative politics, international relations, American politics, and public administration/policy. The class will stress four themes across the subfields: identity, participation (including non traditional participation such as violence), representation, and institutions/structure. Students will be expected to be able to understand and apply these concepts within the various literatures.

Prerequisites: None

Grades

Each student has three responsibilities: 1. to read and be able to discuss the material assigned, and 2. to draft two short papers that discuss central concepts in race, ethnicity and politics, and 3. to design and implement a research project that investigates race and public policy. Grades will be based on the following: 20% class participation, 20% on the two concept papers, and 60% the research paper. The concept papers are due via email on October 3 for the IR/Comparative paper and November 1 for the American/PAPP paper. In these papers the student takes an issue from the reading and critically investigates the issue in more depth. Concept papers are limited to ten total pages. Included in the final research paper grade are periodic presentations on the status of the paper as well as a final presentation of about 12 minutes. The research paper is on a topic of race, ethnicity and politics selected by the student. Topics should be cleared in advance with the instructor. Research papers can be theoretical or empirical in approach. All papers should conform to the APSA style manual. Paper presentations should be similar to the presentation of a conference paper. Papers are due at noon on December 1. Students will schedule their presentation times with the instructor. Students will receive letter grades on each aspect of the class with the class grade a weighted average of the individual grades (Grade Scale: 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 0-59=F).

The instructor does not accept late work without a university approved excuse.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an
accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in Room B118 of Cain Hall Building, or call 845-1637.

Texas A&M has an honor code. Students are expected to be familiar with the code (http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/). Integrity in the process of research and scholarship is a requirement in this class and, the instructor thinks, in the profession. If you have questions, ask.

This course does not have any handouts but the university seems to think the following statement is required: The handouts used in this course are copyrighted. By “handouts,” I mean all materials generated for this class, which include but are not limited to syllabi, quizzes, exams, lab problems, in-class materials review sheets, and additional problem sets. Because these are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts, unless I expressly grant permission.

As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one's own the ideas, words, writings, etc., which belong to another. In accordance with the definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of the person. Plagiarism is one of the worst academic sins, for the plagiarist destroys the trust among colleagues without which research cannot be safely communicated. If you have any questions regarding plagiarism, please consult the Aggie Honor System Office website (http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor) or the latest version of the Texas A&M University Student Rules, under the section “Scholastic Dishonesty.”

Books


Class Outline:

1. August 25 Class Intro: Race, Ethnicity and Politics

PART I. Race and Ethnicity in International Relations and Comparative Politics

2. Sept. 1 Identity and Participation: Latin America

Yashar, entire book
3. Sept. 8 Race, Ethnicity and Institutions: Africa

Posner, entire book


4. Sept. 15 Participation, Protest, and Conflict

Bimir, entire book

5. Sept. 22 Globalization and Ethnic Politics

Olzak, entire book

6. Sept. 29 Ethnic Violence and Solutions


7. October 6 Race and Ethnicity in IR and Comparative. Presentation and Discussion of student essays and exam questions.

**Part II. Race and Ethnicity in Public Administration, Public Policy, and American Politics**


Chapters by Marquez, Leal, and Jones Correa in Espino et al.


Harris, entire book

Chapters by Barreto, Ramirez, Manzano, and Rodriguez and Segura in Espino et al.

10. October 27. Mobilization II: The Case of Immigration
Ramakrishnan, entire book

   Soss, entire book

12. November 10. Representation in Legislative Bodies

   Chapters by Espino, Casellas, and Gonzalez Juenke in Espino et al.


13. November 17. Representation in Bureaucracies

   Selden, entire book

   Chapters by Rocha and Theobald in Espino et al.


   Roch, et al. Representative Bureaucracy and Policy Tools: Ethnicity, Student Discipline and Representation in Public Schools" Mimeo


   December 1. Papers due