



Course ATCM 2325.001
Course Title Introduction to Ethnic Studies
Professor Dr. Josef Nguyen (he/him/his)
Term Spring 2023
Meetings Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:00-2:15PM in ATC 1.305

Professor's Contact Information

Dr. Josef Nguyen (he/him/his)
Email Address josef.nguyen@utdallas.edu
Please format and address all emails regarding the class professionally, include the course information in the subject line, and allow up to 24 hours for responses
Office Location ATC 3.617
Office Hours By email appointment, with in-office and online options
Office Phone 972.883.7552

General Course Information

Restrictions N/A

Description This course introduces students to ethnic studies, with an emphasis on the field's core theories of race, racialization, and social difference. Students will examine how "race" structures and shapes culture and society in the United States historically and in the present day.

Learning Outcomes Students will:

- Understand key concepts and topics in the field of ethnic studies
- Become familiar with a range of histories, contexts, and issues of diverse and heterogeneous communities in the U.S. nation-state
- Develop facility in sociohistorically situated and intersectional analysis of structural inequalities as they manifest through race, gender, class, sexuality, ability, etc.
- Advance proficiencies in critical thinking, research, and writing
- Incorporate insights from existing scholarship and media production into their own research and creative practice

Required Texts & Materials Course readings, assignments, and other materials are available via Box.
Course announcements are handled on eLearning and sent via email.

Optional Material There is also a Discord server to facilitate community during and outside of class, which students can join if they wish. This is not a requirement.

To join the class Discord server, please email the instructor with your Discord handle and four-digit tag (username#0000).

Course Policies

Grading	Thoughtful Class Engagement	50%
Criteria	Paper 01: Social Construction of Race Primer	15%
	Paper 02: Local Media Representation Analysis	15%
	Paper 03: Annotated Concept Map	20%

Accommodation Students with disabilities are encouraged to utilize the on-campus resources at the Office of Student AccessAbility. You can contact the office at 972-883-6104 or by email: studentaccessability@utdallas.edu. Their office is located in the Student Service Building (SSB), suite 3.200. They can provide documentation and details for accommodations to address your individual needs. If you need any special accommodations to complete this course successfully, please provide me with this information as soon as possible, so we can make appropriate arrangements.

Classroom Conduct It is our responsibility to work together to produce a classroom environment where everyone can share, discuss, and question the materials at hand as well as contribute their own work respectfully and productively. Conflicting perspectives are unavoidable. To ensure that participants feel comfortable contributing a diverse set of thoughts, comments, and views, we will not use oppressive or harmful language, tolerate harassment, personal attacks, and other forms of actions that unduly distract from the educational mission and inflict emotional, physical, or psychological harm on those involved.

Part of the role of encouraging a diverse learning environment is acknowledging that individuals should feel safe and respected to contribute to the classroom in good faith. This involves not only allowing everyone opportunities to contribute their thoughts but to be mindful of how we recognize and address others. Do not assume things about others' identities, backgrounds, or experiences—whether that is age, race, gender, sexuality, ability, class, etc... Address people by their names, pronouns, and other identifiers that they disclose. Avoid insisting on imposing identity markers onto others. Allow people to self-identify as they feel comfortable.

What you share with and create for this class reflects not only you as both a student and a civic subject, but it also reflects on me as your instructor, the class as a learning community, and UT Dallas as an academic institution.

Please discuss with me any concerns you have regarding an unsafe or hostile classroom environment, particularly if something arises that causes distress.

Class Attendance Attend class regularly and in full. Any absences should include documentation of a valid excuse (family or medical emergency, for example). Unexcused absences may impact course grades. Discuss upcoming potential absences with me to make appropriate arrangements.

Arriving more than 30 minutes late or leaving more than 30 minutes early, without prior clearance, may be grounds for marking that day as an absence. Failure to prepare for class participation (such as not having done the necessary reading) will also be regarded as conditions for an absence.

- Technology in the Classroom** Laptops and computers can be used in the classroom solely for purposes directly pertinent to the activities and discussions at-hand. Excessive misuse of technology in the classroom will result in an absence for the day.
- Class Materials** The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course; however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).
- Class Recordings** Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).
- Late Work** Late work will be penalized 10% (a full letter grade) for each 24-hour period beyond the deadline and will not receive written feedback by default. For written feedback on a late assignment, please send an email request. If you need an extension, let me know in advance so we can make arrangements.
- Academic Honesty** All work must be original for this class. Plagiarism is using the words and materials of others as if they were your own. It is a serious offense with consequences. Use proper citation to indicate the use of other people's work to strengthen your own. All suspicions of plagiarism will be investigated. Please consult [utdallas.edu/dept/graddean/gspolDishonesty.htm].
- Comet Creed** *This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same: "As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."*
- Academic Support Resources** *The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students. Please go to [go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources].*
- UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures** *The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the sections regarding the [credit/no credit](#) grading option and withdrawal from class. Please go to [go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies] for these policies.*

Assignments & Academic Calendar

UNIT 0: BEGINNINGS

Week 01: Monday, 16 January 2022
Getting Started NO CLASS MEETING IN OBSERVANCE OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S BIRTHDAY

Wednesday, 18 January 2023

IN CLASS:

Syllabus Overview

Class Introductions

UNIT I: SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONS OF RACE

Week 02: Monday, 23 January 2023
Racial Formation BEFORE CLASS:
READ: Michael Omi and Howard Winant, "The Theory of Racial
Formation," in *Racial Formation in the United States*
READ: Stuart Hall. "The Whites of Their Eyes: Racist Ideologies in
Media," in *Selected Writings on Race and Difference* (eds. Paul
Gilroy and Ruth Wilson Gilmore)

IN CLASS:

Introduce Paper 01: Social Construction of Race Primer

Wednesday, 25 January 2023

IN CLASS:

Workshop Activity and Discussion

Week 03: Monday, 30 January 2023
Colorblindness BEFORE CLASS:
and Racial READ: George Lipsitz, "The Possessive Investment in Whiteness:
Capitalism Racialized Social Democracy and the 'White' Problem in
American Studies"
READ: Ruha Benjamin, "Default Discrimination: Is the Glitch
Systemic?" in *Race after Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the
New Jim Code*

Wednesday, 1 February 2023

IN CLASS:

Workshop Activity and Discussion

Week 04: Monday, 6 February 2023

Intersectionality

BEFORE CLASS:

READ: The Combahee River Collective, “The Combahee River Collective Statement,” [blackpast.org/african-american-history/combahee-river-collective-statement-1977/]

READ: Audre Lorde, “The Master’s Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master’s House”

READ: Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw, “Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence against Women of Color” (CW – contains discussion of anti-Black violence, sexual assault)

Wednesday, 8 February 2023

IN CLASS:

Workshop Activity and Discussion

Week 05: Monday, 13 February 2023

Racial Fields and Relations

BEFORE CLASS:

READ: Claire Jean Kim, “The Racial Triangulation of Asian Americans”

READ: Lisa Lowe, “Heterogeneity, Hybridity, Multiplicity: Marking Asian American Differences”

Wednesday, 15 February 2023

NO CLASS MEETING

Week 06: Monday, 20 February 2023

Work on Paper 01

NO CLASS MEETING

Wednesday, 22 February 2023

NO CLASS MEETING

Paper 01: Social Construction of Race Primer due by 11:59PM

UNIT II: AT HOME

Week 07: Monday, 27 February 2023

Sovereignty and Settler Colonialism

BEFORE CLASS:

READ: Maile Arvin, Eve Tuck, and Angie Morrill, “Decolonizing Feminism: Challenging Connections Between Settler Colonialism and Heteropatriarchy”

READ: Dean Itsuji Saranillio, “Why Asian Settler Colonialism Matters: A Thought Piece on Critiques, Debates, and Indigenous Difference”

IN CLASS:

Introduce Paper 02: Local Media Representation Analysis

Wednesday, 1 March 2023

IN CLASS:

Workshop Activity and Discussion

Week 08: Monday, 6 March 2023
Prisons and Abolition BEFORE CLASS:
READ: Beth Richie, "Introduction," in *Arrested Justice: Black Women, Violence, and America's Prison*
READ: Eric A. Stanley, Dean Spade, and Queer (In)Justice, "Queering Prison Abolition, Now?"

Wednesday, 8 March 2023
IN CLASS:
Workshop Activity and Discussion

SPRING BREAK **Monday, 13 March 2023**
NO CLASS MEETING

Wednesday, 15 March 2023
NO CLASS MEETING

Week 09: Monday, 20 March 2023
Borders and Immigration BEFORE CLASS:
READ: Gloria Anzaldúa, "Speaking in Tongues: A Letter to Third World Women Writers," in *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color* (eds. Cherríe Moraga and Gloria Anzaldúa)
READ: Mae M. Ngai, "The Architecture of Race in American Immigration Law: A Reexamination of the Immigration Act of 1924"

Wednesday, 22 March 2023
IN CLASS:
Workshop Activity and Discussion

Week 10: Monday, 27 March 2023
Orientalism BEFORE CLASS:
READ: Evelyn Alsultany, "Introduction," in *Arabs and Muslims in the Media: Race and Representation After 9/11*
READ: Tara Fickle, "Ludo-Orientalism and the Gamification of Race," in *The Race Card: From Gaming Technologies to Model Minorities*

Wednesday, 29 March 2023
IN CLASS:
Workshop Activity and Discussion

Week 11: Monday, 3 April 2023
Work on Paper 02 **NO CLASS MEETING**

Wednesday, 5 April 2023
NO CLASS MEETING
Paper 02: Local Media Representation Analysis due by 11:59PM

UNIT III: AND BEYOND

Week 12: Monday, 10 April 2023
Postcolonial Critique BEFORE CLASS:
READ: Chandra Talpade Mohanty, “Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses”

IN CLASS:
Introduce Paper 03: Annotated Concept Map

Wednesday, 12 April 2023
NO CLASS MEETING

Week 13: Monday, 17 April 2023
American Empire BEFORE CLASS:
READ: Amy Kaplan, “Manifest Domesticity,” in *The Anarchy of Empire in the Making of U.S. Culture*
READ: Sunaina Maira, “Imperial Feelings: U.S. Empire and the War on Terror,” in *Missing: Youth, Citizenship and the Empire after 9/11*

Wednesday, 19 April 2023
IN CLASS:
Workshop Activity and Discussion

Week 14: Monday, 26 April 2023
Toward Just Futures BEFORE CLASS:
READ: Kalamaoka’aina Niheu, “Indigenous Resistance in an Era of Climate Change Crisis”
READ: Ren-yo Hwang, “Deviant Care for Deviant Futures: QTBIPOC Radical Relationalism as Mutual Aid against Carceral Care”

Wednesday, 28 April 2023
IN CLASS:
Workshop Activity and Discussion

Week 15: Monday, 1 May 2023
Work on Paper 03 **NO CLASS MEETING**

Wednesday, 3 May 2023
NO CLASS MEETING

FINALS WEEK **Paper 03: Annotated Concept Map**
due Friday, 12 May 2023 by 11:59PM

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.