

510:563 Race, Place and Space in African American History - Fall 2017, T4:30-7:30

**Professor Mia Bay - Office: Van Dyck Hall 308; Office hours T:3-4pm and by appt.
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This course is dedicated to exploring the interplay of social, historical, and spatial forces that have shaped post-emancipation African American life. Although primarily focused on race, place and space as they figure in the African-American experience, the course readings also address American racial configurations as they affect other Americans: from Euro-Americans to Native Americans. Many readings also figure gender as a central feature of racial stratification and racial thought.

Chronologically arranged, the course readings cover the migration and remigration of black Southerners after emancipation; the history of Jim Crow segregation in the South, black urbanization in the North; impact of immigration on African American communities; racial conflicts over residential and recreation spaces; the racial geographies of deindustrialization and incarceration; and the political effects of suburbanization.

Course Requirements

Regular attendance, participation, and careful reading are key requirements for this course. In addition, students will be asked to lead some of our discussions and to complete three written assignments. They include:

- A set of discussion questions for one week's readings (sign up for specific reading)
- A 5-7 page book review (sign up to write about a specific book)
- A 12-15 page final paper on a race, space and place-related topic. This paper due on Monday December 16, 2013. Depending on what best serves your needs, your final paper can be a research proposal, historiography paper, or interdisciplinary literature review. You can choose a topic represented in the weekly reading topics, or craft a topic of your own devising. Your essay should be analytical rather than comprehensive, but it should assess several different works. Please plan to discuss at least three books, and two articles. The works you discuss can include course readings, but must also include at least one book and one article that are not on the syllabus. Your final paper should not focus primarily on any work you've already covered in the other two assignments.

Readings

Articles

Most of articles in the assigned reading are available online; but I have also uploaded them to our Sakai Resources Folder.

Books

Course readings include the following books, which are all available on Amazon:

Borstelmann, Thomas. *The Cold War and the Color Line American Race Relations in the Global Arena*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2001.

Chang, David A. *The Color of the Land: Race, Nation, and the Politics of Landownership in Oklahoma, 1832-1929*. Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 2010

James Forman, Jr. *Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2017.

Glenn, Evelyn Nakano, *Unequal Freedom: How Race and Gender Shape American Citizenship* Harvard University Press,

Gregory, James N. 2005. *The Southern Diaspora: How the Great Migrations of Black and White Southerners Transformed America*. The University of North Carolina Press

Hurley, Andrew. *Environmental Inequalities: Class, Race, and Industrial Pollution in Gary, Indiana, 1945-1980*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995.

Kahrl, Andrew W. 2012. *The Land Was Ours: African American Beaches from Jim Crow to the Sunbelt South*. Harvard University Press.

Kelley, Blair Murphy. *Right to Ride Streetcar Boycotts and African American Citizenship in the Era of Plessy V. Ferguson*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010.

Kruse, Kevin Michael. *White Flight: Atlanta and the Making of Modern Conservatism*. Princeton, N.J.; Woodstock: Princeton University Press, 2007.

McMillen, Neil R. 1990. *Dark Journey: Black Mississippians in the Age of Jim Crow*. University of Illinois Press.

Rothstein, Richard. *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*. 1 edition. New York: Liveright, 2017

Smith-Pryor, Elizabeth M. *Property Rites: the Rhinelander Trial, Passing, and the Protection of Whiteness*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009.

Wolcott, Victoria W. 2012. *Race, Riots, and Roller Coasters: The Struggle over Segregated Recreation in America*. University of Pennsylvania Press.

Woodward, C. Vann. *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*. Oxford (Oxford University Press, 2002)

Course Schedule

1. September 5: Introduction: Overviews

Don Mitchell, "A Place for Everyone: Cultural Geographies of Race" in *Cultural Geography: An Introduction*, 230-258

Lipsitz, George. "The Racialization of Space and the Spatialization of Race Theorizing the Hidden Architecture of Landscape." *Landscape Journal* 26, no. 1 (January 1, 2007): 10–23.

2. September 12: The Geography of Slavery and Freedom

Chang, David A. *The Color of the Land: Race, Nation, and the Politics of Landownership in Oklahoma, 1832-1929*. Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 2010.

Wolfe, Patrick. "Land, Labor, and Difference: Elementary Structures of Race." *The American Historical Review* 106, no. 3 (June 2001)

3. September 19: Race, Citizenship and the Geography of Free Labor

Glenn, Evelyn Nakano, *Unequal Freedom: How Race and Gender Shape American Citizenship* Harvard University Press,

Wong, Edlie. "Comparative Racialization, Immigration Law, and James Williams's Life and Adventures." *American Literature* 84, no. 4 (December 1, 2012): 797–826.

4. September 26: The Strange Career of Jim Crow

Woodward, C. Vann. *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*. Oxford (Oxford University Press, 2002)

. Kelley, Blair Murphy. *Right to Ride Streetcar Boycotts and African American Citizenship in the Era of Plessy V. Ferguson*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010.

5. October 3: Black Life in the Segregated South

McMillen, Neil R. 1990. *Dark Journey: Black Mississippians in the Age of Jim Crow*. University of Illinois Press.

Hoelscher, Steven. 2003. "Making Place, Making Race: Performances of Whiteness in the Jim Crow South." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 93 (3): 657–686.

6. October 10: Between Black and White

Smith-Pryor, Elizabeth M. *Property Rites: the Rhinelander Trial, Passing, and the Protection of Whiteness*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009.

Theda Perdue, "Indians and Jim Crow," Stephanie Cole, and Natalie J. Ring, ed. 2012. *The Folly of Jim Crow: Rethinking the Segregated South*. Texas A&M University Press

7. October 17: Land and Leisure

Kahrl, Andrew W. 2012. *The Land Was Ours: African American Beaches from Jim Crow to the Sunbelt South*. Harvard University Press.

Harrison, Blake. "Working in the Shade: Agriculture, Race, and Recreational Landscapes in Connecticut, 1940–1950." *Journal of Cultural Geography* 28, no. 3 (2011): 399–431.

8. October 24: Migration

Gregory, James N. 2005. *The Southern Diaspora: How the Great Migrations of Black and White Southerners Transformed America*. The University of North Carolina Press.

McCammack, Brian. “‘My God, They Must Have Riots on Those Things All the Time’: African American Geographies and Bodies on Northern Urban Public Transportation, 1915–1940.” *Journal of Social History* 43, no. 4 (2010).

9. October 31: Urbanization

Rothstein, Richard. *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*. 1 edition. New York: Liveright, 2017.

Mumford, Kevin J. “Homosex Changes: Race, Cultural Geography, and the Emergence of the Gay.” *American Quarterly* 48, no. 3 (September 1996): 395-414.

10. November 7: Race, Space and Recreation

Wolcott, Victoria W. 2012. *Race, Riots, and Roller Coasters: The Struggle over Segregated Recreation in America*. University of Pennsylvania Press.

Connolly, N. D. B. “Timely Innovations: Planes, Trains and the ‘whites Only’ Economy of a Pan-American City.” *Urban History* 36, no. Special Issue 02 (2009): 243–261.

Seiler, Cotten. “‘So That We as a Race Might Have Something Authentic to Travel By’: African American Automobility and Cold-War Liberalism.” *American Quarterly* 58, no. 4 (2006): 1091–1117.

11. November 14: The Global Arena

Borstelmann, Thomas. *The Cold War and the Color Line American Race Relations in the Global Arena*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2001.

Romano, Renee. “No Diplomatic Immunity: African Diplomats, the State Department, and Civil Rights, 1961-1964.” *Journal of American History* 87, no. 2 (September 2000): 546–579.

12. November 21: Environments

Hurley, Andrew. *Environmental Inequalities: Class, Race, and Industrial Pollution in Gary, Indiana, 1945-1980*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995.

Robin D. G. Kelley, “Pleasure and Profit on the Postindustrial Playground,” ed. Wahneema Lubiano, *The House that Race Built* (New York: Random House, 1997), 195-231

Shabazz, Rashad. “Masculinity and the Mic: Confronting the Uneven Geography of Hip-hop.” *Gender, Place & Culture* 0, no. 0 (0): 1–17.

November 27: No Class – (Friday Classes)

13. December 4: Carceral Spaces

James Forman, Jr. *Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2017.

Thompson, Heather Ann. “Why Mass Incarceration Matters: Rethinking Crisis, Decline, and Transformation in Postwar American History.” *Journal of American History* 97, no. 3 (December 2010): 703–734.

14. December 11: Suburbanization

Kruse, Kevin Michael. *White Flight: Atlanta and the Making of Modern Conservatism*. Princeton, N.J.; Woodstock: Princeton University Press, 2007.

Avila, Eric. "Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight Film Noir, Disneyland, and the Cold War (Sub)Urban Imaginary." *Journal of Urban History* 31, no. 1 (November 1, 2004): 3–22.