

Course Instructor	Audrey Kobayashi	Email: kobayasi@queensu.ca
Office	Mac-Corry E311	
Contact Time	Two 1.5 hour lectures/week One 1.0 hour tutorial/week	
Format	Lectures & Tutorial	
Class Assessment	Tutorial participation, in class tests, writing assignments	

COURSE OVERVIEW

Students will be introduced to the concept of “race” as a social construct that has no biological legitimacy but is one of the most powerful influences on human life. Issues of race continue to inform the ways in which individuals from different social locations experience the world. Although race is biologically irrelevant, its association with fixed biological characteristics that are based on relations of power can be seen in residential segregation, acts of racism and economic inequities for racialized “Others.” Geography always informs the ways in which race is understood and lived, in the everyday and everywhere. Whiteness as a “neutral” and invisible racial standpoint will be explored towards the end of the course. A discussion of whiteness is necessary to provide a mirror image of the ways in which the racialized “Other” is always measured in relation to this social norm.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Identify key concepts related to the construction of race
 Examine the process of racialization
 Articulate the principals of critical race theoretical and analytical frameworks
 Describe the intersectional nature of social identities
 Relate the concept of intersectionality to the process of social marginalization
 Analyze how relations of power influence social norms, location, positionality, and privilege
 Apply a critical race analytic perspective to historical and contemporary sociocultural issues
 Consider personal and collective opportunities for social action and racial justice

COURSE TOPICS

The construction of “race”, “common sense” understandings of “race”; racism; racial discourse; race and social systems in Canada; “whiteness”; intersectionality; racial geographies and social locations; multiculturalism; immigration; media and representation.

COURSE READINGS

Henry, F. & C. Tator. 2010. *The Colour of Democracy: Racism in Canadian Society*. 4th Ed. Toronto, ON: Nelson.
 Satzewich, V. & N. Liodakis. 2010. *'Race' & Ethnicity in Canada: A Critical Introduction*. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press.