

JWST 050/RELI 055: Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and Racisms: Global Perspectives

LACS 015 U: Global Racisms

Hofstra University/Spring 2023

Professor: Santiago Slabodsky

Office: 104 J Heger Hall

E-mail: santiago.slabodsky@hofstra.edu

Office Hours: Tu 1:30-2:40pm (please contact by Appointment)



Course Description

In this class we will explore the discourses, politics and history that led to the racialization of Jews, Muslims, Natives and Africans throughout modernity. Topics will include colonialism and imperialism, the role of music, film, philosophy and internet in the construction of otherness, the olympics of suffering, and the responses different groups have had against their racialization. This class will be of interest to students interested in religion, anthropology, philosophy, Latin American and Caribbean studies, European studies, Middle Eastern studies, history, and comparative literature.

Grading and Assignments

1. Weekly Quotes 25%
You are to post on Blackboard one quote from the text or video we are reading/watching before every class. You will post two quotes per week, one on Mon (for Tu classes) and one on Wed (for Th classes) at 9:00pm. Quotes after 9pm and repeated quotes will receive no credit. Each correct posting will receive an equal percentage according to the total of quotes required during the semester.
2. Active Attendance and Class Participation 20%
You are to be present through class time and participate actively in group and plenary discussions showing academic engagement with the material. The final grade will account for attendance, punctuality, and regularity, relevance and quality of class participation.
3. Letter (1650 words -this is around 5-6 pages double-spaced-) 25%
You are to write a letter to a challenging interlocutor explaining a key issue you learned in class. More information will be provided in class two weeks before the first deadline. There will be a formal submission and a built-in extension date. Late submissions after the built-in or agreed extension will incur in a 3% penalty per day starting from the formal submission date.
4. Final Project: Research Paper (2850 words – this is around 8-10 pages double-spaced) 30%
You are to write a research paper. More information will be provided right after the midterm. There will be a formal submission and a built-in extension date. Late submissions after the built-in or agreed extension will incur in a 3% penalty per day starting from the formal submission date.

Bibliography

- All material will be posted on Blackboard.

Part I. Introduction

- T 1/31 Intro and Film *Even the Rain* (Icíar Bollaín and Gael Garcia Bernal - 2010)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/18/movies/18even.html>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/terence-clarke/tambien-la-lluvia_b_1314663.html
- R 2/2 Race and the Crossing Atlantic Worlds
Ella Shohat and Robert Stam, "The Atlantic Enlightenment," in *Race in Translation* (New York: New York University Press), 1-24.

Part II. Religion and Race, The Underside of Modernity (17 to 18 Centuries)

T 2/7 Religion and the Invention of Racism

George Fredrickson, *Racism: A Short History* (Princeton: Princeton University Press 1992), 1-13

Walter Mignolo, "Dispensable Lives and Bare Lives: Coloniality and the Hidden Political/Economic Agenda of Modernity" in *the Journal of Human Architecture* VII.2 (2009): 69-88.

R 2/9 Religion and the Invention of Racism

Fredrickson, *Racism: A Short History*, 27-47.

Sylvia Wynter, "1492: A New World View" in *Race, Discourse and the Origins of the Americas*, Vera Lawrence and Rex Nettlefold Eds (Washington: Smithsonian Institute, 1995), 5-14 (rest of the article is optional).

T 2/14 Religion, Entanglements and Reproduction of Racisms. Special Lecture by Dr Clive Gabay (Queens College-University of London)

Clive Gabay, "Anti-Fascist Cracks: Jewishness, Arabness, and Getting Away from the Imperial Politics of Race." (this is an unpublished draft from a forthcoming book please do not circulate without the permission of the author). More info here: <https://www.hofstra.edu/cultural-center/issues-judaism.html> .

R 2/16 The Four Epistemic Genocides of the Long 16th Century

Ramon Grosfoguel, "The Structure of Knowledge in Westernized Universities: Epistemic Racism/Sexism and the Four Genocides/Epistemicides of the Long 16th Century" *Journal of Human Architecture* (2003), 79-89 (before page 79 is optional).

Irene Silverblatt, *Modern Inquisitions: Perú and the Origins of the Colonial World* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2004), 141-148 and 161-169.

T 2/21 President's Break (No Classes)

Part III. Politics, Science and Racism (19th to the 20th century)

R 2/23 White Supremacy in the Making

Fredrickson, *Racism: A Short History*, 51-70.

Emmanuel Eze, *Race and the Enlightenment: A Reader* (Malden, Blackwell Publishing 1997), 38-43 [I. Kant], 95-96 [T. Jefferson] and 109-114 [G.W. Hegel].

T 2/28 White Supremacy in the Making

Fredrickson, *Racism: A Short History*, 70-92.

Rabson Wuriga, "Role and Impact of the Intellectual Factor in the 18th-20th Centuries European Conception of "Jews as Jews" *Historizing Antisemitism, Journal of Human Architecture*, 53-68.

R 3/2 Special Lecture on Gastronomy, Racism and Coloniality

We will attend the launch of the book of Hofstra Professor Zilkia Janer. *The Coloniality of Modern Taste: A Critique of Gastronomic Thought* (New York and London: Routledge, 2023) [pages tba] . Participants will include, besides the author, Drs Manuela Boatca (Global Studies-Freiburg University) and Krishnendu Ray (Food Studies-New York University). The panel is organized and chaired by Santiago Slabodsky (Jewish Studies-Hofstra). More info here: <https://www.hofstra.edu/cultural-center/issues-judaism.html>

T 3/7 Orientalism and the Middle East

Edward Said, *Orientalism* (Vintage Books, 1995), 9-36.

R 3/9 Old and New Networks of Orientalism

Jukka Jouhkim, "Orientalism and India" (J@Gonia) 2006: 1-16.

Tudor Parfitt, "The Use of the Jew in Colonial Discourse" in *Orientalism and the Jews*. Ivan Kalmar and Derek Penslar eds (Brandeis UP, 2005), 51-67.

T 3/14 Orientalism and Popular Culture

Edward Said, *Orientalism*, 23-35.

Watch Simpsons Episode, "My Pods and Boomsticks" (link provided)

3/16 Submission of Midterm ; 3/18 N Questions Asked Policy

3/21 and 3/23 Spring Break

T 3/28 From Orientalism to Islamophobia in American Foreign Policy

Manmeet Nijeer (BA Hofstra 2019, MA Columbia 2022) will be visiting us to talk about the thesis she completed under Dr. Slabodsky at Hofstra: "Narratives of

Terrorism in American Consciousness: Islam and the Middle East in Western Imaginaries."

Part IV: Racisms and Resistances in the 20th Century

R 3/30 Climax and Retreat

Fredrickson, *Racism: A Short History*, 99-120

Aime Cesaire, *Discourse on Colonialism* (New York: Montly Press, 2001), 1-12

T 4/4 Climax and Retreat

Fredrickson, *Racism: A Short History*, 121-138.

Aime Cesaire, *Discourse on Colonialism* (New York: Montly Press, 2001), 12-24.

R 4/6 Racism and the Holocaust

James Whitman, *Hitler's American Model* (Princeton University Press, 2017), pages tba.

T 4/11 Film, The Battle of Algiers (1966)

Link provided.

R 4/13 Holocaust Memory and Crossing Social Activisms

Michael Rothberg, "A Tale of Three Ghettos: Race, Gender and 'Universality' after October 17, 1961" in *Multidirectional Memory* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2009), 227-245 (rest of the chapter is optional)

Estelle Tarica, *Holocaust, Consciousness and Cold War Violence in Latin America* (New York: State University), 1-16 (rest of the intro is optional)

T 4/18 Colonial Violence and State of Exception

Frantz Fanon, "Concerning Violence" in *The Wretched of the Earth* (New York: Grove Press, 2005), 35-56 (rest of the article is optional).

Michael Lowy, *Fire Alarm: Reading Walter Benjamin's On the Concept of History*. (New York, Verso, 2016), We will be reading the theses and commentary II, VII and B.

Part V Open Interrogations in the 21st Century

R 4/20 The Question of Antisemitism in the European Union

European Union Commission, *EU Strategy on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Liife* (2021-203)

T 4/25 The Question of Antisemitism in the European Union

Brian Klug, What do we mean we we say 'Antisemitism'? Echoes of Shattering Glass (Berlin: Jewish Museum of Berlin), 1-26.

R 4/27 Decolonial Feminisms: Latinxs an Muslims

Maria Lugones, "The Coloniality of Gender," *Worlds and Knowledges Otherwise* (2008): 1-17.

Houria Bouteldja, *Whites, Jews and Us* (Boston, MIT Press, 2016), 53-61 and 73-85.

T 5/2 Anti-Asianess and "Yellow Peril" narratives.

Yao Li and Harvey Nicholson, "When 'model minorities' become 'Yellow Peril' – Othering and the Racializations of Asian Americans in the COVID-19 Pandemic" *Social Compass* (2021): 1-13.

CBS, The History of Anti-Asian Hate Crime in America (8/1/2021)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JX-GD4fGFHk>

R 5/4 Colorblindness and Multiculturality

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, *Racism Without Racists* (Lanham and London: Rowman and Litchfield, 2021), 1-18.

A video link on 'Obama era' Colorblindness provided.

T 5/9 From Colorblindness to Trumpism

Student will be searching media material to reflect on the passage. Information TBA.

5/12-18 Final Paper Due

University and Course Policies

Complete Information about Academic Dishonesty; Disability Accommodations; Resources for Students who are Pregnant; Temporary Adjustments/Academic Leave of Absence; Deadlines and Grading Policies; Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Misconduct; Absences for Religious Observance and specific policies relating to COVID-19 guidelines including mask wearing, class attendance, and class seating is available on the Provost's webpage at the link below."

<https://www.hofstra.edu/about/administration/provost/provost-information-for-students.html>

[<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https://www>](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https://www>)

Use of generative artificial intelligence tools, e.g. Chat GPT, must be consistent with the instructor's stated course policy. Unless indicated otherwise in the instructions

for a specific assignment, the use of ChatGPT or similar artificial intelligence tools for work submitted in this course constitutes the receiving of “unauthorized assistance for academic work”, and is a violation of the Hofstra University Honor Code.