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ANTY 122S.01: Race and Minorities

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Course: Anthropology 122S: Race and Minorities
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Course Description: Race, ethnicity, and minority are powerful cultural and social constructs in American society. This course will explore from a critical anthropological perspective the concept of race to assess its validity as a biological and socio-cultural category. In the latter portion of the course, we will examine the relationship between race, ethnicity, and minority status among the major ethnic groups of the United States, outlining their political, economic, and cultural struggles for societal equality.

Course Objectives: 1. Students will comprehend the nature, structure, and historical development of race and ethnicity in the United States and how those constructs have affected societal relationships. 2. Students will understand the role of critical race theory in explaining social phenomena. 3. Students, employing qualitative and quantitative data, will assess and evaluate the significance of race and ethnicity as social phenomena.

Required texts Campbell, G., Many Americas. Kendall Hunt Publishers.

Course Reading Assignments: Students are required to read materials as assigned by the instructor. **You are responsible for all the materials, including movies, for the tests.**

Optional texts: The works below offer you supplemental reading and insight into issues of race, racism, and ethnicity. Those of you that are interested in these matters should have these works in your library.

Fujino, D., Samurai among Panthers: Richard Aoki on Race, Resistance, and a Paradoxical Life. University of Minnesota Press.

Marak, A.M. and L. Tuennerman, At the Border of Empire: The Tohono O'Odham, Gender, and Assimilation, 1880-1934. University of Arizona Press.

Leiman, M., The Political Economy of Racism. Haymarker Books.

Schrift, M., Becoming Melungeon: Making an Ethnic Identity in the Appalachian South. University of Nebraska Press.

Bloom, J. and W Martin, Black Against Empire. University of California Press.

Extra credit: For those who would like to strive for a superior grade, a student can obtain one or more of the optional readings and write a critical book review relating the work to the course content. The book review must be 3.5 to 5 double spaced pages. The review will address what the book was about, how the work relates to the course, and your substantive opinion about the work. The extra credit will be worth **30 possible** points per book. The assignment is due the last lecture day of class. **No late assignments will be accepted after that day.**

Course requirements: There are two exams during the course, a midterm (100 points) and final (100 points). The structure and content of the test will be disclosed during the in-class test review sessions. Grading is on a straight point system.