

**PSCI 3805A**  
**The Politics of Race**  
Mondays and Wednesdays 2:35 – 5:25 pm  
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Dr. Dan Webb  
Office: B646 Loeb Building  
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Phone: (613) 520-2600 ext. 1598 (no voice-mail)  
Email: danwebb@connect.carleton.ca

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### **Course Description**

This course investigates some of the most important academic ideas and debates surrounding the politics and theories of race and racialisation. Topics include the use of “race” in western political thought, the systematic and systemic racism of colonial societies, theories of multiculturalism and cosmopolitanism, and current events in the United States surrounding immigration, the Obama presidency, and the “Tea Party” movement.

### **Texts**

This course will rely heavily on publically (and legally) accessible information on the internet. However, there is a novel – *The In-Between World of Vikram Lall* – that must be purchased from Haven Bookstore.

### **Evaluation**

Participation	= 5%
Attendance	= 5%
Paper # (due July 19)	= 20%
Paper #2 (due August 4)	= 35 %
Final Exam	= 35 %

\* **Please Note:** For writing assignments, students will be evaluated primarily in terms of: 1. coherence, depth, and accuracy of argument, 2. inclusion of required number of legitimate secondary sources; 3. grammar, style, and structure; and 4. quality of thesis statement.

### **Early Feedback**

Paper #1 is due on July 19 (4 days before the drop deadline. All grades will be returned by July 21).

## **Examinations**

There will be one (final take home) exam (35% of final grade for the Summer term). The take home exam is due on August 24th. The exams can either be handed in to me directly in B 646 Loeb or handed in to the departmental drop box. (see drop box policy below)**The format of the exam will be long answers.**

## **Term Work**

### *Paper #1:*

Students will write an 8-page research essay. The basic format for all written work is: 12 font, Times New Roman, and double-spaced. In the essay students must choose one of the concepts provided below. Write a position paper that discusses the nature and importance of the concept in relation to politics or the discipline of political science.

Concepts to choose from:

1. Phrenology
2. Noble Savage
3. White Man's Burden
4. *Terra Nullius*
5. Orientalism
6. Natural Slavery
7. Conflation of Race and Religion
8. De-Colonisation
9. Whiteness Studies
10. Post-Colonial Theory
11. Eurocentrism

***This essay requires a minimum of 4 legitimate secondary sources, 2 which must come from recognised scholarly journals or books.*** The objective of this assignment is to get a sense of the students' writing and research abilities and to provide feedback to the students before the course drop deadline. The assignment is due *in-class* on July 19. (the drop date with full fee adjustment is July 23)

### *Paper #2:*

Students will write a 12-page research paper. A minimum of **8 legitimate secondary sources** are required, 6 which must come from *recognised scholarly*

*journals or books.* Choose one of the following groups or movements. Write a research paper that describes its ideas, historical development, and the social and political relevance of its activism.

Groups to choose from:

1. Black Panther Party
2. American Indian Movement
3. NAACP
4. KKK
5. Aryan Nation
6. Nation of Islam
7. Louis Riel and the Northwest Rebellion
8. Zapatistas
9. Zionism
10. African National Congress
11. The “Birthers”
12. Israel Apartheid Week
13. Pan-Arabism
14. Assembly of First Nations
15. Non-Aligned Movement
16. The Mao Mao (Kenya)

The paper is due in-class on August 4. All papers must be submitted to the instructor **in-class** on the assigned dates. Papers will be handed back to students *in their discussion groups*. If a student can not be present at the discussion group, they can leave a self-addressed stamped envelope with the instructor when they are submitting their paper. The instructor will then mail the graded paper to the student.

#### *Late Assignment Policy*

Any paper that is handed in after the class is finished on the assigned date will be considered late. All essays and papers handed in late will receive a deduction of 10% for each day late. Late papers can be left in the department of Political Science drop box. The drop box is emptied every weekday at 4:00 PM and time-stamped. Any papers dropped off after 4:00 PM will be considered submitted the following day, *even if the paper is submitted into the box during regular class hours.*

#### **Other forms of evaluation**

##### *Participation*

5% of the final grade will be determined by the student's contribution to class discussions. Students will be expected to come to class prepared to discuss / ask questions about the assigned reading and related topics. One novel – *The In-Between World of Vikram Lall* – has been assigned to read throughout the course. Time will be set aside in specific classes to discuss sections of the novel.

### *Attendance*

5% of the final grade for the Fall term will be based on attendance at the discussion groups. Students will be allowed to miss two classes without penalty. All subsequent absences will result in a 1% penalty per absence (1% as a percentage of the final overall course grade. i.e., if you miss 7 classes you will receive 0/5).

### **Academic Support:**

If you require research, computer or learning support services, please consult the Carleton University Learning Commons at [http://www.library.carleton.ca/learning\\_commons/](http://www.library.carleton.ca/learning_commons/)

For help with academic writing and related issues, please consult the Academic Writing Centre and Writing Tutorial Service (<http://www.carleton.ca/wts/>).

### **Class Schedule**

July 5 Introduction

July 7 Theory of Race and Politics 1

- Reading: Said, *Orientalism*, WEBCT “Course Content”

July 12 Theory of Race and Politics 2

- Reading: Rousseau, TBA

July 14 Settler States 1

- Reading: Vickers, “Introduction” and “Chapter 1”, WEBCT “Course Content”
- Reading: Vassanji, *Vikram Lall*, Part 1 (pp. 1-145)

July 19 Settler States 2

- Reading: Vickers, “Chapter 2”, WEBCT “Course Content”
- **Paper #1 Due**

July 21 MOVIE! Noyce, *Rabbit Proof Fence*

July 26 Settler States 3

- Reading, Vickers, “Chapter 3”, WEBCT “Course Content”

- Reading: Vassanji, *Vikram Lall*, Part 2 (pp. 146-243)

July 28 Other De-Colonial Movements

- Reading: Fanon, TBA

Aug. 2 HOLIDAY, NO CLASS!

Aug. 4 Cosmopolitanism/Class, Race, Nationalism

- Reading: Vassanji, *Vikram Lall*, Part 3 and 4 (pp. 246-400)
- Paper #2 Due.

Aug. 9 MOVIE! Meadows, *This is England*

Aug. 11 Obama, Tea Party, “White Trash” / Exam Review

- Reading: TBA

Aug. 16 Review. Take home exam will be handed out (due Aug. 24th)

### Academic Accommodations

**For students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **June 11 2010 for early summer examinations and July 30 2010 for late summer examinations**.

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;

- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Course Requirements:** Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Connect Email Accounts:** All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

**Carleton Political Science Society:** The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students in the after-hours academic life at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, please email [carletonpss@gmail.com](mailto:carletonpss@gmail.com), visit our website at [poliscisociety.com](http://poliscisociety.com), or come to our office in Loeb D688.

**Official Course Outline:** The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.