

COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Race and Racism: Global Theories and Local Realities	

Annotation

The course introduces theoretical, historical and contemporary debates around race, racialization and racism, both locally and globally. The course emphasises the lived realities of race and how these have been shaped by cultural, historical and economic power relations. At the same time, it explores how the category of race has been the object of scientific discourses and technologies of control. By looking at whiteness as a system of power that undergirds gendered ideologies and privileges, the course critically analyses knowledge practices and the representation of race in science and media.

We will start by exploring the historical events and contemporary afterlives that have created a world structured by racism and colonialism. From the Enlightenment to nationalism, from science to secularism, we will look at how this world came to be and why these often-hidden histories matter. We will then look at the everyday experiences of race and racialization. From the food we eat to the way we travel, we will see that race and empire are never far from the scene. We look at the politics around tourism, climate change, technology, intimacy, advertising and entertainment to unpack the very minute and not-so-minute ways race and racism seep into and structure our daily lives. We end the course by thinking about post-race as a means of imagining a future free of racism.

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: Dr. Karina Simonson	Institute of Asian and Transcultural Studies

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)					
First	General university studies					

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Online	Spring semester	English

Requisites							
Co-requisites (if relevant):	Additional requirements (if any):						
English language proficiency (level B2 required)	None						

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work		
5	133	48	85		

Purpose of the course unit (module)

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the theoretical, historical and contemporary debates around race, racialization and racism and:

- To develop a structural, historical and comparative understanding of and approach toward race, racism, ethnicity and racial relations, focusing on Eastern Europe.

- To develop a theoretical vocabulary for analysing and discussing how racial categories have been crystallised, blurred, projected, contested and undone within social structures of dominance—with attention to slavery, settler colonialism, incarceration, capitalism and war.

- To understand how race as a modality of power has shaped knowledge production.

- Work in teams, analysing a given social or cultural issue related to the course topics, and communicate the results of teamwork effectively.

Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
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Students should be able to answer the following questions by the end of the semester:

How do my social identities shape my perceptions of and experiences with racism? How is race a social construct? How is white privilege enacted on individual and institutional levels? How has historical racism contributed to contemporary racial disparities? Is "not seeing color" a good thing? Can't people just work harder to achieve success? Why do some people perceive contentious situations as racially motivated whereas others do not? How do we learn about our race and racism? What are the benefits and challenges of diversity? What benefits arise from talking about race and racism? What can we do within our own spheres of influence to disrupt racism?

Students will be able to derive, explain and critically evaluate debates on race, ethnicity, colonialism, decoloniality, racism, conflict and population movement at Lithuanian, European and global contexts. Students will be aware of relations between racialised power structures and other structures of power such as class, gender and nation.	Lectures, reading texts, seminar presentations and discussions.	Group presentations of creative project, participation in discussions.
Students will learn to think critically across disciplines and investigate what equity and inclusivity mean in today's global society.	Teamwork, seminar presentations, discussions.	Group presentations of creative project, participation in discussions.

Students will develop cultural competency in working with politically and ethically sensitive topics.
Students will be able to present their opinions in an argumentative manner to colleagues and broader audiences when dealing with conceptually complex material.

	Conta					irs		Individual work: time and assignments	
Content: breakdown of the topics	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship/work	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Assignments
1. Course overview and introductions	2						2		
2. Race as a social construction and as an ideology. Critical race theory	2						2	4	To read thoroughly, take notes and prepare for seminar discussion: John Solomos 60-77. Text for the seminar presentation (optional reading for others): Fanon 35-52.
3. Race and empire. Slavery and historical development of racial ideology. Eugenics. USA, UK, South Africa, Brazil	2		2				4	6	Optional readings (to read thoroughly, take notes): Gilroy 22-37, Goldberg 12- 32
4. Whiteness and white privilege	2						2	4	To read thoroughly, take notes and prepare for seminar discussion: Wekker 1-16 Text for the seminar presentation (optional reading for others): Pitts 81-100
5. Race and ethnicity. Are Arabs a race? Creating "Latino". Asian identity. Anti-Roma racism in Europe	2		2				4	6	Optional readings (to read thoroughly, take notes: Kundnani 67-88, Meer 105- 125

6. Colonialism, gender and sexualities. Black feminist theory. Intersectionality	2			2	4	To read thoroughly, take notes and prepare for seminar discussion: Collins 123-149 Text for the seminar presentation (optional reading for others): hooks
7. Race and religion. The role of religion in racialization projects and struggles for racial justice (guest lecture)	2	2		4	6	15-35 Optional readings (to read thoroughly, take notes: Meer 30-62
8. Racial profiling. Immigration and borders. Prisons and camps. Belarusian border crisis. Ukraine war	2			2	4	To read thoroughly, take notes and prepare for seminar discussion: Phillips, Webster 139-160 Text for the seminar presentation (optional reading for others): Parmer 167-180
9. Environmental racism and climate justice	2	2		4	6	Optional readings (to read thoroughly, take notes: Saini 55-85
10. Inclusive marketing: Race and brands (guest lecture)	2			2	4	To read thoroughly, take notes and prepare for seminar discussion: Karklina Gabriel 5-35 Text for the seminar presentation (optional
						reading for others): Young, Brunk 235-267
11. Race, entertainment industry and sport. Cultural appropriation and commodity fetishism	2	2		4	6	Optional readings (to read thoroughly, take notes: Young, Brunk 173-210
12. Art as a form of resistance and activism for racialized groups	2			2	4	To read thoroughly, take notes and prepare for seminar discussion: Solomos 204-230

							Text for the seminar presentation (optional reading for others): Young, Brunk 211-234
13. Race after the Genome: Technoscience and Indigeneity. Race and AI	2	2	2		4	6	Optional readings (to read thoroughly, take notes: Saini 100-122, Goldberg 217-229
14. Post-race? Hybridity, Cosmopolitanism and Denial	2				2	4	To read thoroughly, take notes and prepare for seminar discussion: Solomos 231-250 Text for the seminar presentation (optional reading for others): Goldberg 230-248
15. Group presentations		8	3		8	21	
Total	28	2	20		48	85	

Assessment strategy	Weight,%	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Group presentation of the seminar material	20	During semester	During the semester students will have to make a group presentation on one of the seminar topic. The presentation will require a combination of critical evaluation of seminar material (academic article) as well as individual research and examples on the topic. Power point slides are mandatory. Assessment: 2 points: the seminar material clearly presented and critically evaluated, visual / audio examples supplied, students are able to foster discussion and answer the questions. 1 point: the seminar material presented superficially, no visual / audio examples, students are not able to foster discussion and / or answer the questions. 0 points: seminar material was not presented or was presented in an extremely superficial way.
Exam	50	At the end of semester	One part of the exam will consist of short open-ended questions, and one will consist of multiple-answer questions. Questions will be based on material covered throughout the course. Assessment: 5 (excellent). Excellent knowledge and academic abilities. 95-100% of the questions answered correctly.

			 4.5 (very good). Very good knowledge and academic abilities. 85-94% of the questions answered correctly. 4 (good). Above average knowledge and academic abilities. 75-84% of the questions answered correctly. 3.5 (average). Average knowledge and academic abilities. Some mistakes (not essential ones). 65-74% of the questions answered correctly. 3 (satisfactory). Knowledge and academic abilities are below average. There are substantial mistakes. 55-64% of the questions answered correctly. 2.5 (weak). Knowledge and academic abilities only meet the minimum requirements. 51-54 % of the questions answered correctly. 0-2. Minimum requirements are not met.
Creative group project + individual reflection piece (1000 words)	30	At the end of semester	Students will have to create a group project (max. 4 students) that tackles a particular academic question in a creative and engaging way. This can take many forms: it can be the result of a mini-ethnographic project, or an assemblage of images or it can result from an installation of a flipchart in your student accommodation with an image or a question that you ask passers-by to engage with. It can also be a photographic or a video-based project. Alternatively, it can be an oral history project, where you can dig into your family or friends' oral history.
			The evaluation of the creative group project is done through a 1000-word reflection piece that is marked individually. In it you reflect on and engage with the themes presented through a discussion of academic literature.
			 The assessment is based on the following criteria: choice of the research question; consistency of the argument / structure of assignment; quality of literature / sources / data; depth of analysis; academic literacy.

Author	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication; pages	Publishing house or internet site		
Required reading (uploaded to the course's Virtual learning environment)						
Frantz Fanon	1963	The Wretched of the Earth		Grove Press		

Paul Gilroy	2002	There Ain't No Black in the Union Jack	London: Hutchinson
John Solomos (ed)	2020	Routledge international handbook of contemporary racisms	Abingdon, Routledge
David Theo Goldberg (ed)	1990	Anatomy of Racism	University of Minnesota Press
Angela Saini	2019	Superior: the Return of race science	Beacon Press
Gloria Wekker	2016	White innocence: Paradoxes of colonialism and race	Duke University Press
Coretta Phillips, Colin Webster	2013	New Directions in Race, Ethnicity and Crime	London: Routledge
Anastasia Karklina Gabriel	2024	Cultural Intelligence for Marketers: Building an Inclusive Marketing Strategy	Kogan Page
James O. Young, Conrad G. Brunk (eds)	2009	The Ethics of Cultural Appropriation	Wiley- Blackwell
Patricia Hill Collins	2002	Black feminist thought: Knowledge, consciousness, and the politics of empowerment	Routledge
bell hooks	1981	Ain't I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism	London: Pluto
Karim Murji, John Solomos (eds)	2015	Theories of race and ethnicity: Contemporary debates and perspectives	Cambridge: CUP
Nasar Meer	2014	Racialization and religion: Race, culture and difference in the study of antisemitism and Islamophobia	Routledge
Johny Pitts	2020	Afropean: Notes from Black Europe	Penguin Books
Recommended reading		,	
Alpa Parmer	2013	Race and ethnicity in the criminal justice process, in A. Hucklesby and A Wahidin (eds)	Oxford University Press
Anne McClintock	1995	Imperial Leather: Race, Gender and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest	Abingdon: Routledge
Arun Kundnani	2014	The Muslims Are Coming! Islamophobia, Extremism, and the Domestic War on Terror	London: Verso