Comparative Race Studies

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Through the Comparative Race Studies Program (CRPC), the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture (CSRPC) provides students interested in the study of race and racialized ethnic groups with the opportunity to take courses and participate in programs that illustrate how race and ethnicity and their structural manifestations impact and shape our lives on a daily basis. CSRPC is an interdisciplinary research institution dedicated to promoting engaged scholarship and debate around the topics of race and ethnicity. The focus of CRPC is to expand the study of race and racialized ethnic groups beyond the black/white paradigm and to promote the study of race and processes of racialization in comparative and transnational frameworks.

Each year CRPC offers “Colonizations” (a sequence that meets the general education requirement in civilization studies) as well as courses related to race or ethnicity taught by the CSRPC postdoctoral fellow and artist-in-residence. Additional courses offered through the program will also provide students with an opportunity to explore the social and identity cleavages that exist within racialized communities, acknowledging the reality that race and ethnicity intersect with other primary identities such as gender, class, sexuality, and nationality.

Students interested in the study of race and ethnicity are also encouraged to attend the Reproduction of Race and Racial Ideologies and the Race and Religion: Thought, Practice and Meaning workshop series, both of which meet four to five times each quarter. The workshops provide a forum for faculty and students to explore the problematics of race and racial ideologies in the modern era. Presenters from a variety of divisions and departments examine issues that cut across academic and policy divisions as well as across disciplinary and national boundaries. In particular, the workshops attract students and faculty from the Division of the Social Sciences (e.g., history, sociology, political science); the Division of the Humanities (e.g., cinema and media studies, English, philosophy); and the professional schools (e.g., business, law, medicine, public policy, social service).
Faculty

NOTE: For an updated list of CRPC courses and other University courses with substantial content on race or ethnicity, visit http://csrpc.uchicago.edu.

Courses: Comparative Race Studies (CRPC)


24001-24002-24003. Colonizations I, II, III. (=HIST 18301-18302-18303) Must be taken in sequence. Two quarters (CRPC 24001-24002) meet the general education requirement in civilization studies; the third quarter (CRPC 24003) is offered as an elective. This three-quarter sequence approaches the concept of “civilization” from an emphasis on cross-cultural/societal connection and exchange. We explore the dynamics of conquest, slavery, colonialism, and their reciprocal relationships with concepts such as resistance, freedom, and independence, with an eye toward understanding their interlocking role in the making of the modern world. Themes of slavery, colonization, and the making of the Atlantic world are covered in the first quarter. Modern European and Japanese colonialism in Asia and the Pacific is the theme of the second quarter. The third quarter considers the processes and consequences of decolonization both in the newly independent nations and the former colonial powers. S. Palmie, Autumn; J. Saville, S. Dawdy, N. Field, Winter; S. Burns, L. Auslander, M. Harris-Lacewell, D. Chakrabarty, Spring.


25103/47901. When and Where They Entered: Black Women Writers of the 1940s and 1950s. (=AFAM 25103, ENGL 25103/47901, GNDR 24702) For course description, see English Language and Literature. J. Goldsby. Winter.


