Race and Ethnic Studies

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The Race and Ethnic Studies major takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of race and ethnicity — what do these categories of difference mean? How have they been defined, constructed, and applied in different socio-historic contexts? How do they intersect or overlap with other axes of difference (e.g. gender, class, nation, religion)? Exploring these questions with analytical tools and approaches developed in a range of academic disciplines, this major leads to a critical examination of many historical and contemporary social issues that arise from the institutionalization of race and ethnicity.

The Race and Ethnic Studies major will complete two foundational courses, a concentration designed with the adviser and approved by the Race and Ethnic Studies Steering Committee, a senior seminar and thesis, and elective courses totaling 36 credits and chosen such that the overall coursework is drawn from a minimum of three departments. Three courses in addition to the senior seminar and thesis must be at the 300 or 400 level; at least two of these must be taken at Whitman. No more than 12 credits earned in off-campus programs and transfer credit, nor more than four credits in independent study, may be used to satisfy the race and ethnic studies major requirements. In all courses, the student's work should focus on issues of race and ethnicity whenever that is possible. Courses completed in race and ethnic studies apply to the humanities, social sciences, alternative voices, and fine arts distribution areas. In addition, the student will complete 12 credits of college-level study in a language other than his or her first language.

Foundation courses: Gender Studies 245 *Critical and Alternative Voices*, plus one other course centered on racial and ethnic analysis (Sociology 267 *Race and Ethnic Group Relations*; History 371 *African American History*; History 268 *U.S. Ethnic and Immigration History*; Politics 259 *Politics of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion;* Philosophy 225 *Critical Race Theory*).

Concentration: Three courses (typically nine to 12 credits) defining focus of study in a topic or region, providing context for the thesis. Two of the three courses must be taken at Whitman, and independent study classes are not permitted. The concentration must be proposed to and approved by the Race and Ethnic Studies Steering Committee by the end of fall semester of the junior year. Examples of regional concentrations include: race and ethnicity in Latin America, ethnicity and race in Africa, U.S. race and ethnic studies, African American studies, or race and ethnicity in South Asia. Examples of thematic or topical concentrations include: ethnicity and identity; race and gender; literary representations of race and ethnicity; race and class; ethnicity and nation; race, ethnicity, and nature; religion and ethnicity. The proposal must include a title, a list of the three courses proposed, and an explanation of how the courses fit together and complement each other.

Electives: Usually three courses chosen to complement the concentration, such that, in combination with foundational and concentration coursework, the student has worked in three disciplines overall. It is recommended that the student explore more than one geographic area.

Capstone: A senior seminar (four credits) in the fall, in which students discuss common readings and case studies and begin thesis research, and completion of thesis (two credits) in the spring. The oral portion of the major exam will begin with a thesis defense and proceed to a broader synthesis of the student's work in the major. Students will propose thesis topics to the Race and Ethnic Studies Steering Committee by the end of the junior year.

Language Requirement: The language requirement places value on the linguistic dimensions of difference and provides students

with at least minimal direct exposure to this dimension. The student will complete 12 credits of college-level study in a language other than the student's first language. No more than two languages are allowed within the 12 credits. These credits may be earned at Whitman College, through transfer credit from accredited U.S. institutions of higher learning, or from a Whitman approved study abroad program.

The Race and Ethnic Studies minor: The student completing a minor in Race and Ethnic Studies will take Gender Studies 245 *Critical and Alternative Voices*, one of the foundation courses (Sociology 267 *Race and Ethnic Group Relations*; History 371 *African American History*; History 268 *U.S. Ethnic and Immigration History*; Politics 259 *Politics of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion*; Philosophy 225 *Critical Race Theory*), and three elective courses chosen from the list of eligible courses.

1. "Foundation" courses: courses incorporating race and ethnicity as central, defining issues:

Gender Studies 245 *Critical and Alternative Voices*
History 371 *African American History*
History 268 *U.S. Ethnic and Immigration History*
Philosophy 225 *Critical Race Theory*
Politics 259 *Politics of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion*
Sociology 267 *Race and Ethnic Group Relations*

2. Race and ethnic studies courses: a list from which majors will draw concentration and elective courses in consultation with adviser and approved by committee. **For a more thorough listing of courses used in the Race and Ethnic Studies program please consult the department Web page at** *www.whitman.edu/race_and_ethnic_studies.*

Anthropology 248 *Native Cultures of North America*
Anthropology 250 *Las Americas: Contemporary Latin American Anthropology*
Anthropology 258 *Peoples of the Tibeto-Burman Highlands*
Anthropology 259 *Andean Culture and Society Since the Inca*
Anthropology 328 *Culture, Health, and Healing: Medical Anthropology*
Art History 208 *Arts of the Americas: The Visual Culture of Conquest and Colonialism*
Art History 221 *American Art and Visual Culture, Colonial to 1900*
Art History 222 *American Art and Visual Culture of the Twentieth Century*
Education 278 *Strategies for Teaching Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Students*
Education 348 *Multicultural Education*
Education 360/Sociology 370 *Educational Equality*
English 182 *Introduction to African American Literature*
English 388B *The Black Urban Experience*
French 316 *Contemporary France and the Francophone World*
History 112 *Modern Africa*
History 188 *Modern Latin America*
History 247 *Early China*
History 250 *Colonies to Nation: North America, 1600-1800*
History 259 *ST: Social History of Stuff*
History 287 *Colonial Latin America*
History 290/Soc 290 *History and Sociology of Rock 'n' Roll*
History 297 *Building a Nation, U.S. 1800-1890*
History 310B *ST: The Colonial Moment in Africa*
History 322 *Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*
History 344 *Modern China*
History 346 *Modern Japan*
History 368 *Emergence of Modern America*
History 369 *United States Since the Second World War*
History 370 *Interrogating Sisterhood: Women and Gender in the U.S.*
History 380 *ST: Black Atlantic*
History 381 *History of Central America*
History 383 *Women in Latin America*
History 389 *History of Mexico*
Japanese 347 *ST: Japanese Psychology*
Music 160 *Study of Jazz*
Politics 220 *American Political Theory*
Politics 258 *Politics in Africa*
Politics 316 *Culture, Ideology, Politics*
Politics 329 *Theories of Empire*

Politics 334 *U.S.-Mexico Border*
Politics 335 *Cultural Politics of Development in Latin America*
Politics 338 *North-South Relations*
Politics 348 *International Politics of Ethnic Conflict*
Politics 359 *Gender and International Hierarchy*
Politics 367 *African Political Thought*
Politics 378 *Transnationalism*
Politics 402 *Research Seminar: Racism and Latinos in Washington State*
Psychology 230 *Social Psychology*
Psychology 232 *Stereotype, Prejudice and Intergroup Relations*
Psychology 335 *Seminar in Cross-Cultural Psychology*
Psychology 336 *Social Stigma*
Psychology 347A *ST: Japanese Psychology*
Religion 222 *South Asian Religions II: The Classical Period*
Religion 259 *Religion in America from Columbus to the Civil War*
Religion 260 *Religion in America from the Civil War to the Present*
Religion 345 *Judaism in the United States*
Religion 349 *Field Studies in the Religions of the Pacific Northwest*
Religion 355 *Religious Intolerance in the Contemporary United States*
Religion 358 *Feminist and Liberation Theologies*
Religion 389 *Multireligious South Asia*
Rhetoric and Film Studies 240 *Rhetorical Explorations: Race, Class, and Gender*
Rhetoric and Film Studies 250 *Persuasion, Agitation and Social Movements*
Rhetoric and Film Studies 340 *African American Protest Rhetoric*
Sociology 230 *Social Psychology*
Sociology 271 *Asian Americans in Contemporary Society*
Sociology 290/History 290 *History and Sociology of Rock 'n' Roll*
Sociology 293A *Latina/o Experience in the U.S.*
Sociology 293A *Asian American Identity*
Sociology 353 *Environmental Justice*
Sociology 369 *Social Stratification*
Sociology 370/Education 360 *Issues of Educational Equality*
Spanish 305-306 *Advanced Spanish: Topics in Contemporary Hispanic Culture*
Spanish 325 *Healthcare and Language*
Spanish 335-336 *Hispanic Culture, History and Introduction to Hispanic Literature*
Spanish 421 *Axis of Evil: Law and Literature in Latino America and the Caribbean*
Spanish 425 *The Rise of Latinos in the U.S.*
Spanish 447/World Literature 329 *Familias y Fronteras: Contemporary Chicana Literature*
Spanish 450 *Night Chicas: Sex Workers in Contemporary Film from Spain, Mexico, and Brazil*
Spanish 451 *The Theatre and Poetry of Federico Garcia Lorca*
Spanish 452 *Pedro Almodovar's Spain*
World Literature 381A *Constructing the Caribbean*
World Literature 382 *Media and Culture in Latino/Latin America*
World Literature 395 *Contemporary Literary Theory*

301 Special Topics in Race and Ethnic Studies
2-4

The course explores selected topics in race and ethnic studies.

490 Senior Seminar
4, x **H. Kim**

Taught by a race and ethnic studies faculty member with guest participation by others, this seminar is intended to engage senior majors in case studies focused on race and ethnicity. Readings, discussion, and papers, including a proposal for the thesis. Required of and limited to senior race and ethnic studies majors. (Fall degree candidates should plan to take this seminar at the latest possible opportunity.) *Prerequisites*: Open to senior race and ethnic studies majors.

497 Thesis
2, 2 **Staff**

Completion of a thesis based on the previous semester's plan. *Prerequisites*: Race and Ethnic Studies 490.

498 Honors Thesis
2, 2 **Staff**

Completion of an honors thesis. Required of and limited to senior honors candidates in race and ethnic studies. *Prerequisites:* Race and Ethnic Studies 490 and admission to honors candidacy.