

**PSCI/INTR 277**  
Caste, Class and Race  
Spring 2022  
10:00-12:00 PM Fridays

**Alexander Lee**

**Instructor:**

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Office Hours: Harkness 327

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VK88Ov\\_ipkx7A4eQxP0Q9WSnxy0z547mCZ08sXyS0Qs/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VK88Ov_ipkx7A4eQxP0Q9WSnxy0z547mCZ08sXyS0Qs/edit?usp=sharing)

**Course Goals:**

Human societies organize social inequality in a variety of different ways. This course focuses on three important structures of discrimination and inequality, caste, class and race. It examines the changing and interrelated meanings of these concepts, their origins, their influence on society and politics and attempts to reduce their influence through social and political change. It draws on a global set of cases, with a special focus on the United States and India. This is an interdisciplinary course, which mixes approaches from anthropology and political economy. No prior knowledge of the subject is required.

**Grading:**

Class Participation — 20%

Take-Home Final — 40%

Final Paper —40%

**Course Policies:**

Unexcused late work will be penalized a whole letter grade, and an additional letter grade for every additional 24 hours of lateness. Plagiarism or cheating will be treated seriously and reported to the Board of Academic Honesty. Students will be able to make up one quiz by submitting a 750 word reading response. No other absences will be excused except by doctor's note.

**Course Requirements:**

*Attendance and Reading:* Students will be graded on their attendance and participation .

*Final:* A final exam will ask students to write an essays on themes covering the whole of the course material.

*Paper:* Students must write a twenty five-page research paper on a topic related to the course material. The paper itself is due on the last day of class.

### **January 14th: Introduction**

#### **January 21st: What are Caste, Class and Race?**

Berremen, Gerald D. "Race, caste, and other invidious distinctions in social stratification." *Race* 13.4 (1972): 385-414.

Wilkerson, Isabel. *Caste: The origins of our discontents*. Random House, 2020. P. 100-140.

Horowitz, Donald L. *Ethnic groups in conflict, updated edition with a new preface*. Univ of California Press, 2000. P. 21-54.

American Anthropological Association. "Statement on Race." 1998.

<https://www.americananthro.org/ConnectWithAAA/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=2583>

Weber, Max. "Class, Status, and Party [Abridged]"

<https://sites.middlebury.edu/individualandthesociety/files/2010/09/Weber-Class-Status-Party.pdf>

#### **January 28th: The Origins of Caste**

Risley, Herbert Hope. *The tribes and castes of Bengal*. Vol. 1. Printed at the Bengal secretariat Press, 1892. P xv-xxiv, xxx-xl

Dubois, Abbe JA. *Hindu manners, customs and ceremonies*. Cosimo, Inc., 2007 [1807]. Chapter 2.

Dumont, Louis. *Homo hierarchicus: The caste system and its implications*. University of Chicago Press, 1980. P. 1-4, 39-49.

Dirks, Nicholas B. *Castes of mind*. Princeton University Press, 2011. Introduction

Lee, Alexander. *From Hierarchy to Ethnicity: The Politics of Caste in Twentieth-Century India*. Cambridge University Press, 2020. P. 56-65, 68-79.

#### **February 4th: The Origins of Race**

Harris, Cheryl I. "Whiteness as property." *Harvard law review*(1993): 1707-[1745].

Jacobson, Matthew Frye. *Whiteness of a different color*. Harvard University Press, 1999. Introduction

De Gobineau, Arthur. *An essay on the inequality of the human races*. Trans. Adrian Collins. New York Putnam's, 1915[1853]. 1-6, 146-155.

[https://www.google.com/books/edition/The\\_Inequality\\_of\\_Human\\_Races/JeM\\_1BCeffAC?hl=en&gbpv=1&printsec=frontcover](https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Inequality_of_Human_Races/JeM_1BCeffAC?hl=en&gbpv=1&printsec=frontcover)

Degler, Carl N. *Neither black nor white: Slavery and race relations in Brazil and the United States*. Univ of Wisconsin Press, 1971. Introduction.

Davis, Allison, Burleigh Bradford Gardner, and Mary R. Gardner. *Deep South: A social anthropological study of caste and class*. Univ of South Carolina Press, 2009[1941]. Chapter 2.

#### **February 11th: The Origins of Class**

- Davis, Kingsley, and Wilbert E. Moore. "Some principles of stratification." *American sociological review* 10.2 (1945): 242-249.
- Tumin, Melvin M. "Some principles of stratification: a critical analysis." *American Sociological Review* 18.4 (1953): 387-394.
- Thompson, Edward Palmer. *The making of the English working class*. New York: Vintage 1963. P.9-11, 189-203, 830-832.
- Marx, Karl. *Das Kapital*. Volume III. New York, International Publishers, 1894. Chapter 52. <https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1894-c3/ch52.htm>
- Bourdieu, Pierre. *Distinction: A social critique of the judgement of taste*. Harvard university press, 1987. P.9-41.
- Piketty, Thomas. *Capital in the 21st Century*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP (2013). P. 13-16, 20-27.

### **February 18th: Individual Bias**

- Cunningham, William A., Kristopher J. Preacher, and Mahzarin R. Banaji. "Implicit attitude measures: Consistency, stability, and convergent validity." *Psychological science* 12.2 (2001): 163-170.
- Fehr, Ernst, Karla Hoff, and Mayuresh Kshetramade. "Spite and development." *American Economic Review* 98.2 (2008): 494-99.
- Bertrand, Marianne, and Sendhil Mullainathan. "Are Emily and Greg more employable than Lakisha and Jamal? A field experiment on labor market discrimination." *American economic review* 94.4 (2004): 991-1013.
- Banerjee, Abhijit, et al. "Marry for what? Caste and mate selection in modern India." *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics* 5.2 (2013): 33-72.
- Becker, Gary S. *The economics of discrimination*. University of Chicago press, 1971[1957]. P. 153-160.

### **February 25th: Structural Bias**

- Friedman, S. and Laurison, D., 2020. *The class ceiling: Why it pays to be privileged*. Oxford: OUP, 2020. P. 1-45.
- Wilson, William Julius. *When work disappears: The world of the new urban poor*. Vintage, 1997. xii-xix, 3-25.
- Subramanian, Ajantha. *The caste of merit: Engineering education in India*. Harvard University Press, 2019. Introduction.
- Ananat, Elizabeth Oltmans. "The wrong side (s) of the tracks: The causal effects of racial segregation on urban poverty and inequality." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 3.2 (2011): 34-66.

### **March 4th: Institutional Bias**

- Fryer Jr, Roland G. "An empirical analysis of racial differences in police use of force." *Journal of Political Economy* 127.3 (2019): 1210-1261. [Skim statistical results]
- Lee, Alexander. "Ethnic diversity and ethnic discrimination: Explaining local public goods provision." *Comparative Political Studies* 51.10 (2018): 1351-1383.
- Butler, Daniel M., and David E. Broockman. "Do politicians racially discriminate against constituents? A field experiment on state legislators." *American Journal of Political Science* 55.3 (2011): 463-477.

Aaronson, Daniel, Daniel A. Hartley, and Bhashkar Mazumder. "The Effects of the 1930s HOLC 'Redlining' Maps." SSRN Working Paper. (2020).

### **March 18th: Voting**

- Acharya, Avidit, Matthew Blackwell, and Maya Sen. "The political legacy of American slavery." *The Journal of Politics* 78.3 (2016): 621-641.
- Enos, Ryan D. "Causal effect of intergroup contact on exclusionary attitudes." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 111.10 (2014): 3699-3704.
- Barone, Guglielmo, et al. "Mr. Rossi, Mr. Hu and politics. The role of immigration in shaping natives' voting behavior." *Journal of Public Economics* 136 (2016): 1-13.
- Huber, John D., and Pavithra Suryanarayan. "Ethnic inequality and the ethnification of political parties: Evidence from India." *World Politics* 68.1 (2016): 149-188.

### **March 25th: Political Cleavages**

- Piketty, Thomas. "Brahmin left vs merchant right: rising inequality and the changing structure of political conflict." *WID. world Working Paper* 7 (2018).
- Shayo, Moses. "A model of social identity with an application to political economy: Nation, class, and redistribution." *American Political science review* 103.2 (2009): 147-174.
- Key, V.O. *Southern Politics in State and Nation*. New York: Knopf, 1949. P.1-12.
- Bowler, Shaun, Stephen P. Nicholson, and Gary M. Segura. "Earthquakes and aftershocks: Race, direct democracy, and partisan change." *American Journal of Political Science* 50.1 (2006): 146-159.

### **April 1: Violence**

- Hobsbawm, Eric J. *Primitive rebels: Studies in archaic forms of social movement in the 19th and 20th centuries*. Manchester University Press, 1971. Chapters 1-2.
- Messner, Steven F., Robert D. Baller, and Matthew P. Zevenbergen. "The legacy of lynching and southern homicide." *American Sociological Review* 70.4 (2005): 633-655.
- Green, Donald P., Jack Glaser, and Andrew Rich. "From lynching to gay bashing: the elusive connection between economic conditions and hate crime." *Journal of personality and social psychology* 75.1 (1998): 82.
- Narula, Smita. *Broken People: Caste Violence Against India's "untouchables"*. Human Rights Watch, 1999. Chapter V.

### **April 8th: Social Movements**

- Witsoe, Jeffrey. *Democracy against development: Lower-caste politics and political modernity in postcolonial India*. University of Chicago Press, 2013. Chapter 2.
- Wasow, Omar. "Agenda seeding: How 1960s black protests moved elites, public opinion and voting." *American Political Science Review* 114.3 (2020): 638-659.
- Subramanian, Narendra. "From Bondage to Citizenship: A Comparison of African American and Indian Lower-Caste Mobilization in Two Regions of Deep Inequality." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 62.4 (2020): 770-809.
- Bartolini, Stefano. *The political mobilization of the European left, 1860-1980: The class cleavage*. Cambridge University Press, 2007. P. 1-8, 122-30.

**April 15th: Positive Discrimination**

Dunning, Thad, and Janhavi Nilekani. "Ethnic quotas and political mobilization: caste, parties, and distribution in Indian village councils." *American political Science review* 107.1 (2013): 35-56.

Bertrand, Marianne, Rema Hanna, and Sendhil Mullainathan. "Affirmative action in education: Evidence from engineering college admissions in India." *Journal of Public Economics* 94.1-2 (2010): 16-29.

Sander, Richard H. "A systemic analysis of affirmative action in American law schools." *Stan. L. Rev.* 57 (2004): 367.

Bleemer, Zachary. "Affirmative Action, Mismatch, and Economic Mobility after California's Proposition 209." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (2022).

**April 22nd:**

*Reserved in Case of Class postponement*