

Race and Ethnic Politics in the United States
PSCI 529
Spring 2024

I. Course Description

This research seminar surveys the literature on race and ethnic politics in the United States. We will focus on the causes and consequences of electoral rules, the political representation of minority groups, and the mechanisms through which government policy coordinates social inequities. This course will incorporate diverse analytical perspectives while highlighting recent theoretical and empirical innovations in political science.

II. Contact and Meeting Details

Classroom Location and Meeting Times

Location: Harkness 320

Tuesdays, 10:0 am – 12:20 pm

Instructor

Professor Sidak Yntiso

Email: syntiso@ur.rochester.edu

Office Hours: Thursdays, 9:00 – 10:00 am (Harknes 320)

III. Student Responsibilities

Participation (30%)

Thought paper (30%): Prior to each class, every student will write a single-spaced one-page response memo. While the format of the response memos may vary according to the content of the readings, each memo should reflect original thought and analysis, not summarize the assigned materials. Typically thought papers will identify one or more deficiencies in the arguments or evidence presented in the readings or advance a case for why a particular aspect of American politics can be more effectively understood by considering the perspectives, arguments, or evidence provided by that week's readings

Research paper proposal (40%): Details will be discussed in class. You should be thinking about your proposal and discussing the topic with me by mid- to late-March. Note that if your research interest lies primarily in topics covered toward the end of the class, you should read ahead.

IV. Schedule

Part 1. Preliminaries

Week 1. Introduction and Orientation (January 18)

Week 2. Conceptual Foundations (January 23)

Fearon, James D. "What is identity (as we now use the word)." *Unpublished manuscript, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif* (1999): 1-43.

Hutchings, Vincent L., and Nicholas A. Valentino. "The centrality of race in American politics." *Annu. Rev. Polit. Sci.* 7 (2004): 383-408.

Bonomi, Giampaolo, Nicola Gennaioli, and Guido Tabellini. "Identity, beliefs, and political conflict." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 136, no. 4 (2021): 2371-2411.

Week 3. Historical Foundations (January 30)

Suryanarayan, Pavithra, and Steven White. "Slavery, reconstruction, and bureaucratic capacity in the American south." *American Political Science Review* 115, no. 2 (2021): 568-584.

Bateman, David A., and Eric Schickler. "Deeper Roots: Historical Causal Inference and the Political Legacy of Slavery." *Journal of Historical Political Economy* 3, no. 1 (2023): 95-124.

Logan, Trevon D. "Do Black Politicians Matter? Evidence from Reconstruction." *The Journal of Economic History* 80, no. 1 (2020):1-37.

Week 4. Class cancelled (February 6)

Week 5. Attitude Formation I (February 13)

Egan, Patrick J. "Identity as dependent variable: How Americans shift their identities to align with their politics." *American Journal of Political Science* 64, no. 3 (2020): 699-716.

Tesler, M. (2012). The Spillover of Racialization into Health Care: How President Obama Polarized Public Opinion by Racial Attitudes and Race. *American Journal of Political Science*, 56(3):690–704

Agadjanian, Alexander, John M. Carey, Yusaku Horiuchi, and Timothy J. Ryan. "Disfavor or Favor? Assessing the valence of white Americans' racial attitudes." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 18, no. 1 (2023): 75-103.

Kuziemko, Ilyana, and Ebonya Washington. 2018. "Why Did the Democrats Lose the South? Bringing New Data to an Old Debate." *American Economic Review*, 108 (10): 2830-67.

Week 4. Attitude Formation II (February 20)

Malhotra, Neil, Yotam Margalit, and Cecilia Hyunjung Mo. "Economic explanations for opposition to immigration: Distinguishing between prevalence and conditional impact." *American Journal of Political Science* 57, no. 2 (2013): 391-410.

Fouka, Vasiliki, and Marco Tabellini. "Changing in-group boundaries: The effect of immigration on race relations in the United States." *American Political Science Review* 116, no. 3 (2022): 968-984.

Hopkins, Daniel J. "Politicized places: Explaining where and when immigrants provoke local opposition." *American political science review* 104, no. 1 (2010): 40-60.

Fouka, Vasiliki, Soumyajit Mazumder, and Marco Tabellini. "From immigrants to Americans: Race and assimilation during the Great Migration." *The Review of Economic Studies* 89, no. 2 (2022): 811-842.

Week 5. Mass Behavior (February 27)

Grimmer, Justin, William Marble, and Cole Tanigawa-Lau. "Measuring the contribution of voting blocs to election outcomes." *SocArXiv*. June 26 (2022).

Smith, Jasmine Carrera, J. A. R. E. D. Clemons, Arvind Krishnamurthy, Miguel Martinez, Leann McLaren, and Ismail K. White. "Willing but Unable: Reassessing the Relationship between Racial Group Consciousness and Black Political Participation." *American Political Science Review* (2023): 1-17.

Wasow, Omar. "Agenda seeding: How 1960s black protests moved elites, public opinion and voting." *American Political Science Review* 114, no. 3 (2020): 638-659.

Week 7. Voter Restrictions (March 5)

Schuit, Sophie, and Jon C. Rogowski. "Race, representation, and the voting rights act." *American Journal of Political Science* 61, no. 3 (2017): 513-526.

Washington, Ebonya, and Elizabeth U. Cascio. 2014. "Valuing the Vote: The Redistribution of Voting Rights and State Funds Following the Voting Rights Act of 1965." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 129(1): 379-433.

Naidu, Suresh. Suffrage, Schooling, and Sorting in the Post-bellum US South. No. w18129. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2012.

Trebbi, Francesco, Philippe Aghion, and Alberto Alesina. "Electoral rules and minority representation in US cities." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 123, No. 1 (2008): 325-357.

Week 8. Vote Dilution (March 12)

Shotts, Kenneth W. "Gerrymandering, legislative composition, and national policy outcomes." *American Journal of Political Science* (2002): 398-414.

Kuriwaki, Shiro, Stephen Ansolabehere, Angelo Dagonel, and Soichiro Yamauchi. "The Geography of Racially Polarized Voting: Calibrating Surveys at the District Level." *American Political Science Review*, 2023, 1-18

Cox, Adam B., and Richard T. Holden. "Reconsidering racial and partisan gerrymandering." *The University of Chicago Law Review* (2011): 553-604.

Week 9. Election Administration (March 19)

White, Ariel, NL Nathan and JK Faller. "What do I need to vote? Bureaucratic discretion and discrimination by local election officials. AR White, NL Nathan, JK Faller." *American Political Science Review* (2015)

MK Chen, K Haggag, DG Pope. "Racial disparities in voting wait times: Evidence from smartphone data" *Review of Economics and Statistics* (2022)

Fraga, Brendan and MG Miller. "Who do voter ID keep from voting?" *The Journal of Politics* 84, no. 2 (2022): 1091-1105.

Cobb, Rachael V., D. James Greiner, and Kevin M. Quinn. "Can voter ID laws be administered in a race-neutral manner? Evidence from the city of Boston in 2008." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 7, no. 1 (2010): 1-33.

Week 10. Descriptive Representation (March 26)

Broockman, David E. "Black politicians are more intrinsically motivated to advance blacks' interests: A field experiment manipulating political incentives." *American Journal of Political Science* 57, no. 3 (2013): 521-536.

Lowande, Kenneth, Melinda Ritchie, and Erinn Lauterbach. "Descriptive and substantive representation in congress: Evidence from 80,000 congressional inquiries." *American Journal of Political Science* 63, no. 3 (2019): 644-659.

Nye, John VC, Ilia Rainer, and Thomas Stratmann. "Do black mayors improve black relative to white employment outcomes? Evidence from large US cities." *The Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization* 31, no. 2 (2015): 383-430.

Week 11. Segregation (April 2)

Roback J. The Political Economy of Segregation: The Case of Segregated Streetcars. *The Journal of Economic History*. 1986;46(4):893-917.

Trounstine, Jessica. 2018. "The Geography of Inequality: How Land Use Regulation Produces Segregation and Polarization." Typescript.

Hersh, Eitan, and Clayton Nall. 2015. "The Primacy of Race in the Geography of Income-Based Voting: New Evidence from Public Voting Records." *Journal of Politics* 60(2): 289-303.

Ananat, Elizabeth Oltmans, and Ebonya Washington. "Segregation and black political efficacy." *Journal of Public Economics* 93, no. 5-6 (2009): 807-822.

Week 12. Bureaucratic Discrimination (April 9)

Hübert, Ryan, and Andrew T. Little. "A Behavioral Theory of Discrimination in Policing." *The Economic Journal* (2023)

McCall, Andrew. "Resident assistance, police chief learning, and the persistence of aggressive policing tactics in Black neighborhoods." *The Journal of Politics* 81.3 (2019): 1133-1142.

Penn, Maggie and John Patty. "Algorithms, Incentives, and Democracy." Working paper (2023)

Week 13. Marketplace Discrimination (April 16)

Bohren, J. Aislinn, Peter Hull, and Alex Imas. "Systemic discrimination: Theory and Measurement." No. w29820. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2022.

Haaland, Ingar, and Christopher Roth. "Beliefs about racial discrimination and support for pro-black policies." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 105, no. 1 (2023): 40-53.

Rose, Evan K. "A constructivist perspective on empirical discrimination research." *Journal of Economic Literature* 61, no. 3 (2023): 906-923.

Week 14. Class cancelled (April 23)

Week 15. Student Presentations (April 30)