

Syllabus

Title of the Course:	Racism, Coloniality and Space	Course Breakdown:	2 h. per week online teaching 180 h. total workload
Name of the Instructor:	Güllistan Yarkın Utku Balaban	Weekly class time:	Fridays 16:00 – 18:00 (CET)
Language:	English	Credit:	3 / 6 ECTS
Hosted by:	Department of Anthropology and Cultural Research and Political Sciences at Bremen University	Certificate issued by:	Bremen University and NSSR

This Seminar is funded by the New University in In Exile Consortium based at the New School and is hosted by the Department of Anthropology and Cultural Research and Political Sciences at Bremen University.

Description of the course

It has been more than half a century since the last vestiges of formal empires were dismantled in the postwar context yet the notion of coloniality continues to frame our understanding of power across the world. “Racism, Coloniality and Space” opens up a platform for intellectual engagement to explore the stubborn relationship of racism as a spatial configuration of coloniality of power in different spatial settings.

In this course, we tackle this relationship with a focus on three themes. First, we discuss how European colonialism still shapes our cartographic perspective of power relations in the world in the Global South and transnational diasporas. Second, we turn to *the ghetto* and *el barrio* as both colonial and futuristic spaces of African American and Latinx communities in the United States and discuss how racism and coloniality meet in urban spaces of the Global North. Third, we move to the Middle East as the ultimate Other of the West with a discussion on racism against Kurds in Turkey and Turkish cities.

The goal of the course is to inform the participants about the interaction between structural racism and coloniality in contrasting spatial settings. Participants will explore this relationship to discuss alternative paths of politics that challenge contemporary forms and representations of coloniality.

Learning Aims

The course serves two objectives. The first one is to discuss the relationship between coloniality and racism as spatial categories. The second objective is to contextualize this relationship in historical cases.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Gaining abilities on how to think critically and analytically on racism
- Thinking racism, coloniality and space from different disciplinary perspectives
- Developing presentation skills
- Gaining confidence in critical writing

Course requirements

Assignment deadlines are available in the weekly schedule below. Each requirement must be satisfied for a passing grade.

Discussion questions

Students will submit at least one discussion question one day before the weekly meeting.

Reflection papers

Three reflection papers are due at the end of the fourth, seventh and ninth weeks of the semester covering the readings assigned respectively for Weeks 2-4, Weeks 5-7 and Weeks 8-9. Your contributions will be 300-500 words long, which means you can only develop **one** main point or argument in each reflection paper, supported by evidence and/or examples from the readings.

The class discussion will be structured around those issues addressed in reflection papers. As a preparation for the class, all students are requested to read the reflection papers of their peers. Students will submit their reflection papers to the course folder at the Off-University platform.

Presentations

Students will make group presentations on one of the movies in our material list in the last four weeks of the semester (between Week 11 and Week 14). Students will be assigned to their groups by the 5th week of the semester. The presenters are expected to relate the movie to their paper subject (in case they take the course for 6 credits) and give the audience input on how the movie has contributed to or at least can be thought along with their research papers. Each presenter is expected to develop and share questions on the movie, which will frame the class discussions in those sessions.

Draft of the Paper (Optional)

Students will submit a detailed synopsis or the preliminary draft of their final paper in the 10th week of the course and receive feedback to improve their final paper. (Approximately 900-1200 words).

Final Paper

Based on class readings and discussions, students will draft a min. 2000 word-long scholarly essay embarking on the preliminary draft as well as the feedback they received in class discussions.

Assignments and Grading

Minor details will be adjusted in accordance with the university's and participants' expectations.

<i>Assignments for Participation of the Course (3 ECTS credits – not graded)</i>	<i>Assignments for Participation and Paper (6 ECTS credits)</i>
1 Presentation	1 Presentation
3 Reflection Papers	3 Reflection Papers
Discussion Questions	Discussion Questions
	Submission of the first draft of the paper (Optional)
	Submission of the final paper

Class Activities

1. Introduction section: Instructors present a review of the previous class discussion and introduce the subject matter of the current session (approximately 5-10 minutes).
2. Content section: Instructors share the takeaway points of the course material (approximately 30 minutes in total).
3. Discussion section:
 - 3.1. The first part of this section will be an interactive activity-based discussion: e.g. group-writing, group-discussion, using third-party tools such as padlet or wikis on the relevant visual or written texts. (30 minutes)
 - 3.2. In the second part, students will discuss the questions they posted about the readings and summarize their group discussion to the rest of the group. (30 minutes)
4. Summary of the key themes by instructors (approximately 5 minutes)

Visual Materials (Subject to change)

1. La Haine
2. Race
3. Fruitvale Station
4. White Scripts and Black Supermen: Black Masculinities in Comic Books

Outline of the Course Schedule

Week 1	Introduction to the Class	
Week2	What is Coloniality? Anibal Quijano & Immanuel Wallerstein (1992). Americanity as a concept, or the Americas in the Modern World System, <i>International Social Science Journal</i> , 134, Page: 549–52. Aime Cesarie, Discourse on Colonialism, Page:1-9 Anibal Quijano (2010) Coloniality and Modernity/Rationality, <i>Cultural Studies</i> , 21: 2, Page: 168 — 178.	
Week 3	Racism Neil MacMaster (2001) <i>Racism in Europe, 1870-2000</i> . Palgrave, Page: 1-26. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva (1997) Rethinking Racism Toward a Structural Interpretation, <i>American Sociological Review</i> , 62 (3), Page: 465–70.	
Week 4	Racism and Coloniality in Europe Castles, S. & Kosack, G. (1972). The Function of Labour Immigration in Western European Capitalism. <i>New Left Review</i> , 1(73). Ramon Grosfoguel, Laura Oso & Anastasia Christou 'Racism', intersectionality and migration studies framing some theoretical reflections. <i>Identities</i> , 22:6, 635-652.	
Week 5	Spatial Racism in Practice => Institutions Douglas S. Massey and Nancy A. Denton (1993) <i>American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass</i> ; Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press (Chapter 2-Construction of Ghetto, p. 17-59)	The presentation groups to be determined.
Week 6	Spatial Racism in Practice => Force Max Felker-Kantor (2020) <i>Policing Los Angeles: Race, Resistance, and the Rise of the LAPD</i> ; Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press (Chapter 1-Introduction the Police Power, Chapter 2-Policing Raceriotland: A Journey into Racist Policing and Urban	

	Uprising, p. 1-18, p. 19-42)	
Week 7	Racism in Practice => Appropriation Naked city: The Death and Life of Authentic Urban Places (Sharon Zukin) Introduction, p. 1-18, 22, 29; Chapter 1: How Brooklyn Became Cool, p. 35-62 Sharon Zukin (2010) <i>Naked City: The Death and Life of Authentic Urban Places</i> ; Oxford: Oxford University Press (Introduction, p. 1-18, 22, 29; Chapter 1: How Brooklyn Became Cool, p. 35-62)	
Week 8	Racism in Practice => Places Eric Avila (2014) <i>The Folklore of the Freeway: Race and Revolt in the Modernist City</i> ; Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press (Chapter 1-The Master's Plan: The Rise and Fall of the Modernist City - The Paths of Least Resistance, Chapter 5-Taking Back the Freeway: Strategies of Adaptation and Improvisation, p. 39-52, p. 149-179)	
Week 9	Racism against Kurds in Turkey Kamran Martin (2020) "LiminalLineages of the "KurdishQuestion"", <i>Merip</i> , 295 (Summer 2020) WelatZeydanlioglu (2008) ""The White Turkish Man's Burden": Orientalism, Kemalism and the Kurds in Turkey", Chapter in <i>Neo-colonial Mentalities in Contemporary Europe? Language and Discourse in the Construction of Identities</i> , edited by Guido Rings and Anne Ife, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008, pp.155-174.	
Week 10	Coloniality and Racism in Urban Space: Kurds in Istanbul Gullistan Yarkin (2020) 'The Making of Coloniality in Turkey: Racialization of Kurds in a Working Class District in Istanbul between 1950-1980; Kurds in Dark Times: New perspectives on race/ethnicity, violence and resistance (Forthcoming) Edited by Ayça Alemdaroğlu and Fatma MügeGöçek, Syracuse University Press, 2021. Gullistan Yarkin (2020) Fighting Racism in Turkey: Kurdish Homeownership as an Antiracist Practice, <i>Ethnic and Racial Studies</i> , 43:15, 2705-2723.	Assignment deadline: Submission of the first draft of the paper (Optional)
Week 11	Student presentations	
Week 12	Student presentations	
Week 13	Student presentations	
Week 14	General evaluation of the class	Assignment deadline: Submission of the final drafts of the papers