Course Description
For decades, scholars have debated the relationship between race and class in the modern world. While much of the literature on race discounts capitalism and much of the literature on capitalism ignores race, there is a tradition of radical scholarship that analyzes the intersections – or articulations – between racism and capitalism. In this course, we will trace the genealogy of this scholarship. The course will begin with classical texts by WEB DuBois, CLR James, E. Franklin Frazier, and Oliver Cromwell Cox. It will then explore the analysis of race and class in struggles for social justice – from communists, to civil rights activists, to feminists of color. After looking at several theoretical approaches to the study of race and class, we will end by considering contemporary forms of racial neoliberalism and neoliberal racism. The course will be theoretically rigorous and reading and writing intensive.

Assignments
You will choose how you want to be graded in this course. There are two options: Track 1 and Track 2. Let me know by the fourth week of class which track you have chosen.

Track 1: Three papers. Designed for first-year students and most second-year students, this track will consist of three short papers and a book presentation.

10% - Attendance and participation: In order to do well in this class, it is important that you are present and actively participating in every discussion. Each week we will begin the class with a round of questions and/or comments from students.

75% - Papers: You will write three papers on topics that I assign. Each of the papers will be worth 25% of your grade and must be 7-8 pages in length (12 point font, double spaced, 1 inch margins). I will hand out topics two weeks before the deadlines. You will be expected to draw on and analyze the readings that we have covered in that section of the course.

  - Paper 1 is due by 5:00 pm on Friday, February 22
  - Paper 2 is due by 5:00 pm on Friday, March 22
  - Paper 3 is due by 5:00 pm on Friday, May 3
15% - *Presentation*: Each person will present to the class a summary and analysis of one book from a list that I provide. On the second to last week of class, you will present the main arguments, analyze the contributions, and lead a discussion of the book.

*Track II: Long paper.* Designed for more advanced students, this track will consist of a long paper and a presentation of your work.

10% - *Attendance and participation:* In order to do well in this class, it is important that you are present and actively participating in every discussion. Each week we will begin the class with a round of questions and/or comments from students.

75% - *Paper:* You will write a 20+page paper on a topic of your choice (12 point font, double spaced, 1 inch margins). Your paper must draw on and analyze the readings and topics that we cover in the course. In preparation for the final paper, you will also submit two short memos:

- *Memo 1* is due by 5:00 pm on Friday, February 22
- *Memo 2* is due by 5:00 pm on Friday, March 22
- *Final Paper* is due by 5:00 pm on Friday, May 3

15% - *Presentation:* Each of you will present your paper to the class. On the last week, you will present your main arguments and lead a discussion of your work.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism will result in an automatic zero on the assignment and disciplinary action. Familiarize yourself with the UIC guidelines and penalties for academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism: [http://www.uic.edu/depts/dos/studentconduct.html](http://www.uic.edu/depts/dos/studentconduct.html)

**Readings**

There are eight required books for this course. All other readings will be available on Blackboard. Please make sure you obtain copies of the following books:


Expectations
As with any learning experience, your level of engagement will determine what you get out of this course. I encourage you to make the most of this opportunity by actively participating in discussions, reading the assigned articles, and reflecting on your own experiences.

Ask questions. If there is anything that you do not understand or that you are having trouble with, ask for help. I want to make sure that you are learning the material.

Please tell me about your learning needs. If you have special needs or if there is anything that might affect your grade that you think I should know about, be sure to let me know. Please tell me early in the semester. I am willing to work with you to ensure that everyone has the opportunities and resources they need in order to do well in this class.

Finally, it is crucial that our discussions remain respectful. *Always engage in debate about ideas. Never engage in personal attacks.*

*Note: The syllabus is subject to change. If I make changes, I will send an announcement letting you know that there is an updated version of the syllabus posted on Blackboard.*
Week 1 – January 15: Introductions

Week 2 – January 22: W.E.B. DuBois

Week 3 – January 29: C.L.R. James

Week 4 – February 5: Frazier and Cox

Week 5 – February 12: Freedom Dreams
**Week 6 – February 19: Articulation and Intersectionality**


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**Week 7 – February 26: Empires**


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**Week 8 – March 5: States**


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**Week 9 – March 12: Citizenship**

Week 10 – March 19: Neoliberal Racism

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Week 11 – March 26: Spring Break

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Week 12 – April 2: Racial Neoliberalism

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Week 13 – April 9: Exploitation

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Week 14 – April 16: Surplus Populations

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Week 15 – April 23: Presentations by students on Track I

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Week 15 – April 30: Presentations by students on Track II

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Paper 2/Memo 2 due by 5:00 pm on Friday, March 22

Paper 3/Final Paper due by 5:00 pm on Friday, May 3