



# Race in International Relations (GOVT 2609-20)

Students will study the racial hierarchy established during the Age of Imperialism and examine its impact on global power structures through a range of viewpoints. The course challenges students to reconsider conventional understandings of state interaction and to assess dominant approaches to foreign policy.

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# Learning Goals

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe the historical processes that gave rise to racial hierarchy in international relations.
2. Analyze dominant narratives about racism in world politics.
3. Frame questions regarding how the global political economy has shaped racial hierarchy and vice versa.
4. Reflect on different paradigms and value systems for understanding international relations.



# Grades

15% Reflection Essay 1

15% Reflection Essay 2

15% Reflection Essay 3

15% Reflection Essay 4

15% Reflection Essay 5

25% In-Class Participation

# Essay Rubric

1. **Answer**: To what extent does the essay answer the question?
2. **Structure and Organization**: To what extent is the essay structured and organized with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion?
3. **Argumentation**: How well does the essay use logic, evidence, and examples to support its argument?
4. **Use of Sources**: How effectively does the essay incorporate sources into its argument?
5. **Counter-Arguments**: How well does the essay identify counter-arguments?
6. **Response to Counter-Arguments**: To what extent does the essay respond to the counter-arguments?
7. **Originality**: To what extent does the essay demonstrate original thought and critical thinking, rather than merely summarizing existing perspectives?
8. **Clarity**: How clear is the essay's writing?



# Schedule

All List +

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Section	Focus	Topic
1. Conventional Paradigms	Readings	<a href="#">Introduction: Why Study Race in International Relations?</a>
1. Conventional Paradigms	Readings	<a href="#">Huntington 1996</a>
1. Conventional Paradigms	Readings	<a href="#">Ikenberry 2024</a>
1. Conventional Paradigms	Essay	<a href="#">In-Class: Reflection Essay 1</a>
2. Reconsidering Assumptions	Readings	<a href="#">Vitalis 2015</a>
2. Reconsidering Assumptions	Readings	<a href="#">Jones 2015</a>
2. Reconsidering Assumptions	Readings	<a href="#">Kothari 2006</a>
2. Reconsidering Assumptions	Essay	<a href="#">In-Class: Reflection Essay 2</a>
3. Inventing Whiteness	Readings	<a href="#">Kendi 2016</a>
3. Inventing Whiteness	Readings	<a href="#">Richardson 2020</a>
3. Inventing Whiteness	Readings	<a href="#">Roosevelt III 2020</a>
3. Inventing Whiteness	Essay	<a href="#">In-Class: Reflection Essay 3</a>
4. Imperialism	Readings	<a href="#">Arias and Girod 2014</a>
4. Imperialism	Readings	<a href="#">Biggar 2023</a>
4. Imperialism	Readings	<a href="#">Biggar 2023</a>
4. Imperialism	Essay	<a href="#">In-Class: Reflection Essay 4</a>
5. Racist Anti-Racism	Readings	<a href="#">Bonilla Silva 2015</a>
5. Racist Anti-Racism	Readings	<a href="#">Girod 2024b</a>
5. Racist Anti-Racism	Readings	<a href="#">Malik 2023</a>
5. Racist Anti-Racism	Essay	<a href="#">In-Class: Reflection Essay 5</a>

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