

SOC 138A  
MW 3:40-5pm

## **SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER AND RACE**

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### **Course Description**

This course examines gender and race (and class) as intersecting and interacting organizing social constructs that sort people into separate and unequal social groups, (re)create images and ideologies concerning these groups, distribute resources accordingly, and shape individual and group identities. During the semester we will analyze how gender and race (re)create forms of domination and subordination not just between men and women but among women themselves. While the gender and race analyses we will read focus more on women than on men, most of the readings and class discussions address the inextricable relationship between both, as well as the racial and other differences within and between both. Specifically, the realms of global and domestic labor markets, intimacy and family arrangements, cultural representations and ideologies, and migration will elucidate these frameworks and concepts of gender and race. Finally, we will explore a range of contemporary theories and schools of thought that apply more to the North American context but apply outside of North America as well.

Successful completion of this course will be demonstrated if, by the end of the semester, you are able to:

1. Explain and compare the ways in which gender and race (and class, sexuality) impact on women's and men's lives.
2. Understand and critique the various theoretical approaches and apply them to everyday life.
3. Integrate theoretical material with your own cultural criticism.

### **Required Texts**

- 1) Patricia Hill Collins - *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment, Second Edition*, Routledge, 2000, 0415924847
- 2) Yen Espiritu - *Asian American Women and Men: Labor, Laws, and Love*, Rowman & Littlefield, 1996, 0803972547

3) Barbara Ehrenreich & Arlie Russell Hochschild, eds. - *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*, Owl Books (2nd edition), 2004, 0805075097 (GW)

4) Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette - *Domestica: Immigrant Workers Cleaning and Caring in the Shadows of Affluence*, University of California, 2001, 0520226437

The remaining readings will be on WebCT. All readings on WebCT are denoted by an asterisk (\*) below.