U.S. RACES AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEMSYLLABUS,Fall 2013
Tuesday & Thursday 10:45-12:00, Room A245

Richard Delgado (Room 368) and Jean Stefancic (Room 370)
rdelgado@law.ua.edu; jstefancic@law.ua.edu

Intellectual Content. This 3-unit course (not a seminar) addresses the racial and legal history of the major racial groups in the U.S., including African Americans, American Indians, Latinos, Asian Americans, and Whites. As well, the course includes competing definitions and understandings of race and racism; the legal system's contribution to the construction of race; race, sexuality, and the family; race and popular culture; crime; racist and antiracist speech and expression; and responses to racism, including resistance, coalitions, and healing.

Course Objectives.This broad survey course will acquaint you with the full panoply of America's racial history. It will also provide you with a vocabulary and set of concepts for analyzing racial problems that arise in daily life. It will enable you to see connections among events taking place on many fronts. It should help you to understand tensions between racialgroups. It will enable you to participate more knowledgeably in efforts on behalf of social justice and to persevere even in the face of momentary disappointments.

Required Materials.Perea, Delgado, Harris, Stefancic& Wildman, *Race & Races* (West, 2d ed. 2007).

Reading Assignments. Most assignments are about 29 pages long, or about 58 a week. We have tried to select materials that are pertinent to this region and as timely and engaging as possible.

Reflection Paper. One required, 3 to 5 pages.

Exams.Mid-semester ungraded practice exam.Three hour final exam, closed book.

Grading. We will adhere to the law school's mandatory curve. We may, however, modify individual grades slightly, based on class performance. The resulting distribution will then be re-normed to conform to law school guidelines.

Attendance. 100 percent attendance is expected and strongly encouraged. If you miss more than the allowed number of classes, for any reason, you will not be permitted to take the final examination.

Class Preparation. The reading assignments are not particularly burdensome. But if, on a given day, you have not been able to read the material before class for some reason, *please attend class* but give us a written note or email (i.e., not oral) before class advising us of your situation. You need not give an explanation, so long as you employ this device sparingly. If you are in class and have not handed in a note, we will feel free to call on you for analysis or an opinion.

Auditors, Visitors, Recordings. Because of the sensitive nature of the material we will be covering, no auditors, visitors, guests, or recordings will be allowed.

U.S. Races and the Justice System: Reading Assignments

CLASS	DATE	PAGES	SUBJECT
1	8/15	1-6. 19-40	**Racism**: Definitions
2	8/20	40-72	Definitions (cont.).
3	8/22	72-95, 6-10	**Race**: Definitions.
4	8/27	10-19, 96-115	**African Americans**: Early history,
5	8/29	115-45	Slavery, Reconstruction,
6	9/3	146-71	Jim Crow, Civil Rights Movement.
7	9/5	171-98, 228-31	**American Indians**: Early history,
8	9/10	231-39, 246-55, 260-68	Contemporary issues and Comparative approaches
9	9/12	268-82, 285-300	Indians (cont.). **Latinos/as**: Conquest,
10	9/17	301-08, 314-33	Mexican Americans; Land, Resistance,
11	9/19	333-56, 384-89	Discrimination and Labor.
12	9/24	389-418	**Asian Americans**: Chinese Americans
13	9/26	418-20, 425-46, 458-62	Chinese Americans (cont.), Japanese Americans,
14	10/1	463-75, 487-504	Contemporary issues. **Whites**: Whiteness,
15	10/3	508-13, 516-24, 530-40, 542-43	Ethnic whites, Social construction, Color imagery,
16	10/8	544-49, 562-66, 598-600, 641-56, 750-54	Binaries, Resistance. **Equal Protection**: Intersections, Affirmative action. **Education**: Segregation,
17	10/10	759-64, 766-91	Desegregation, School funding,
18	10/15	791-98, 812-22, 826-40	Integration. **Freedom of Expression**: Protest rights,
19	10/17	841-47, 860-76	Hate speech
20	10/22	876-91, 902-15	Hate speech (cont.); English only
21	10/24	915-24, 926-46	English only (cont.). **Sexuality**
22	10/29	959-78, 982-92	Interracial relations and marriage,
23	11/5	992-1002, 1023-46	Marriage, Children. **Popular Culture**: Cultural imagery,
24	11/7	1050-65, 1071-74, 1104-05	Racial imagery. **Crime:** Victims,
25	11/12	1106-22, 1125-31, 1144-50	Hate crime, Profiling, Drug crime, War on terror,
26	11/14	1151-76	Gangs, Policing.
27	11/19	1196-1220, 1225-30	**Responses to Racism:** Role of law, Nonviolent resistance, Coalitions, Resistance,
28	11/21	1231-44, 1259-69	Interracial healing, Apologies, Classroom and professions.