

ETH ZÜRICH / D-GESS

**HISTORY OF THE MODERN
WORLD**

HS 2023

VL Colour-Coded Conflict: A Global History of Racism and Anti-Racism (c. 1500-2000)



Segregated washroom (1950s USA)

TIME: MONDAY 12:15-13:45

PLACE: IFW A36

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORDS: Prof. Dr. Harald Fischer-Tiné

START: 25 September 2023

ABSTRACT


The lecture provides an overview of modern forms of racialism and racism as they developed since the late 15th century. It reconstructs the close entanglement of racist discourses and practices with European expansion, but it also looks at racist patterns of exclusion and racist world views beyond the West. Importantly, it demonstrates that racist rhetoric never went uncontested by also discussing in-depth the role of anti-racist resistance. In doing so it zooms in on critics and their interventions from the anti-racist writings and speeches of Bartholomeo de las Casas in early modern Spain to the American civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s or the South African anti-Apartheid struggle during the second half of the 20th century. Through this thorough historicization of racial thought and racist practices, participants learn to better grasp 21st century phenomena related to their legacies, such as the "Black Lives Matter" movement or the current controversies in Europe, Australia and North America revolving around the status and place of non-western migrants and refugees. Last but not least, students of the sciences are sensitized for the role their disciplines played in creating structural inequalities.

REQUIREMENTS

- Regular presence (minimum: 80% recommended)
- Regular reading of the mandatory texts (a course reader with selected texts will be provided via Moodle); a 1,500 word source interpretation has to be submitted via Moodle by Dec 1st 2023.
- Passing of final exam (18 December 2023)
- Link to online reader: <https://moodle-app2.let.ethz.ch/course/view.php?id=20760>
Contact to the teaching assistant: martin.roth@gmw.gess.ethz.ch


SESSION PLAN & Recommended readings

 = mandatory readings available via Moodle

- Session 1 (25. 09. 2023) Global histories of racism: Introduction to the course**
- BETHENCOURT, Francisco, 'Introduction', in: Idem, *Racisms: From the Crusades to the Twentieth Century*, Princeton 2013, pp. 1-10.
 - DIKÖTTER, Frank, 'The racialization of the globe: an interactive interpretation', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 31 (8), 2008, pp. 1478-96.

 - FREDERICKSON, George M., 'Introduction', in: Idem, *Racism: A short History*, Princeton, 2002, pp. 1-13.
 - GOLDBERG, David T., 'Racial Comparisons, relational Racisms: some Thoughts on Methods', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 32 (7), 2009, pp. 1271-82.
 - RATTANSI, Ali, *Racism: A very short Introduction*, Oxford² 2020, pp. 1-9.
 - WINANT, Howard, 'Race and Racism: Towards a Global Future', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 29 (5), 2006, pp. 986-1003.


I. THE RISE & GROWTH OF "RACE" IN THE WEST

Session 2 (02. 10. 2023) **Watershed: Reconquista, Oceanic exploration and the early modern reconfiguration of racial thinking 1450-1700**

- LAVAZZO, Kathy, 'Race and Ethnicity: Circum-Atlantic Colonialisms', in: K.A Coles and D. Kim (eds.), *A cultural History of Race in the Renaissance and early Modern Age*, London 2021, pp. 107-24.
- MARTÍNES, Maria Elena, 'The Black Blood of New Spain: Limpieza de Sangre, Racial Violence, and Gendered Power in Early Colonial Mexico', *The William and Mary Quarterly*, 61 (3), 2004, pp. 479-520.
- NIRENBERG, David, 'Was there Race before Modernity? The Example of 'Jewish Blood' in late Medieval Spain', in: M. Eliav-Felden, B. Isaac and J. Ziegler (eds.), *The Origins of Racism in the West*, Cambridge 2009, pp. 232-64.
- RUBIÉS, Joan-Pau, 'Were early modern Europeans Racist?', in: Morris-Reich A. and Rupnow, D. (eds.), *Ideas of Race in the History of the Humanities*, Cham 2017, pp. 33-87.
- SOYER, François, 'Faith, Culture and Fear: comparing Islamophobia in early modern Spain and 21st century Europe', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 36 (3), 2013, pp. 399-416.
- SWEET, James H., 'The Iberian Roots of American Racist Thought', *The William and Mary Quarterly*, 54 (1), 1997, pp. 143-66. 
- WIESNER-HANKS, Merry E., *Early Modern Europe 1450-1789*, Cambridge³ 2023, pp. 515-61.

Session 3 (09. 10. 2023) **Enlightenment thought, Slavery and the creation of racial taxonomies (1700-1800)**

- BUCHAN, Bruce, 'Scottish Medical Ethnography: Colonial Travel, Stadiol Theory and the Natural History of Race, c. 1770-1805', *Modern Intellectual History*, 17 (4), 2020, pp. 919-49.
- BUCHAN, Bruce and SEBASTIANI, Silvia, "'No distinction of Black or Fair": The Natural History of Race in Adam Ferguson's Lectures on Moral Philosophy', *Journal of the History of Ideas*, 82 (2), 2021, pp. 207-29.
- MCCARTHY, Thomas, 'Kant on Race and Development', in: Idem, *Race, Empire and the Idea of Human Development*, Cambridge 2009, pp. 42-68.
- CURRAN, Andrew S., *The Anatomy of Blackness: Science and Slavery in an Age of Enlightenment*, Baltimore 2011, pp. 167-215.
- VAN GORKOM, Joris, 'Immanuel Kant on Race Mixing: The Gypsies, the Black Portuguese, and the Jews on St. Thomas', *Journal of the History of Ideas*, 81 (3), 2020, pp. 407-27.

- NELSON, William M., 'Making Men: Enlightenment Ideas of Racial Engineering', *The American Historical Review*, 115 (5), 2010, pp. 1364-94.
- SETH, Suman, 'Race and Science: Skin, Slavery and Nationalism, 1550-1750', in: N. Hudson (ed.), *A cultural History of Race in the Reformation and Enlightenment*, London 2021, pp. 71-86. 

Note: there will be no session on 16 October!




Late 19th century depiction of 'racial types'

Session 4 (23. 10. 2023)


The Age of Empire: Racial theories between philology and anthropology (1780-1900)

- BETHENCOURT, Francisco, 'The Theories of Race', in: Idem, *Racisms; From the Crusades to the Twentieth Century*, Princeton 2013, pp. 247-306.
- BLUE, Gregory. 'Gobineau on China: Race Theory, the "Yellow Peril", and the Critique of Modernity', *Journal of World History*, 10 (1), 1999, pp. 93-139.
- ELTRINGHAM, Nigel, '“Nordics” and “Hamites”': Joseph Deniker and the Rise (and Fall) of Scientific Racism', in: Morris-Reich A. &

Rupnow, D. (eds), *Ideas of Race in the History of the Humanities*, Cham 2017, pp. 251-72.

- KERN, Emily, 'Race, Environment, Culture: Between philology and Biology in the Nineteenth Century', in: N. Hudson (ed.), *A cultural History of Race in the Age of Empire and Nation State*, London 2021, pp. 37-55. 
- LORIMER, Douglas A., *Science, Race Relations and Resistance: Britain, 1870-1914*, Manchester 2013, pp. 59-107.
- MAKDISI, Saree, 'Race and Empire in the Nineteenth Century', in: G. Claeys (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Nineteenth Century Thought*, Cambridge 2019, pp. 204-220.
- ROSE, Paul Lawrence, 'Renan versus Gobineau: Semitism and Anti-semitism: Ancient Races and Modern Liberal Nations', *History of European Ideas*, 39 (4), 2013, pp. 528-40.


Session 5 (23. 10. 2023) The Heyday and Demise of 'Race Science' and Eugenics (1900-1950)

- BANTON, Michael, 'Race as Subspecies', in: Idem, *Racial Theories*, Cambridge² 1998, pp. 81-116.
- BETHENCOURT, Francisco, 'The Impact of Nationalism', in: Idem, *Racisms: From the Crusades to the Twentieth Century*, Princeton 2013, pp. 309-34.
- BELL, Duncan, 'Pragmatic Utopianism and Race: H.G. Wells as Social Scientist', *Modern Intellectual History*, 16 (3), 2019, pp. 863-95.
- BOATCĂ, Manuela, 'Race and Politics: Colonial Blueprint, Historical Exceptionalism and Global Connections', in: T.M. Golash-Boza (ed.), *A cultural History of Race in the Modern and Genomic Age*, London 2021, pp. 87-105. 
- FREDERICKSON, George M., 'Climax and Retreat: Racism in the Twentieth Century', in: Idem, *Racism: A short History*, Princeton 2002, pp. 97-138.
- GIL-RIAÑO, Sebastian, 'Relocating anti-racist science: The 1950 UNESCO Statement on Race and economic development in the global South', *The British Journal for the History of Science*, 51 (2), 2018, pp. 281-303.
- SUSSMAN, Robert W., *The Myth of Race: The Troubling Persistence of an Unscientific Idea*, Cambridge MA 2014, pp. 43-63 and 146-64.


II. RACIALISM BEYOND THE WEST

Session 6 (06. 11. 2023) Differences of Kind: The Concept of Race in India

- CHAIREZ-GARZA, Jesus F., 'Moving untouched: B.R. Ambedkar and the racialization of untouchability', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 45 (2), 2022, pp. 216-34.
- GHOSHAL, Sayori, 'Race in South Asia: Colonialism, Nationalism and Modern Science', *History Compass* 19 (2), 2021, pp. 1-11.


- IMMERWAHR, Daniel, 'Caste or Colony: Indianizing Race in the United States', *Modern Intellectual History*, 4 (2), 2007, pp. 275-301.
- KAPILA, Shruti, 'Race Matters: Religion and Orientalism, India and Beyond', *Modern Asian Studies*, 41 (3), 2007, pp. 471-513
- MUKHARJI, Projit B., 'Race in Colonial South Asia: Science and the Law', in: H. Fischer-Tiné and M. Framke (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of the History of Colonialism in South Asia*, Abingdon 2022, pp. 193-205. 
- MUKHARJI, Projit B., 'Seroanthropological Races', in: Idem, *Brown Skins, White Coats, Race Science in India (1920-1966)*, Chicago 2022, pp. 37-64.
- ROBB, Peter, 'South Asia and the Concept of Race.', in: Idem, *The concept of race in South Asia*, Delhi 1995, pp. 1-76.

Session 7 (13. 11. 2023) Drastic measurements: Racism and Race Science in the Middle East and the wider Islamic world

- BURTON, Elise K., *Genetic Crossroads: The Middle East and the Science of Human Histories*, Stanford 2021, pp. 29-66.
- EL HAMEL, Chouki, *Black Morocco: A History of Slavery, Race and Islam*, Cambridge 2013, pp. 60-105.
- ELSHAKRY, Marwa, 'Race and Religion: Modern Histories of the Arabs and Islam', in: N. Hudson (ed.), *A cultural History of Race in the Age of Empire and Nation State*, London 2021, pp. 57-73. 
- ELSHAKRY, Marwa. 'Darwin and the Mufti', in: Idem: *Reading Darwin in Arabic, 1860-1950*, Chicago 2013, pp. 161-218.
- MAKSUDYAN, Nazan, 'Racial anthropology in Turkey and transnational entanglements in the making of scientific knowledge: Seniha Tunakan's academic trajectory, 1930s–1970s', *History of the Human Sciences*, 36 (2), 2023, pp. 154-77.
- SELIM, Salah, 'Languages of Civilization: Nation, Translation and the Politics of Race in Colonial Egypt', *The Translator*, 15 (1), 2009, pp. 139-56.
- YOUNG, Alden and WEITZBERG, Keren, 'Globalizing Racism and De-Provincialising Muslim Africa', *Modern Intellectual History*, 19 (3), 2022, pp. 912-33.

III. RACIST REGIMES AND THEIR DISCONTENTS

Session 8 (20. 11. 2023) The Making of the American Colour Line(s): Manifestations of Racism in the 'Land of the Free', c. 1800-2000

- DONOVAN, Brian, 'The sexual basis of racial formation: Anti-vice activism and the creation of the Twentieth-century 'color line'', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 26 (4), 2003, pp. 707-27.
- MCCARTHY, Thomas, 'Social Darwinism and White Supremacy', in: Idem, *Race, Empire and the Idea of Human Development*, Cambridge 2009, pp. 69-95. 

- MCKEOWN, Adam, 'Civilization and Borders 1895-1895', in: Idem, *Melancholy Order: Asian Migration and the Globalization of Borders*, New York 2008, pp. 149-84.
- OSHATZ, Molly, 'The Problem of Moral Progress: The Slavery Debates and the Development of Liberal Protestantism in the United States', *Modern Intellectual History*, 5 (2), 2008, pp. 225-50.
- PERRY, R.J., 'From the Civil War to World War II', in: Idem: "Race" and Racism: *The Development of Modern Racism in America*, New York 2007, pp. 151-76.
- SMITHERS, Gregory D. 'The "Pursuits of the Civilized Man": Race and the Meaning of Civilization in the United States and Australia, 1790s-1850s', *Journal of World History*, 20 (2), 2009, pp. 245-72.
- WRIGHT, Donald R., 'African Americans', in: W.L. Barney (ed.), *A Companion to Nineteenth Century America*, Malden MA 2006, pp. 195-208.




Cartoon on the Anti-Chinese Immigration Laws in California (USA, 1882)


Session 9 (27. 11. 2023)

Anti-racist Resistance in the USA: Abolitionism, Pan-Africanism and the Civil Rights Movement, c. 1800-1970


- ALGERNON, Austin, 'Rethinking Race and the Nation of Islam, 1930-1975', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 26 (1), 2003, pp. 52-69.
- BURDEN-STELLY, Charisse and HORNE, Gerald, 'Third World Internationalism and the Global Colour Line', in: D. C. Engermann, M.P. Friedmann and M. McAlister (eds.), *The Cambridge History of America in the World. Vol. IV 1945 to Present*, Cambridge 2021, pp. 370-96.
- CURTIS, Edward E., 'The Nation of Islam', in: M. A. Upal and C. M. Cusack (eds.), *Handbook of Islamic Sects and Movements*, Leiden 2021, pp. 658-72.

- DARIAN-SMITH, Eve, 'Re-reading W. E. B. Du Bois: The global dimensions of the US civil rights struggle', *Journal of Global History*, 7 (3), 2012, pp. 483-505.
- DUNSTON, Sarah C., 'Black Is a Country, n'est-ce pas? Race, Rights and Nation in the Wilsonian Moment', in: Idem, *Race, Rights and Reform: Black Activism in the French Empire and the United States from World War I to the Cold War*, Cambridge 2021, pp. 14-47.
- GERSTLE, Gary, *American Crucible: Race and Nation in the Twentieth Century*, Princeton 2001, pp. 268-310. 
- WILLIAMS, Chad L., 'Vanguards of the New Negro: African American Veterans and Post-World War I Racial Militancy', *The Journal of African American History*, 92 (3), 2007, pp. 347-70.

Session 10 (04. 12. 2023) The Trajectories of the Apartheid Regime in South Africa and the growth of Anti-racist Resistance, c.1830-1975

- DUBOW, Saul, 'Christian-Nationalist Ideology, Apartheid and the Concept of Race', in: Idem, *Scientific Racism in South Africa*, Cambridge 1995, pp. 246-83.
- ENGELKEN, Dagmar, 'A White Man's Country: The Labour Controversy in the Transvaal', in: W.D. Hund, R. Kikler and D. Roediger (eds), *Wages of Whiteness and Racist Symbolic Capital*, Münster 2010, pp. 161-93.
- GILIOMEE, Hermann, 'The Making of the Apartheid Plan, 1929-1948' *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 29 (2), 2003, pp. 373-92.
- MAGER, A., and MULAUDZI, M., 'Popular Responses to Apartheid: 1948–c. 1975, in: R. Ross, A. Mager, and B. Nasson (eds.), *The Cambridge History of South Africa*, Cambridge 2011, pp. 369-408.
- POSEL, Deborah, 'The Apartheid Project, 1948–1970', in: R. Ross, A. Mager, and B. Nasson (eds.), *The Cambridge History of South Africa*, Cambridge 2011, pp. 319-68. 
- SCULLY, Pamela, 'Rape, Race, and Colonial Culture: The Sexual Politics of Identity in the Nineteenth-Century Cape Colony, South Africa', *The American Historical Review*, 100 (2), 1995, pp. 335-59.
- WATSON, R.L., 'An Aristocracy of Skin', in: Idem, *Slave Emancipation and Racial Attitudes in Nineteenth-Century South Africa*, Cambridge 2012, pp. 265-88.

Session 11 (11. 12. 2023) 'White Australia'?: Racialism and its Enemies Down Under

- AFFELDT, Stefanie, 'A Paroxysm of Whiteness: White Labour, White Nation and White Sugar in Australia', in: W.D. Hund, R. Kikler and D. Roediger (eds.), *Wages of Whiteness and Racist Symbolic Capital*, Münster 2010, pp. 99-131. 
- ANDERSON, Kay and PERRIN, Colin, 'How Race became Everything: Australia and Polygenism', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 31 (5), 2008, pp. 962-90.

- BASHFORD, Alison, 'Is White Australia Possible? Race, Colonialism and Tropical Medicine', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 23 (2), 2000, pp. 248-71.
- GREWCOCK, Michael, 'Settler-Colonial Violence, Primitive Accumulation and Australia's Genocide', *State Crime Journal*, 7 (2), 2018, pp. 222-50.
- LAKE, Marylin and REYNOLDS, Henry, 'White Australia points the way', in: *Drawing the Global Colour Line: White Men's Countries and the International Challenge of Racial Equality (Critical Perspectives on Empire)*, Cambridge 2008, pp. 137-65.
- O'CONNELL, Deirdre, 'Contesting White Australia: Black Jazz Musicians in a White Man's Country', *Australian Historical Studies*, 47 (2), 2016, pp. 241-58.
- WALTER, Maggie, 'Indigeneity and Citizenship in Australia', in: E. Isin and P. Nyers (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Global Citizenship Studies*, Abingdon 2014, pp. 557-67.

Session 12 (18. 12. 2023) **FINAL EXAM**

