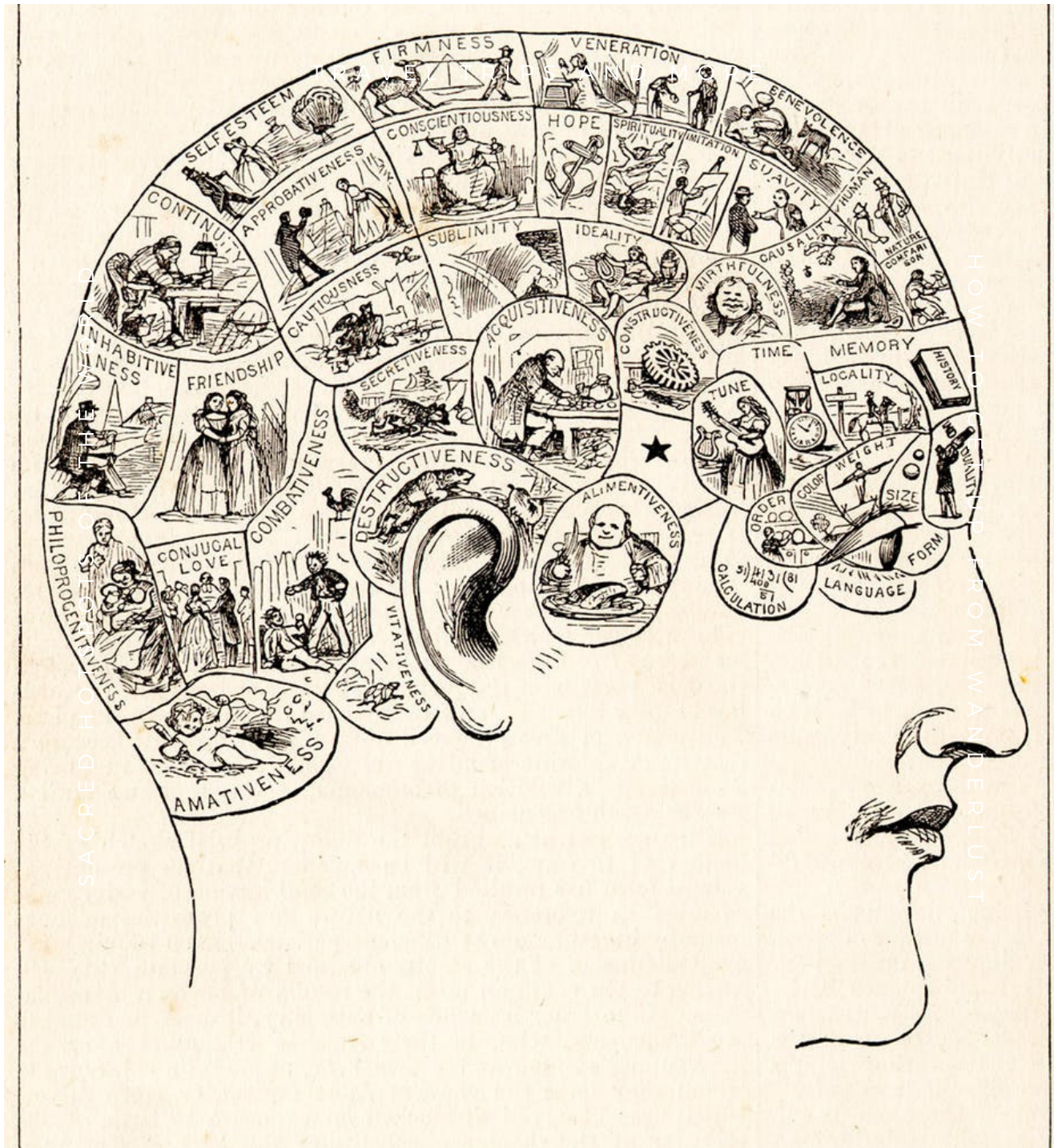


UNDERSTANDING RACE 2019

MASTERS OF RESEARCH, WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



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UNDERSTANDING RACE

What is race? What is racism? How are they related? Why do they continue to shape social, political and economic relations well after the biological concept of race was disproven? What are the links between race and colonialism and in Australia particularly, the invasion and settlement of Aboriginal land? How is race related to property? How do ideas of race become embedded in state institutions and why do they continue to shape disadvantage and inequality?

Blogs and readings:
alana.lentin.net/understandingrace
[@alanalentin](https://twitter.com/alanalentin)
[#UnderstandingRace](https://twitter.com/UnderstandingRace)

Though race develops differently in different contexts, it is best thought about through relational readings that draw out both the differences but also the similarities between places and times. This unit will draw on race critical and decolonial texts to focus on race as a modern idea that is shaped in the contexts of colonialism, slavery, and persists in post-immigration multicultural societies.

The theme for 2019 is racial capitalism.

This 13 week course is offered by Alana Lentin as part of the Masters of Research at Western Sydney University.

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Most Readings can be downloaded here

1: Concepts & Debates

Main texts:

Alana Lentin. 2018. 'Race/ in W. Outhwaite and S. Turner (eds.), William Outhwaite and Stephen Turner (eds). *The Sage Handbook of Political Sociology*.

Alana Lentin. 2020 (forthcoming). Chapter 1 of *Why Race Still Matters*. London: Polity Press.

Ways in:

Alana Lentin. 2008. Chapter 1. *Racism, A Beginner's Guide*. Oxford; Oneworld.

Alana Lentin. 2015. 'What Does race Do?', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. 38(8): 1401-1406.

Extras:

Jose Munoz. 2006. 'Feeling Brown, Feeling Down: Latina Affect, the Performativity of Race, and the Depressive Position', *Signs* 31(3): 675-688.

Clarence C. Gravlee, 2009. 'How Race Becomes Biology: Embodiment of Social Inequality, *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*: 139: 47-57.

2. Race, the floating signifier

Main texts:

Introduction and Chapter 1, 'Race-the Sliding Signifier' of Stuart Hall. 2017. *The Fateful Triangle: Race, Ethnicity, Nation*. Harvard: Harvard UP.

Appiah, Anthony. 1985. 'The Uncompleted Argument: Du Bois and the Illusion of Race,' *Critical Inquiry* 12(1): 21-37.

Ways in:

Alana Lentin. 2008. Chapter 1. *Racism, A Beginner's Guide*. Oxford; Oneworld.

Alana Lentin. 2015. 'What Does race Do?', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. 38(8): 1401-1406.

Extras:

W.E.B. Du Bois. 1940. *Dusk of Dawn. An Essay Toward an Autobiography of a Race Concept*. Oxford: Oxford UP.

Les Back and Maggie Tate. 2014. 'Telling About Racism: W.E.B. Du Bois, Stuart Hall and Sociology's Reconstruction,' in Alana Lentin and Wulf D. Hund (eds). *Racism and Sociology*. Berlin: Lit Verlag.

3. Race & Culture

Main texts:

Chapter 2 - 'Ethnicity and Difference in Global Times', in Stuart Hall, *The Fateful Triangle*. Harvard: Harvard UP.

Glenn Coulthard. 2014. Chapter 1, 'The Politics of Recognition in Colonial Contexts,' *Red Skin, White Masks: Rejecting the Colonial Politics of Recognition*. University of Minnesota Press.

Ways in:

Alana Lentin. 'Replacing 'race', historicizing 'culture' in multiculturalism', *Patterns of Prejudice* 39(4): 379-396.

Extras:

Etienne Balibar. 1991. 'Is There a Neoracism?' *Race, Nation, Class: Ambiguous Identities*. London: Verso.

Robert J.C. Young. 1004. *Colonial Desire: Hybridity in Theory, Culture and Race*. London: Routledge.

Podcast: Ann Laura Stoler, 'The Colonial Administration of Bodies and Space'

4. Methodologies

Main texts:

Linda Tuhiwai Smith. 2012. 'Chapter 10: Towards Developing Indigenous Methodologies: Kaupapa Maori Research', in *Decolonizing Methodologies* (2nd ed.). London: Zed Books.

Jo-Ann Archibald, Jenny Lee-Morgan and Jason De Santolo. 2019. 'Introduction', *Decolonizing Research: Indigenous Storywork as Methodology*. London: Zed Books.

Jason De Santolo. The Emergence of Yarnbar Jarngkurr from Indigenous Homelands: A Creative Indigenous Methodology.

Patricia Hill Collins. 2015. 'No guarantees: Symposium on Black Feminist Thought', *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, Vol. 38, No. 13, 2349–2354.

Ways in:

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva and Tukufu Zuberi. 2008. 'Introduction: Towards a Definition of White Logic and White Methods', in *White Logic, White Methods*. London: Rowman and Littlefield.

Extras:

Julietta Singh. 2018. *Unthinking mastery: Dehumanism and decolonial entanglements*. Durham: Duke UP.

.Aileen Moreton-Robinson. 2015. *Introduction to Critical Indigenous Studies: Engagements in First World Locations*. University of Arizona Press.

David T. Goldberg. 2015. 'Racial Comparisons, Relational racisms: Some thoughts on method', in Karim Murji and John Solomos (eds.), *Theories of Race and Ethnicity: Contemporary Debates and Perspectives*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 251-262.

Nelson Maldonado-Torres. 2010. 'The time and space of race: reflections on David Theo Goldberg's interrelational and comparative methodology', *Patterns of Prejudice*, Vol. 44, No. 1.

Symposium on 'Patricia Hill Collins Black Feminist Thought', *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 38(13), 2015.

Alana Lentin. 2014. 'Postracial Silences: The Othering of Race in Europe', in Wulf D. Hund and Alana Lentin, *Racism and Sociology*. Berlin: Lit Verlag.

5. Race, Coloniality & Property

This topic runs over two weeks.

Main texts:

Cheryl Harris. 1993. 'Whiteness as Property' Harvard Law Review 106(8): 1707-1791.

Aileen Moreton-Robinson. 2015. 'Part I: Owning Property,' in The White Possessive: Property, Power, and Indigenous Sovereignty. University of Minnesota Press.

Patrick Wolfe. 2016. Introduction and Chapter 1 of Traces of History. London: Verso.

Ways in:

Forum on Patrick Wolfe, Verso.

Extras:

Irene Watson. 2002. 'Buried Alive,' Law and Critique 13: 253-269, 2002.

Sarah Keenan. 'Smoke, Curtains and Mirrors: The Production of Race Through Time and Title Registration,' Law Critique 28:87-108

K-Sue Park. 2016. 'Money, Mortgages, and the Conquest of America,' Law & Social Inquiry.

Brenna Bhandar. 2018. Introduction to Colonial Lives of Property: Law, Land and Racial Regimes of Ownership. Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press.

Byrd, Jodi A., Alyosha Goldstein, Jodi Melamed, and Chandan Reddy. "Predatory Value: Economies of Dispossession and Disturbed Relationalities." Social Text 135.36.2 (2018): 1-18. [Click for more options](#)

6. Interrogating racial capitalism

This topic runs over two weeks

Main texts:

Cedric Robinson. 1983. Chapter 1 and Part 3 of *Black Marxism: The Making of the Black Radical Tradition*. London: Zed Press.

Robbie Shilliam. 2018. *Race and the Undeserving Poor*. New York: Columbia UP.

Ways in:

Robin Kelly. 'What did Cedric Robinson mean by racial capitalism?' *The Boston Review*.

Boston Review Forum Response: To Remake the World: Slavery, Racial Capitalism, and Justice: Reviving the Black Radical Tradition

Extras:

Gaye Theresa Johnson and Alex Lubin (eds.). 2017. 'Introduction', *Futures of Black Radicalism*. London: Verso.

The Black Radical Tradition (collection of essays).

A. Sivanandan. Race and the Market State. *CARF*.

A. Sivanandan. 2013. 'The Market State vs. The Good society'. *Race and Class*.

Nikhil Pal Singh. 2017. 'On Race, Violence and "So-Called" Primitive Accumulation,' in Gaye Theresa Johnson and Alex Lubin (eds.). 2017. 'Introduction', *Futures of Black Radicalism*. London: Verso.

7. Racial capitalism, Possession & Reproduction

Main text:

Gargi Bhattacharyya. 2018. *Rethinking Racial Capitalism: Questions of Reproduction and Survival*. London: Rowman & Littlefield International.

Ways in:

Guy Lancaster, Review of Rethinking Racial Capitalism

Leah Bassel & Akwugo Emejulu. 2017. 'Caring subjects: migrant women and the third sector in England and Scotland,' *Ethnic and Racial Studies* Volume 41, Issue 1.

Extras:

Umut Erel. 2018. 'Saving and reproducing the nation: Struggles around right-wing politics of social reproduction, gender and race in austerity Europe,' *Women's Studies International Forum*, Volume 68, May-June 2018, Pages 173-182

Leah Bassel and Akwugo Emejulu. 2017. *Minority Women and Austerity: Survival and Resistance in France and Britain*. Bristol: Policy Press.

Tithi Bhattacharya. 2017. *Social Reproduction Theory*. London: Pluto.

Sara R. Farris. 2017. *In the Name of Women's Rights: The Rise of Femonationalism*. Durham: Duke UP.

8. Racial Capitalism & Carcerality

Main text:

Ruthie Wilson Gilmore. 2007. *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California*. UC Press.

Ways in:

Debbie Kilroy. 2018. 'Imagining abolition: Thinking outside the prison bars,' *Griffith Review* 60.

Amy McQuire. 2019. 'Black and White Witness, *Meanjin*, Winter.

Robin D.G. Kelley. 2016. 'Thug nation: On state violence and disposability,' in Jordan T. Camp and Christina Heatherton (eds.), *Policing the Planet: Why the Policing Crisis Led to Black Lives Matter*. London: Verso.

Angela Davis. 'Masked Racism: Reflections on the Prison Industrial Complex,' *History is a Weapon*.

Extras:

Jordan T. Camp: *Incarcerating the Crisis: Freedom Struggles and the Rise of the Neoliberal State*. UC Press.

Angela Y. Davis. 2003. *Are Prisons Obsolete?* AK Press.

VIDEO: Policing the Planet Panel discussion

Joo-Hyun Kang. 2-16. 'Fighting Broken Windows Policing in New York City in the '90s and '00s: A recent history.' *Verso Blog*.