

## PHIL 4332: Philosophy of Race

Summer 1: May 23-June 27, 2022	Instructor: Sunshine Williams
Section 4332.051	Email: sunshine.williams@utdallas.edu
Modality: Face-to-face	Office Number: JO 4.904
Class location: Green Hall GR 4.204	Office Hours: M/W 3:30-4:30pm (after class)

### Course Description

“The intellect is a muscle; it must be exercised.” -Ta-Nehisi Coates  
 PHIL 4332 will provide an in-depth study of philosophy of race - its history, its present, and its future. This classroom will be a reciprocal environment, wherein you are a co-creator and an active voice. We will be sharing in the study of a diverse collective of philosophers, artists, and social scientists. It is the design, intent, and hope of this class that you will gain better cognition of racial realities and cultivate the ability to contemplate upon and communicate on such important topics.

### Required Readings

*All readings will be provided through eLearning in digital format.*

### COVID-19 Guidelines and Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s COVID-19 resources for students and instructors of record. Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

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### Class Materials

The Instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course. However, these materials are for use by registered students only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class or uploaded to other online environments, except to implement an approved Office of Student Accessibility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

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### Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website. Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information. To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

## Summer I 2022 Assignments and Academic Calendar

<i>Mon, 05/23</i>	<p><b>Introduction to the Course</b>                  Video – Race: The Power of an Illusion <a href="https://youtu.be/Y8MS6zubIaQ">https://youtu.be/Y8MS6zubIaQ</a>                  Readings – Naomi Zack: <i>Introduction to Phil of Race</i>, Chapter 1 (before class)                  Paul C. Taylor: <i>Race: A Philosophical Introduction</i>, Chapter 4 (in class)</p>
<i>Wed, 05/25</i>	<p><b>Race and Biology</b>                  Video – Rick Kittles on Biology <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LAWrwexw-To">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LAWrwexw-To</a>                  Readings – Omi &amp; Winant: “The Theory of Racial Formation”                  Rasmus Gronfeldt Winther: “Race and Biology” (<i>Routledge Companion</i>)</p>
<i>Mon, 05/30</i>	<p><b>Memorial Day – No Class!</b></p>
<i>Wed, 06/01</i>	<p><b>Race and Language</b>                  Video – “Lost Voices” by Darius Simpson &amp; Scout Bostley  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpPASWlnZIA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpPASWlnZIA</a>                  Readings – Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak: “Can the Subaltern Speak?”                  Bill Ashcroft: “Language and Race”                  Charles Dickens: “The Noble Savage”</p>
<i>Mon, 06/06</i>	<p><b>Race and Phenomenology</b>                  Video – Lil Baby: “The Bigger Picture”  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDGysJGNoI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDGysJGNoI</a>                  Readings – Lewis R. Gordon: “Race as Phenomena”                  Frantz Fanon: “The Lived Experience of the Black Man”                  W.E.B. Du Bois: “The Souls of Black Folk”</p>
<i>Wed, 06/08</i>	<p><b>Race and Whiteness</b>                  Video – Ali Michael: Whiteness and Racial Identity  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxXMf5K1W6E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxXMf5K1W6E</a>                  Readings – James Baldwin: “On Being ‘White’... and Other Lies”                  Nathan Eckstrand: “The Activeness and Adaptability of Whiteness”                  Charles Mills: “Comments on Shannon Sullivan’s <i>Revealing Whiteness</i>”</p>
<i>Mon, 06/13</i>	<p><b>Race and Politics</b>                  Video – John Lewis: Bloody Sunday <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XST4IV7HnO8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XST4IV7HnO8</a>                  Readings – Charles Mills: “Overview” from <i>The Racial Contract</i>                  MLK: “Letter from Birmingham Jail”                  Tommie Shelby: “Justice and Racial Conciliation: Two Visions”</p>
<i>Wed, 06/15</i>	<p><b>Race and Intersectionality</b>                  Video – Kimberle Crenshaw: “The Urgency of Intersectionality”  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akOe5-UsQ2o">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akOe5-UsQ2o</a>                  Readings – Patricia Hill Collins: <i>Intersectionality</i>, Chapter 1                  Audre Lorde: “Age, Race, Class, and Sex” from <i>Sister Outsider</i></p>

<i>Mon, 06/20</i>	<p><b>Race and Gender</b>                  Video – “How Race and Gender Intersect in the Women’s Movement”  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIs2fZLcljA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIs2fZLcljA</a>                  Readings – María Lugones: “Towards a Decolonial Feminism”                  Angela Davis: “Racism in the Woman Suffrage Movement”</p>
<i>Wed, 06/22</i>	<p><b>Race and Nation</b>                  Video – Ta-Nehisi Coates on White Nationalism  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cFJKsld8Ok">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cFJKsld8Ok</a>                  Readings – Art Spiegelman: <i>MAUS: A Survivor’s Tale</i>, Chapter 2                  Edward Said: “Orientalism”                  Morales &amp; Yang: “Pedagogy of Intercambio”</p>
<i>Mon, 06/27</i>	<p><b>Race and the Future</b>                  Video – Caprice Hollins: “Moving Race Conversations Forward”  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7iknxhxEnIo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7iknxhxEnIo</a>                  Video – Dwinita Mosby Tyler: “What if white people led the charge to end racism?”  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQSW5SFBsOg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQSW5SFBsOg</a>                  Readings – Linda Martin Alcoff: “What Should White People Do?”                  Lucius Outlaw: “On Race and Solidarity” (<i>Routledge Companion</i>)                  Gloria Anzaldúa: <i>Borderlands/La Frontera</i>, Chapter 7</p>
<i>Wed, 06/29</i>	<p><b>Essay due by 11:59pm</b></p>

### Grading

**Final Grade Levels**

A+	970-1000
A	900-969.9
B	800-869.9
C	700-769.9
D	600-669.9
F	599.9 and under

Final Essay	40%; 400 points
In-class Participation/Attendance	30%; 300 points
Weekly Discussion Boards (30 points each)	30%; 300 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%; 1,000 points</b>

## Assignment Descriptions

“Intellectual ‘work’ is misnamed; it is a pleasure, a dissipation, and is its own highest reward.” -Bernard L. Stein.

**You are responsible for being aware of and meeting the requirements set out for you. It is recommended that you refer to this syllabus (which is also posted online) with your questions regarding any of the following.**

### **Weekly Discussion Boards:**

Each week, you will complete two eLearning discussion board assignments (one for Monday’s work, one for Wednesday’s work) of at least 150 words each.

**Due: every Thursday by 11:59pm** – This gives me the weekend to grade and you to relax and prepare for the upcoming week.

### **Essay: 2 options – 1. Analysis (Close Reading) or 2. Argument (Research)**

**1. Analysis Option**– You will perform a close reading and interpretation of a text relevant to this course.

**2. Argument Option** – You will craft an argument pertinent to this course and provide relevant research, with proper citation, to support your ideas.

Length: 1000-1500 words (not including Bibliography) in Chicago Manual Style format, 12-point font, double-spaced

One (1) source minimum for Analysis; three (3) source minimum for Argument

**Peer Review Draft Due online: Sunday, 26 June for review on Monday, 27 June**

**Final Draft Due to eLearning: Wednesday, 29 June by 11:59pm**

## Course Policies

**It is essential that you read and understand these course policies. You are responsible for adhering to the requirements of the course and making yourself aware of the consequences in place for failure to meet these expectations. It is recommended that you refer to this syllabus with your questions regarding any of the following. Please utilize this tool as a means to your success in this course.**

**University Policies:** <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

### **Attendance**

This course only meets ten (10) times. Each meeting will be a dense study of imperative material, and therefore, attendance will be necessary for the context needed to participate in the mandatory weekly discussion boards. You are allowed one (1) unexcused absence for this short 5-week term. Your thoughtful, attentive, and active participation is essential to both your learning and your grade.

*You are responsible for your participation and its impact on your success.*

### **Class Participation**

Your success in this course is reliant upon your level of engagement, your preparation for class, and your performance on assignments. I am interested in the quality of your remarks, rather than the quantity. That being said, this classroom will be an open forum to respectfully share and discuss ideas. Conveying your thoughts on the weekly topics and essays is a valuable part of the process, and I will be paying attention to your involvement or lack thereof. Your attentive contributions are a required element of this class, and they will be expected.

### **Late Work**

Late assignments will not be accepted, due to the expedited conversational nature of this course. Please communicate with me if you foresee any inabilities to be punctual.

**Note:** Time management is a skill that, when practiced often, not only yields success but alleviates overwhelm. I recommend being mindful of your personal patterns, your responsibilities, and where you gift your valuable attention. To “attend” is to focus, to meditate, to listen.

“You become what you give your attention to.” -Sharon Lobell

### **Recommended Readings**

This is a short list of texts that might aid you in your final essay for this course. These are not required and are only suggestions for further exploration on these ideas. Please inquire for more suggestions; I am always happy to share!

- Glasgow, Haslanger, Jeffers, and Spencer. *What is Race? Four Philosophical Views*. Oxford University Press, 2019. ISBN: 978-0190610180
- Taylor, Paul C. *Race: A Philosophical Introduction*. Polity, 2018. ISBN: 978-0745649665
- Zack, Naomi. *Philosophy of Race: An Introduction*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2018. ISBN: 978-3319787282
- *The Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Race*. Routledge, 2020. ISBN: 978-0367659981

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. It is critically important that you produce original written work and document all sources accurately. Please consult the following regarding academic integrity:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/deanofstudents/integrity/>

<http://www.utdallas.edu/deanofstudents/dishonesty/>

<http://www.utdallas.edu/deanofstudents/bigfour/>

Please come to me, should you become concerned that you are possibly committing an act of scholastic dishonesty. It is my goal to make guidelines clear to you and help you to adhere to them. However, UTD will hold you accountable for breaking these rules, regardless of whether or not you intended to plagiarize your paper. Students suspected of plagiarism or any other act of scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings. Should the Judicial Affairs Officer find a student responsible, then he or she will receive a “0” on the assignment in question.

### **Counseling Center**

Your mental and emotional health is of the utmost importance. I will always advocate for your prioritization of self-care and rest. My classroom will be a safe place for you, but I also recommend utilizing our Counseling Center to tend to any needs that may arise.

There is never any shame in asking for help. Visits are free, confidential, and Title IX exempt. There is an after-hours crisis center that accepts walk-ins, or an appointment can be made by visiting: <http://www.utdallas.edu/counseling>

You can also call the 24-HOUR crisis line and speak to a licensed professional at: **972-UTD-TALK**

### **Sharing Confidential Information**

My door is always open to you, and I hope that you will feel comfortable speaking to me candidly about your progress in my class, both professionally and personally. However, when it comes to personal matters, please be aware that I must comply with the following legal guidelines, both for your well-being and for mine:

Students considering sharing personal information in email, in person, or within assignments or exams should be aware that faculty members and teaching/research assistants are required by UT Dallas policy to report information about sexual misconduct to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Per university policy, faculty have been informed that they must identify the student to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Students who wish to have confidential discussions of incidents related to sexual harassment or sexual misconduct should contact the Student Counseling Center (972-883-2527 or after hours 972-UTD-TALK or 972-883-8255), the Women's Center (972-883-8255), a health care provider in the Student Health Center (972-883-2747), a clergyperson (or other legally recognized religious advisor) of their choice, or an off-campus resource (i.e., rape crisis center, doctor, psychologist). Students who are sexually assaulted, harassed, or victims of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, or stalking, are encouraged to directly report these incidents to the UT Dallas Police Department at 972-883-2222 or to the Title IX Coordinator at 972-883-2218. Additional information and resources may be found at <http://www.utdallas.edu/oiec/title-ix/resources>.

### **Comet Creed**

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

*“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”*