

RACE, MIGRATION, AND KINSHIP
CENTER FOR WOMEN'S AND GENDER RESEARCH (SKOK)
UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN, NORWAY
20-22 AUGUST 2014

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DESCRIPTION How might we think about race paradoxically as a fungible yet persistent feature of human history? This mini-seminar examines race as a global phenomenon with long and diverse histories. In its migrations, conceptions of race have repeatedly been marshaled, decried, dismissed, and repurposed, reformulating conceptions of kinship and social organization along the way. From ancient empires, medieval religious conflicts, and early modern accounts of "barbarians" and "strangers" to the *longue durée* of colonial settlement and slavery, and from the revolutions and uprisings of the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries to more recent accounts of physiognomy, eugenics, and DNA, the phenomenon of race has interacted dynamically across time and space with conceptions of caste, color, class, language, identity, law, region, and religion.

Our class will begin with a conventional genealogy of race as arising from the age of Atlantic Revolutions, the slave trade, and scientific thinking in Europe and the United States before complicating our understandings of the phenomenon as one shaped over centuries of contact and interchange. Our second session will examine a longer history of race and caste in relation to Iberian colonization of the East and West Indies and our third session will investigate race and the littoral in Indian Ocean studies.

- REQUIRED TEXTS** Jack D. Forbes, *Africans and Native Americans: The Language of Race and the Evolution of Red-Black Peoples* (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1993), 1-25; 190-220.
- Paul Gilroy, "The Black Atlantic as a Counterculture of Modernity," *The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1993), 1-40.
- Abdulrazak Gurnah, *By the Sea* (London: Bloomsbury, 2001), 1-39.
- Isabel Hofmeyr, "Universalizing the Indian Ocean," *PMLA* 125.3 (2010): 721-727.
- Isabel Hofmeyr, "The Black Atlantic Meets the Indian Ocean: Forging New Paradigms of Transnationalism for the Global South-Literary and Cultural Perspectives," *Social Dynamics: A Journal of African Studies* 33.2 (2007): 3-32.
- Lisa Lampert, "Race, Periodicity, and the (Neo-) Middle Ages," *MLQ: Modern Language Quarterly* 65.3 (2004): 391-421.
- Ania Loomba, "Race and the Possibilities of Comparative Critique," *New Literary History* 40 (2009): 501-522.
- Lisa Lowe, "The Intimacies of Four Continents," in *Haunted by Empire: Geographies of Intimacy in North American History*, ed. Ann Laura Stoler (Durham: Duke University Press, 2006), 191-212.
- María Elena Martínez, "The Language, Genealogy, and Classification of 'Race' in Colonial Mexico," in *Race and Classification: The Case of Mexican America*, eds. Ilona Katzew and Susan Deans-Smith (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2009), 25-42.

- Alexander Saxton, "Introduction: Historical Explanations of Racial Inequality," *The Rise and Fall of the White Republic: Class Politics and Mass Culture in Nineteenth-Century America* (New York: Verso, 1990), 1-20.
- Sanjay Subrahmanyam, "Holding the World in Balance: The Connected Histories of the Iberian Overseas Empires, 1500-1640," *The American Historical Review* 112.5 (December 2007): 1359-1385.
- James H. Sweet, "The Iberian Roots of American Racist Thought," *William and Mary Quarterly*, 54.1 (January, 1997): 143-166.
- Eric Taggiasco, "Navigating Communities: Race, Place, and Travel in the History of Maritime Southeast Asia," *Asian Ethnicity* 10.2 (June 2009): 97-120.
- Alden T. Vaughan, "The Origins Debate: Slavery and Racism in Seventeenth-Century Virginia," *The Roots of American Racism: Essays on the Colonial Experience* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1989), 136-174.

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COURSE OUTLINE

20 August (10:00-12:00)	The Transatlantic Saxton Vaughn Forbes
(14:00-16:00)	Gilroy Lowe
21 August (10:00-12:00)	Race/Caste Loomba Lampert
(14:00-16:00)	Martinez Sweet Subrahmanyam
22 August (10:00-12:00)	The Littoral Gurnah Hofmeyr
(14:00-16:00)	Taggiasco