History 328: American Mixed Blood
Fall 2009
Tuesdays, 1:00-2:50 PM, AJLC 104

Instructor: Pablo Mitchell
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Office Hours: Monday 10:30am-11:30am, Thursday 11am-12pm (and by appointment)
Note: This course counts toward the GSFS major.

From the coyote and the half-breed to the "tragic" mulatto, people of mixed ethnic and racial heritage occupy a conflicted and controversial place in American history. This course will chart the histories of people of mixed heritage from the colonial period to the present, exploring the relationship between the historical experiences of mixed heritage and broader trends in American history including slavery, imperialism, legal transformation, and changing cultural patterns. We will also consider current social theories of hybridity and mestizaje.

Required Texts:
Haunted by Empire, Ann Stoler, ed., selected essays
Martha Hodes, The Sea Captain's Wife
Earl Lewis, Heidi Ardizzone, Love on Trial
Renee Christine Romano, Race Mixing
Jane M.Gaines, Fire and Desire
Susan Koshy, Sexual Naturalization
Joel Williamson, New People
Karen Leonard, Making Ethnic Choices
Lauren Besson, White Enough to be American

Textbooks are available at college bookstore. Books are also on reserve at Mudd Library.

Grading:
Class Participation/Attendance  10
Book Review #1  25
Book Review #2  25
Book Review #3  25
In-Class Presentation  15

Final Grade will be out of 100 points
Class Participation:
Regular attendance and thoughtful, prepared, courteous participation in classroom discussion are required features of the class. Due to the small size of the class and because it meets only once a week, attendance and preparation are very important, as is the careful reading of classmates’ book reviews. Attendance (and absences) will be considered in determining your final grade.

Written Assignments:
As an upper-level History seminar, this course seeks to provide students with an introduction of sorts to graduate work. Book reviews and peer evaluation are basic aspects of many academic disciplines, including History, and will play a central role in this course. Each student will be responsible for preparing three 5-page book reviews on books from the list of assigned reading. The book reviews should address the authors’ main points, methodological approaches, and historiographical concerns. Students will distribute copies of their reviews to the instructor and to their classmates (who will be expected to read the reviews and constructively comment on them during class discussion).

The reviews are due by noon on the Monday before the book is to be discussed in class and should be distributed electronically to the entire class and the instructor. In addition, one paper copy of the paper should be placed outside the instructor’s office (King 141E) by noon Monday for students unable to access the papers electronically. The papers should be legibly typed or word-processed, with reasonable fonts, double-spacing, and 1 inch margins (double-sided printing is encouraged). Please attempt to stay within the assigned page limits.

Note: With very few exceptions, late book reviews will not be accepted.

In-Class Presentations:
Students will also be required to make one in-class presentations during the semester. These presentations will be reviews of three essays (one from the Haunted by Empire collection, two selected by the student) covering related topics in the history of racial and/or ethnic mixing in the United States. The presentations should be 10 minutes in length and describe the main arguments of the three essays, compare their conclusions and methodological approaches, and place the articles within historiographical context.

Honor Code
All work in this class is governed by the honor code of Oberlin College. The honor code is available at: http://oncampus.oberlin.edu/courses/1/DSt/content/162787_1/honorcode.pdf. If you have questions about how the honor code applies to any assignment or work done for the class, please feel free to consult the instructor.

Schedule and Reading Assignments:

**September 1**  Introduction

**Cross-Cultural Intimacy**

**September 8**
*Haunted by Empire*, Ann Stoler, ed.,
Chap. 1, 1-22, Chap. 19, 469-472, Chap. 7, 163-188, Chap. 8, 191-212, Chap. 10, 240-270
Please post 1-2 page review of essay to Blackboard site by Noon, Monday Sept. 7.
September 15
Martha Hodges, *The Sea Captain's Wife*

September 22
Earl Lewis, Heidi Ardizzone, *Love on Trial*

September 29
Renee Christine Romano, *Race Mixing*

October 6
Research Presentations
Chap. 3, 71-93, Chap. 4, 94-115, Chap. 5, 116-139.

**Theories of Mixed Heritage**

October 13
*Haunted by Empire*, Ann Stoler, ed., selected essays

October 20
*Fall Break, no class.*

October 27
Jane M. Gaines, *Fire and Desire*

November 3
Susan Koshy, *Sexual Naturalization*

November 10
Research Presentations
Chap. 9, 213-239, Chap. 11, 271-296, Chap. 12, 297-322.

**American Mixed Bloods**

November 17
Joel Williamson, *New People*

November 24
Karen Leonard, *Making Ethnic Choices*

December 1
Lauren Besson, *White Enough to be American*

December 8
Research Presentations and Class Summary
Chap. 13, 325-343, Chap. 15, 366-404, Chap. 16, 405-424.