INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY -- Honors Section

Welcome! The Soc. 1H Honors Section is open only to students already designated as Honors. It meets as an additional class for one hour per week, and does not substitute for the regular discussion section. The Honors Section carries one unit of academic credit.

Each quarter the Soc1H class focuses on a particular theme. This quarter -- W2018 -- the Soc1H class examines othering and belonging. This topic draws on numerous sociological subfields, such as social psychology, the sociology of emotions, the sociology of interaction, and political sociology, among others. In this class we will focus attention primarily on race and racism (and both the "identity" and the "otherness" that they involve). But we will also look, necessarily more briefly, at gender-, sexuality-, and class-based forms of otherness.

READING:

There will also be some shorter assignments; they are listed in the schedule of classes and posted (or their URLs are posted) on GaucnoSpace.

Weekly Reaction Paper: You will write a reaction paper on the reading that is assigned each week. Reaction papers are short reviews of c. 300 words. should be posted on GaucnoSpace before 600PM each Monday night. They should also be available as a hardcopy (or be available on your laptop) in class to help facilitate discussion.

Final Assignment: Your final assignment is to write a paper of approximately 5 double-spaced pages (1250-1500 words) on the topic “I am an other.” Some possible questions this topic includes:

- Name and discuss some of the key dimensions of your identity; in what group(s) do you belong?
- Name and discuss ways in which your identity conforms to any of the groups to which you belong; do the same with the ways your identity does not conform.
- Do you share elements of your identity with others? Are you different from those others? In what ways?
- In reference to "otherness" what are the ways in which you are excluded or treated unequally in American society today?
- In reference to "otherness" what are the ways in which you are included and treated fairly in American society today?

Other questions may be addressed if you don’t want to discuss these particular topics, so long as you still address issues of othering and belonging. Feel free to consult in advance with the instructor about the specific topic you select. The final paper is due on GaucnoSpace before 600pm on Wed, March 21.

This syllabus is available on GaucnoSpace.

It is also available on Professor Winant's website: http://www.soc.ucsb.edu/faculty/winant/classes/ Soc1Hsyl.pdf

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Note: The readings and video episode will be discussed on the date listed; each reaction paper should be posted on GaucnoSpace by 600PM on the Monday night before the class. No reaction paper is required during Week 4, when the class will attend Dr. Winant’s Sociology Department lecture.
Week 1—Jan 17
Intro to Soc 1H; Syllabus review; self-intros

Week 2—Jan 24
Morrison vii-17

Week 3—Jan 31
Class attends Dr. Winant’s colloquium/lecture in Sociology (room TBA)

Week 4—Feb 7
Morrison 19-39

Week 5—Feb 14
Morrison 42-53

Week 6—Feb 21
Morrison 55-74

Week 7—Feb 28
Morrison 75-91

Week 8—March 7
Morrison 93-114

Week 9—Mar 14
Watch video: Andrew Solomon, "Othering and Belonging":
http://conference.otheringandbelonging.org/new-page-1/
No Reaction Paper due; in-class discussion of final paper themes

Final papers are due on GauchoSpace before 600pm, Wed, March 21

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The expression "I am an other" is associated with the French poet Rimbaud (big influence on Bob Dylan). Pharrell Williams also has a YouTube channel called "iamOTHER."