

PHIL 3308 RACE, JUSTICE, AND EQUALITY

Class Number 46543 Section ER6 Thurs 6:30 – 9:00pm

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What is race? Is race a legitimate biological category? Is it a valid census category? What is the relationship between the category of race and racism? What is the relationship between race and personal identity? How do multiracial identities raise questions about the meaning of race and its relationship to identity?

This course will address these and other related questions from political, socioeconomic and historical perspectives. But above all, we will aim to reflect philosophically upon the notion of race and its relationship to the formation of a more pluralistic and democratic society.

In this course we will engage in a philosophical examination of race and racism centered around the moral values of justice and equality. Topics addressed include race as a social category, racial identity, the nature of racism, race neutrality and race consciousness, multiculturalism, and the relationships among values such as fairness, equality, and well-being.

We will examine and discuss contrasting points of view on measures designed to counter racism, including civil disobedience, affirmative action, racial reparations, and race-based restrictions on speech.