Critical Race Theory
A selected bibliography of materials in the University of Oregon Libraries
* in support of the Community Conversations program in University Housing *

Background & Overviews

Location: Knight
Call #: GN269 .C657 1997
Charts the history of “race” as a social and biological category in science and sociology. Argues that race has been a human construction, rather than an inherent genetic category.

Location: Law Library
Call #: KF4755 .D454 2001
A concise (190 pages) summary of critical race theory, its roots and influences on a host of academic disciplines, from law to sociology to education to literature.

History

Location: Knight
Call #: HT1507 .H36 1996
This book…sets out to trace the development of the concept of race -- how and when it evolved -- as we understand it today in western civilization... The work is enormously learned, quoting liberally from authors spanning 2,500 years and packed with insightful and nuanced readings.” [Amazon.com review]

Location: Knight
Call #: E185.61 .B29 2000
How did African-American slaves view their white masters? Did 19th-century black Americans regard white Americans as innately superior? Much has been written about how the whites of this time viewed blacks, and about how blacks viewed themselves, but the ways in which blacks saw whites have remained a historical and intellectual mystery. The author, a professor of history, explores a wide range of thinking about whites by blacks intellectual and unlettered, male and female, and free and enslaved. [book jacket description]

Location: Knight
Call #: E184.A1 R644 2005
This book tells the story of how many European immigrants were not considered "white on arrival" in the U.S. Immigrants from Italy, Ireland, Greece, and other countries faced a host of discrimination based on broader notion of “race” than the one we now take for granted. This book examines how practices such as segregated housing and labor unions favoring the immigrants over African Americans helped to shift these ethnic groups into “white.”

Critical Race Theory: A Selected Bibliography, April 2007
University of Oregon Libraries
http://libweb.uoregon.edu/reference/conversations.html
Racial Identity

Location: Knight
Call #: LC2781.7 .W57 2003
The author analyzes the array of experiences that constitute what it means to be Black for African American students. She challenges fixed notions of race, showing how Black students negotiate complex racial identities in the different contexts of historically Black colleges and predominantly white institutions. This important book shows that providing equitable education for Black students is more than a matter of numerical representation. [Amazon.com review]

Location: Knight
Call #: HQ1220.U5 C73 2002
Hair is political in this engaging book, an exploration of beauty standards based on white women have influenced African American women’s perception of their own beauty. The author documents how black women have negotiated the intersection of race, class, politics, and personal appearance in their lives to struggle against ideas of black inferiority.

Location: Knight
Call #: HT1575 .M35 2005
Interviews with white college students reveal a variety of evasions, denials, and rationalizations that enable them to avoid confronting the role that race plays in their own lives and the lives of others. A fascinating and revealing study of attitudes about white privilege and racism in the U.S.

Location: Knight
Call #: E184.A1 Y37 2003
Going beyond the typical American binary of black and white when addressing issues of race, this book argues that the definition of who is “white” is changing, as non-black minority groups become increasingly assimilated and accept the perspectives of the dominant white majority. Meanwhile, African Americans continue to experience high levels of alienation. Provocative and interesting.

Education

Location: Knight
Call #: LC191.6.C2 P65 2004
Explores the challenges of talking about race in U.S. schools, with chapters such as “Race Doesn’t Matter But It Does,” “The Questions We Ask Most About Race are the Very Questions We Most Suppress,” and “We Don’t Belong to Simple Race Groups But We Do.” Revealing and insightful.

Critical Race Counterstories Along the Chicana/Chicano Educational Pipeline / by Tara J. Yosso. New York: Routledge, 2006
Location: Knight
Call #: LC212.23.C4 Y67 2006
Latino/as are the fastest growing minority group in the U.S. yet they continue to have the lowest educational outcomes of any racial/ethnic group. This book debunks racialized myths about Chicano/as and their capabilities using empirical data and theoretical arguments to create an engaging narrative.
Location: Knight
Call #: LC3731 .R255 2002
Explores the provocative question: “Why is it that as we enter the 21st century, the nation’s predominantly white colleges and universities continue to be settings where people of color feel unwelcome and marginalized?”

Literature & Media
Location: Knight
Call #: E185.625 .V47 2003
This book is an authoritative introduction to the history of African Americans in U.S. popular culture, examining its development from the early nineteenth century to the present. The author examines the role and significance of race in all major forms of popular culture, including sport, film, television, radio and music. [book jacket description]

Location: Knight
Call #: E185.625 .J64 2003
What does it mean to be “black”? This book explores how “blackness” been expressed and appropriated in a variety of media by people of all races, with wildly varying results. This book incorporates performance theory, queer studies, literary analysis, film criticism, and ethnographic fieldwork to explore interpretations of “authentic” blackness.

Location: Knight
Call #: E184.A75 E17 2005
An interdisciplinary look at the broad influence and impact of Asian popular culture in the United States. From henna tattoos to anime to fusion cuisine, this book looks at Asian American culture in film, literature, music and more.

Latino Images in Film: Stereotypes, Subversion, & Resistance / by Charles Ramírez Berg. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2002
Location: Knight
Call #: PN1995.9.H47 B46 2002
The bandido, the harlot, the clown, the Latin lover—these have been the defining, and demeaning, images of Latinos in U.S. cinema for more than a century. This book develops an innovative theory of stereotyping that accounts for the persistence of such images in U.S. popular culture. It also explores how Latino actors and filmmakers have actively subverted and resisted such stereotyping. [book jacket description]

Location: Architecture & Allied Arts Library (AAA)
Call #: NX650.R34 B47 2005
This book explores how racial identity guides one’s interpretation of the visual world. Through an analysis of late 19th- and early 20th-century paintings, photographs, museums, and early motion pictures, the author illustrates how a shared investment in whiteness invisibly guides what Americans of European descent see, what they accept as true, and, ultimately, what legal, social, and economic policies they enact. [book jacket description]
Location: Knight
Call #: HT1575 .D93 1997

White people are not simply white, yet they are called white. What does this mean in today’s world where notions of race and racial representation continually reveal their complexity? Although many studies have examined the racial imagery of people of color, whiteness remains an invisible position; an absence against which other ethnicities are defined. In this book, the author looks beyond the apparent ordinariness of whiteness and reveals the importance of analyzing images of white people. [Amazon.com description]

Videos/DVDs

No Hop Sing, No Bruce Lee: What Do You Do When None of Your Heroes Look Like You?
Location: VIDEO COLLECTION
Call #: VIDEO DVD 01327
Various Asian Americans relate how they had to assimilate and adapt to a dominant white society in America. Asian American actors discuss ethnic identity, mass media stereotyping and their subservient roles in the mass media

A Question of Race
Location: VIDEO COLLECTION
Call #: VIDEOTAPE 07060
Part 1 of this set explores the question of whether race is an accurate biological identification or a subcategory made up by humans to separate us. In part 2, racial prejudice, or bias, is easily recognized in its extreme forms, but it infiltrates everyday life in subtle ways also. Discover just how common bias is as a hidden camera follows real-life adults as they interact with people of different races

Race in the Classroom: The Multiplicity of Experience
Location: VIDEO COLLECTION
Call #: VIDEOTAPE 02040
This video depicts moments when race and culture become major factors in the classroom dynamics. It includes vignettes based on real incidents reported by students and teachers in a university environment

What Does it Mean to be White?: The Invisible Whiteness of Being
Location: VIDEO COLLECTION
Call #: VIDEO DVD 01535
Through a series of interviews, the filmmaker defines white privilege and uses examples to indicate how white privilege serves to keep whites relatively oblivious to the opposite effect this has on persons of color.