

SCIENCE AND RACE: HISTORY, USE, AND ABUSE

Class 5 – NOVEMBER 16, 2016

VIOLENCE AND RACE

Is there a connection between patterns of violence and race?

Race is not a scientific concept, yet racism is real in American society. Race is a powerful social idea that gives people differential access to opportunities and resources. Violence has been racialized in the United States, as seen in crime statistics and as reinforced by the news media. This session explores the cultural and sociological consequences of race-based violence.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

6:30 – 6:35 PM	Introduction Deborah A. Thomas, Ph.D., <i>Professor of Anthropology and Africana Studies, University of Pennsylvania</i>
6:35 – 6:45 PM	Intro Presentation to topic
6:45 – 7:10 PM	Collections Workshop with Janet Monge, Ph.D., <i>University of Pennsylvania</i>
7:15 – 7:30 PM	Workshop Q&A
7:30 – 7:45 PM	Short Break
7:45 – 8:30 PM	Panel discussion with: Erin Kerrison, Ph.D., <i>University of California, Berkeley</i> Oliver Rollins, Ph.D., <i>University of Pennsylvania</i> Christen Smith, Ph.D., <i>University of Texas at Austin</i> Paul Heaton, <i>University of Pennsylvania, Law School</i> Janet Monge, Ph.D., <i>University of Pennsylvania, Workshop Moderator</i> Deborah A. Thomas, Ph.D., <i>University of Pennsylvania, Moderator</i> Sara Lomax-Reese, <i>Moderator</i>
8:30 – 9:00 PM	Questions from audience

This class will be live-streamed, and class recordings will be posted at

www.penn.museum/sites/pmclassroom



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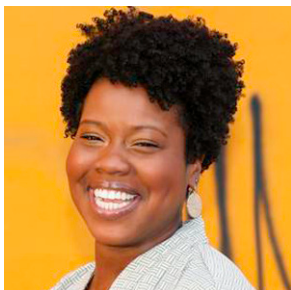


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THE
PUBLIC
CLASSROOM
@ PENN MUSEUM

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MEET THE SPEAKERS:



Erin Kerrison, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, School of Social Welfare, University of California, Berkeley

Dr. Kerrison's mixed-method research agenda explores punishment structures and prisoner reentry outcomes, in addition to disparities in health, education, and employment outcomes for former prisoners. She investigates the extent to which collateral consequences legislation shapes desistance among a contemporary mixed-race, mixed-gender, and drug-involved reentry cohort. Since joining Penn Law's Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice, her work explores systematic racial bias in the plea bargaining process and subsequent sentencing outcomes for indigent defendants in San Francisco County. Principal questions explore: whether racial disparities exist in plea offers, whether individuals held in custody pending trial are compelled to accept plea bargain offers, and what impact the race of justice system actors may have on criminal cases resolved by plea bargain. Dr. Kerrison's research is relevant for urgent criminal justice policy agendas aimed at improving reintegration, public safety, and social equity.



Oliver Rollins, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow in the Penn Program on Race, Science and Society, University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Rollins' research intersects three strands of sociological study: medical sociology; science, knowledge & technology; and race/ethnicity and racism. Currently, he is working on completing a book manuscript from his dissertation research concerning the social and ethical implications of neuroscience research on violent and aggressive behaviors. This research examines how neuroimaging research on the determinants of violence and aggression are formulated and structured; traces how neuroscientists understand and use race in their research on violent and aggressive behaviors; and explores the continued controversies, rebuttals and uncertainties surrounding technoscientific research of and biomedical interventions for violence and aggression. In addition, he has research and teaching interests in: racial/gendered inequalities in health, violence prevention strategies and policy, and knowledge production in biomedicine, criminal justice, and public health.



Christen Smith, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Anthropology and African and African Diaspora Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Professor Smith is a socio-cultural anthropologist who researches the reverberating effects of police violence on black families, particularly black women. Christen's work focuses on engendered anti-Black state violence and Black communities' responses to it in Brazil and the Americas. She is particularly interested in transnational anti-Black police violence, Black liberation struggles, the paradox of Black citizenship in the Americas, and the dialectic between the enjoyment of Black culture and the killing of Black people. Her work in Brazil uses the lens of performance to examine the immediate and long-term impact of police violence on Black people and Black community responses to this violence. Her more recent, comparative work examines the lingering, deadly impact of police violence on black women in Brazil and the U.S.



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Paul Heaton

*Academic Director, Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice
Senior Fellow, University of Pennsylvania Law School*

Paul Heaton is a Senior Fellow and Academic Director of the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice. Much of his research aims to apply methodological insights from economics to inform issues in legal and criminal justice policy. An expert on legal and regulatory program and policy evaluation, Dr. Heaton's criminal justice work spans a wide range of areas, including measurement of impacts of criminal justice interventions; applications of cost-benefit analysis to CJ programs; and evaluations of the CJ implications of public policies related to controlled substances. His work on policing, courts, and drug offending has been widely cited by policymakers and the media. He has also published numerous empirical studies of tort law and insurance regulation. Dr. Heaton's work is strongly cross-disciplinary, and he has co-authored papers with legal scholars, psychologists, statisticians, physicians, criminologists, and sociologists. His research has been published in leading scholarly journals such as the Yale Law Journal, New England Journal of Medicine, Journal of Law and Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, and American Journal of Public Health. Prior to joining Penn Law, Heaton served as the Director of the RAND Institute for Civil Justice and Professor at the Pardee RAND Graduate School.



WORKSHOP MODERATOR

Janet Monge, Ph.D.

Curator-in-Charge of the Physical, Anthropology Section in the Penn Museum and Adjunct Professor in Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania

The Museum collection is extensive and includes both historic and archaeological skeletal collections with all skeletons 3D digitized using computed tomography. Monge's research interests include human evolution, human skeletal biology, bioarchaeology, and life history/paleodemography. In addition, she offers research experiences in applied anthropology within forensic science and museum studies (emphasizing NAGPRA) and teaches classes in all of these topical areas. She is Director of the Museum's Fossil Casting Program that produces over 3000 bones representing all phases of human and primate evolution—fossil casts and human skeletal materials form the core of all of her classes and are integrated into all aspects of graduate student education.



MODERATOR

Deborah A. Thomas, Ph.D.

Professor of Anthropology and Africana Studies, University of Pennsylvania

Deborah A. Thomas is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the author of *Exceptional Violence: Embodied Citizenship in Transnational Jamaica* and *Modern Blackness: Nationalism, Globalization, and the Politics of Culture in Jamaica*, and is co-editor of the volume *Globalization and Race: Transformations in the Cultural Production of Blackness*. Thomas also directed and produced the documentary film *Bad Friday: Rastafari after Coral Gardens*. She is the incoming Editor-in-Chief of *American Anthropologist*, the flagship journal of the American Anthropological Association.



MODERATOR

Sara Lomax-Reese

*President & CEO, WURD
Moderator, Race and Violence*

Lomax-Reese is the President and CEO of WURD Radio, LLC, Pennsylvania's only African-American owned talk radio station. She is also the co-founder of The Next Majority, LLC, a new multicultural data and analytics company that seeks to develop the most comprehensive repository of open source and proprietary information about communities of color in the United States. Prior to her work with WURD and The Next Majority, Sara co-founded HealthQuest: Total Wellness for Body, Mind & Spirit, the first nationally circulated African-American consumer health magazine in the country.



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READING LIST:

Continue your exploration of this topic with the following readings, recommended by our panelists.

ACADEMIC:

Facing the Dragon: Black Mothering, Sequelae, and Gendered Necropolitics in the Americas

By: Christen A. Smith

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/traa.12055/pdf>

Exceptional Violence: Embodied Citizenship in Transnational Jamaica [for purchase]

By: Deborah A. Thomas

https://www.amazon.com/Exceptional-Violence-Embodied-Citizenship-Transnational/dp/0822350866/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1471204595&sr=8-1&keywords=Exceptional+Violence%3A+Embodied+Citizenship+in+Transnational+Jamaica

Afro-Paradise: Blackness, Violence and Performance in Brazil [for purchase]

By: Christen A. Smith

https://www.amazon.com/Afro-Paradise-Blackness-Violence-Performance-Brazil/dp/0252081447/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1471207437&sr=8-1&keywords=Afro-Paradise+Blackness%2C+Violence%2C+and+Performance+in+Brazil

Caught: The Prison State and the Lockdown of American Politics [for purchase]

By: Marie Gottschalk

https://www.amazon.com/Caught-Prison-Lockdown-American-Politics/dp/0691170835/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1471205470&sr=8-1&keywords=caught+the+prison+state+and+the+lockdown+of+american+politics

The Prison and the Gallows: The Politics of Mass Incarceration in America [for purchase]

By: Marie Gottschalk

https://www.amazon.com/Prison-Gallows-Incarceration-Cambridge-Criminology/dp/0521682916/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1471205583&sr=8-1&keywords=The+Prison+and+the+Gallows%3A+The+Politics+of+Mass+Incarceration+in+America

The Growth of Incarceration in the United States: Exploring Causes and Consequences

By: Jeremy Travis, Bruce Western, and Steve Redburn, Editors

<http://www.nap.edu/read/18613/chapter/1>

ADULT

The Violence of Diaspora: Governmentality, Class Cultures, and Circulations

By: Deborah A. Thomas

<https://www.sas.upenn.edu/anthropology/sites/www.sas.upenn.edu/anthropology/files/Violence%20of%20Diaspora.pdf>

Slow Death: Is the Trauma of Police Violence Killing Black Women?

By: Christen A. Smith

<https://theconversation.com/slow-death-is-the-trauma-of-police-violence-killing-black-women-62264>

Killing Time: An 18-Year Odyssey from Death Row to Freedom [for purchase]

By: John Hollway

https://www.amazon.com/Killing-Time-18-Year-Odyssey-Freedom/dp/1602399743/ref=tmm_hrd_swatch_o?ie=UTF8&qid=1471208375&sr=8-1

Blooming Through the Ashes

By: Clifford Chanin and Aili McConnon [for purchase]

<https://www.amazon.com/Blooming-through-Ashes-International-Anthology/dp/081354212X>



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The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color Blindness [for purchase]

By: Michelle Alexander

https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_2?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=new+jim+crow

YOUTH

All American Boys [for purchase]

By: Jason Reynolds

https://www.amazon.com/All-American-Boys-Jason-Reynolds/dp/1481463330/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1471129385&sr=1-1&keywords=all+american+boys

Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe [for purchase]

By: Benjamin Alire Saenz

https://www.amazon.com/Aristotle-Dante-Discover-Secrets-Universe/dp/1442408936/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1471129493&sr=1-1&keywords=aristotle+and+dante+discover+the+secrets+of+the+universe

How It Went Down [for purchase]

By: Kekla Magoon

https://www.amazon.com/How-Went-Down-Kekla-Magoon/dp/1250068231/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1471129886&sr=1-1&keywords=how+it+went+down

I Never Saw Another Butterfly: Children's Drawings and Poems from Terezin Concentration Camp, 1942-1944 [for purchase]

By: Hana Volavkova

<https://www.amazon.com/Never-Saw-Another-Butterfly-Concentration/dp/0805210156>

Witness to Genocide: The Children of Rwanda: Drawing by Child Survivors of the Rwandan Genocide of 1994 [for purchase]

Edited by: Richard A. Salem

<https://www.amazon.com/Witness-Genocide-Children-Drawings-Survivors/dp/0377003301>

Black Lives Matter (Special Reports) [for purchase]

By: Sue Bradford Edwards and Duchess Harris JD PhD

<https://www.amazon.com/Black-Lives-Matter-Special-Reports/dp/1624038980>



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CLASS NOTES: