**The Issue of Race in the United States**

SR-953 Research for 21st Century Scholarship

Tyrone N. Cheeseboro

Omega Graduate School

Date (March 9, 2025)

Professor

Dr. Caroline Geer

​‌‍‍‍‌‍‌‍‍‌‌‍‍‌‌‌‍‌‌‌​1. In preparation for Assignment #4, choose a scholarly topic of interest. Type the topic on the title line on the cover page and the first page of the paper. Explain your reasoning for choosing the topic in the introduction section (after the title and before the first Level 1 heading) of the paper. Use your best academic voice, correct sentence structure, tense, and punctuation. In the rest of the introductory paragraph, preview three points you would address in an essay about your topic with ideas from your sources. 2. Develop a list of search terms and phrases pertaining to the chosen subject and include these immediately following the first Level 1 heading. Give the list a name and use the name as the Level 1 heading (use the heading styles in the template and the APA 7 Manual or Guide provided in the hyperlinks in this syllabus). Present the list in a complete sentence or a bulleted list with an opener (e.g., Search terms related to the topic of this paper are as follows:). Use correct punctuation. 3. Continue building the Works Cited list you began in Assignment #2. Locate a minimum of two books (minimum of one pub​‌‍‍‍‌‍‌‍‍‌‌‍‍‌‌‌‍‌‌‌​lished in the last five years) relevant to your chosen topic and develop an APA reference for each book. Insert the properly formatted references in the Works Cited section of the paper. 4. Locate four primary research journal articles relevant to your chosen topic; three articles must be less than five years old. Develop a reference for each journal article and insert the references into the Works Cited section. Put your 10 references in alphabetical order.

**The Issue of Race in the United States**

I chose "The Issue of Race in the United States" for this paper due to its relevance in the past and present. Racism and racial tensions are part of American history, affecting social, political, and economic aspects of the country. The topic remains relevant due to existing race issues regarding justice, healthcare, education, and economics. Thus, by discussing the crucial aspects of racial problems in the past and present, this paper seeks to increase awareness of these issues and contributes to understanding the problem and how to address it. These are factors that have to be treated to ensure that a more equal society is achieved. However, as a topic of self-selection and academic passion, race relations offer the possibility of critical perspective and Improvement in society in favor of non-Whites — and, in more general terms, for oppressed groups.

**Preview of Essay Points**

When writing an academic paper on "The Issue of Race in the United States," I will focus on three crucial points to comprehensively analyze this timely and perennial subject.

**Historical Context of Racial Issues**

Before proceeding with the analysis of racial problems in the United States, it is critical to recognize the deep and multifaceted history that has its roots in the country's formation. It all started with the institutionalization of slavery, and this led to bigotry and discrimination becoming part and parcel of American society. These were followed by policies and practices such as the Black Codes and Jim Crow laws that perpetuated racism and subjugation of Black people as well as denying them the right to vote even till the twentieth century. Essential components like the African American fight for civil rights in the 1960s, which signified people like Martin Luther King Jr., and events like the Montgomery Bus Boycott signaled the beginning of a shift towards racial equality, but it was not the final form. These events forced the legal enactment of laws such as the Civil Rights Bill in 1964, through which legal discrimination was abolished by ending racial segregation and barring discrimination in employment based on race, color, religion, sex, or origin of the nation. It is essential to understand this context because it is the basis upon which present-day racism and other forms of prejudice were built; therefore, the present woes of racism in the United States cannot be fully understood or addressed without referencing this past.

**Current Racial Dynamics and Disparities**

I would look at current racial dynamics and disparities to further understand the topic. Modern racism and inequality in America are the natural continuation of its past; it is deeply rooted in criminal justice, the education system, healthcare, and economic status. Though blacks and Latinos enjoy certain rights granted by the Constitution today, these communities remain oppressed in some ways and experience considerable disparities. For example, in criminal justice contexts, there is racial profiling and different treatment in sentencing. African American citizens are more likely to be stopped, searched, and arrested than their white colleagues. In education, students from ethnic diversity are SC students who are enrolled in less-resourced schools; they go to less-funded schools, which results in poor educational performance and limited opportunities.

In the health care systems themselves, racial disparities are still easily identifiable today as minorities are provided with worse care and have less health than whites due to socio-economic and access factors. From an economic perspective, racial welfare is illustrated in terms of quantity, with differentiation emerging from unjust treatment resulting from unfair remunerational policies' provision of credit and housing facilities, among other factors. These differences are not a result of historical issues but are present in policies and practices. Applying the principles of critical race theory entails comprehending the complex and formal relationships between race and institutions in modern American society.

**Prospects for Racial Equity and Reforms**

To address racism and increase reform in the United States, effective strategies should be developed based on the principles of attitudinal change methods that focus on the organizational structure. It also reveals that there is room for Improvement on the legislative level, for example, reforming the police and the criminal justice systems that systematize racism. This includes the abolition of mandatory sentencing, prohibiting the use of racial profiling, greater police accountability, and police autonomy. The current efforts must also reach out to ensure that all schools have equal facilities and equipment, as well as to diversify materials taught in school to include information from many different viewpoints.

In addition to codification initiatives, there is a waking consciousness of populist activities and mobilizations to advance the recognition of the rights of such minority races. Such actions can facilitate direct engagement and provide opportunities for which people of color used to be excluded. Similarly, there is increasing social pressure on stakeholders asserting that corporate America demands it assumes the responsibility of eradicating inequities through integrating diversity within the workplace and equality between all for promotions. However, for such a change to transpire, there must be a shift in the perception of race. This encompasses education or passing of information on the eradication of prejudice and the assimilation of the Black race. Realistic measures include having policy reforms, having active communities to end racism, and change in education towards dismantling racism structures for us to have a more responsible and equal society. These are not easy steps, but they are essential for the United States of America to embrace equality among its citizens.

**Relevant Search Terms**

Search terms related to the topic of this paper are as follows:

* Racial disparities in the United States
* Historical racism in America
* Contemporary racial issues
* Racial justice solutions
* Policy impact on racial inequality

WORKS CITED

Banaji, M. R., Fiske, S. T., & Massey, D. S. (2021). Systemic racism: Individuals and interactions, institutions, and Society. *Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications*, *6*(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41235-021-00349-3>

Chanoff, D., & Sullivan, L. W. (2024). *We'll fight it out here: A history of the ongoing struggle for health equity*. Johns Hopkins University Press.

Chavis, L. (2024). Patrick L. Mason: The Economics of Structural Racism: Stratification Economics and US Labor Markets. *Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy*, *7*(2), 137–139. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41996-024-00137-3>

Davis, D.W., & Wilson, C.W. (2021). *Racial Resentment in the Political Mind. University of Chicago Press*.

Flanagin, A., Frey T., & Christiansen, S. L. (2021). *Reporting off Race and Ethnicity in Medical and Science Journals.* JAMA, 326(7), 621-627. https://doi:10.1001/jama.2021.13304

Hinton, E., & Cook, D. (2021). The mass criminalization of Black Americans: A historical overview. *Annual Review of Criminology*, *4*(1), 261–286. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-criminol-060520-033306>

Jewell, J.O., Maynes, M. J., Lieberman, R. C., & Emigh, R.J. (2024). *Virtual issues: Race in the United States in Social Science History. Social Science History*, 48(3), 593-600. https://doi.org/10.1017/ssh.2024.2

O'Brien, R., Neman, T., Seltzer, N., Evans, L., & Venkataramani, A. (2020). Structural racism, economic opportunity, and racial health disparities: Evidence from US counties. *SSM - Population Health*, *11*, 100564. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2020.100564>

Pollock, A. (2021). *Sickening: Anti-black racism and health disparities in the United States*. University of Minnesota Press.

Riley, E. Y., & Peterson, C. (2019). Examining the impact of black political representation on white racial attitudes in majority black congressional districts. *Journal of Black Studies*, *50*(7), 611–631. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0021934719871179>

Triguero, R.M. (2024*). Colorblind Ethnocentrism: Racialized Imagined Communities in Western Europe and the United States*. (Doctoral Dissertation). Columbia University. https://doi.org/10.7916/a02p-p022

**The Issue of Race in the United States**

SR-953 Research for 21st Century Scholarship

Tyrone N. Cheeseboro

Omega Graduate School

Date (March 9, 2025)

Professor

Dr. Caroline Geer

Assignment

### *Developmental Readings*

Review Assignment #3, the Course essential elements, assigned readings, and recommended readings to identify selections of books and scholarly articles to identify and select developmental reading sources and entries.

* Refer to the "[Student Guide to Developmental Readings](https://drive.google.com/file/d/161V_FaYR2BnNGCSFUlWPjUSIQzcH04Hq/view?usp=share_link)" for updated information on sample comments, rubrics, and key definitions related to developmental readings.

**Source One:** Banaji, M. R., Fiske, S. T., & Massey, D. S. (2021). Systemic racism: Individuals and interactions, institutions, and Society. Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications, 6(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41235-021-00349-3>

**Comment 1:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** "Systemic racism encompasses both micro-level interactions and macro-level systems that perpetuate racial inequalities."

**Essential Element:** Definition and Scope of Systemic Racism

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** The article broadly defines systemic racism before describing its widespread effects across personal and societal environments.

**Contextualization:**  The definition serves as a foundation for understanding systemic racism because it establishes systemic racism as an interconnected and widespread structure that affects multiple parts of everyday life.

**Comment 2:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** "Institutions act as the backbone of systemic racism, often inadvertently perpetuating discrimination through established norms and policies."

**Essential Element:** Role of Institutions

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** The definition extends its original scope to clarify institutional participation in systemic racism while critically evaluating the relationship between policies and norms.

**Contextualization**: According to this finding, understanding systemic change implementation requires institutional reform strategies.

**Source Two:** Hinton, E., & Cook, D. (2021). The mass criminalization of Black Americans: A historical overview. Annual Review of Criminology, 4(1), 261–286. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-criminol-060520-033306>

**Comment 3:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** "The disproportionate incarceration rates for Black Americans can be traced back to discriminatory practices rooted in the era post-Reconstruction."

**Essential Element:** Historical Roots of Criminalization

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** The authors provide a historical context that explains current disparities in incarceration rates, linking them to early discriminatory practices.

**Contextualization:** The historical connection between slavery and contemporary racially biased criminal justice remains crucial for assessing current disparities in legal treatment as well as for the formulation of reform and compensation plans.

**Comment 4:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** "Policies such as the 'War on Drugs' disproportionately targeted Black communities, leading to increased arrest rates and convictions that have lasting impacts today."

**Essential Element:** Policy Impact on Racial Disparities

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** The research demonstrates how historical roots expand into specific policies of the criminal justice system and focuses on how drug enforcement initiatives exacerbate racial inequalities.

**Contextualization:** This systematic evaluation shows direct policy effects that can assist policymakers and advocates in understanding systemic problems better.

**Comment 5:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Community-based programs constitute critical solutions for systemic mass criminalization, which call for a transformation from punishment-based to rehabilitation-based strategies.

**Essential Element:** Solutions and Future Directions

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** The author presents approaches that supersede traditional punishment systems because they support rehabilitation programs and community engagement as better solutions for mass criminalization problems.

**Contextualization:** The presented practical approaches link historical evidence and policy evaluations to direct actions needed for criminal justice reform development.

**Source Three:** O'Brien, R., Neman, T., Seltzer, N., Evans, L., & Venkataramani, A. (2020). Structural racism, economic opportunity, and racial health disparities: Evidence from U.S. counties. SSM - Population Health, 11, 100564. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2020.100564>

**Comment 6:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** "Counties with pronounced economic disparities demonstrate significantly higher rates of health issues among minority populations."

**Essential Element:** Link between Economic Disparity and Health

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** According to the authors, economic inequality creates health disparities because racial minority populations experience direct economic structures-based health outcome effects.

**Contextualization:** The research reveals vital statistics about systematic economic influences that drive wider health disparities. These serve as a foundation for creating specific health and monetary policy strategies to address these inequalities.

**Comment 7:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** "Policies aimed at reducing economic disparities are shown to have a direct positive impact on reducing health disparities."

**Essential Element:** Impact of Economic Policies on Health

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** The study demonstrates that economic policies reduce health disparities; economic reforms effectively enhance health results for racially marginalized populations.

**Contextualization:** This crucial observation highlights the dual positive impacts of economic reforms, which support policymakers and public health officials in developing policies that combine financial and health results.

**Source Four:** Riley, E. Y., & Peterson, C. (2019). Examining the impact of black political representation on white racial attitudes in majority black congressional districts. *Journal of Black Studies, 50*(7), 611–631. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0021934719871179>

**Comment 8:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** White constituents living in a majority black district demonstrate different racial attitude responses when their local government includes black officials.

**Essential Element:** Influence of Black Political Leadership

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** The research demonstrates that Black political representation can positively impact white racial attitudes through its ability to contest stereotypical beliefs.

**Contextualization:** Understanding how Black leaders relate to white constituents illustrates the broader social consequences of diverse political representation, and this knowledge is vital to creating racial integration strategies.

**Comment 9:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The research shows white constituents demonstrate better racial attitudes, yet a defensive response indicates complicated mixed outcomes.

**Essential Element:** Varied Reactions to Black Leadership

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** White constituents in the article display contradicting reactions to Black leadership, demonstrating the complicated racial interactions in various political districts.

**Contextualization:** Thus, Black representation is not a solution for racial relations. This study shows that policymakers should be provided with other support systems for better racial appreciation and integration.

**Source Five:** Chavis, L. (2024). Patrick L. Mason: The Economics of Structural Racism: Stratification Economics and U.S. Labor Markets. Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy, 7(2), 137–139. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41996-024-00137-3>

**Comment 10:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** "Through his piece, Mason shows the reader how different economic policies and labor market measures have discriminated against blacks for several years."

**Essential Element:** Economic Policies and Racial Disadvantage

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** According to Chavis (2019), Mason's study reveals that racially biased market economics continuously maintain racial inequalities.

**Contextualization:** This summary suggests that the economic policy reforms require consideration of the racially discriminatory effects and outlines guidelines for fiscal policy reforms in pursuit of economic justice.

**Comment 11:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Labor markets portray structural racism since they hinder minorities from accessing employment opportunities while limiting their financial security and promotion chances.

**Essential Element:** Impact on Job Opportunities and Economic Stability

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This review also describes how structural racism influences broader issues within economies and settlement security for minorities, as elaborated by Mason.

**Contextualization:** Understanding these dynamics is, therefore, very helpful to economists, social activists, and policymakers who wish to eliminate racially discriminatory barriers within labor markets.

**Comment 12:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Mason supports a unified economic policy framework that examines racial aspects while advocating specific changes to combat structural racism.

**Essential Element:** Advocacy for Integrative Economic Policy

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** According to Chavis, the approach needs rethinking in economic policy-making because it should address racial equity directly.

**Contextualization:** The authors describe this method as applicable in formulating economic policy that provides fairness in economic outcomes among the several races, making it essential to transform monetary policy's policy-making and implementation process.

**Works Cited**

Banaji, M. R., Fiske, S. T., & Massey, D. S. (2021). Systemic racism: Individuals and interactions, institutions, and Society. *Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications*, *6*(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41235-021-00349-3>

Chanoff, D., & Sullivan, L. W. (2024). *We'll fight it out here: A history of the ongoing struggle for health equity*. Johns Hopkins University Press.

Chavis, L. (2024). Patrick L. Mason: The Economics of Structural Racism: Stratification Economics and US Labor Markets. *Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy*, *7*(2), 137–139. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41996-024-00137-3>

Davis, D.W., & Wilson, C.W. (2021). *Racial Resentment in the Political Mind. University of Chicago Press*.

Flanagin, A., Frey T., & Christiansen, S. L. (2021). *Reporting off Race and Ethnicity in Medical and Science Journals.* JAMA, 326(7), 621-627. <https://doi:10.1001/jama.2021.13304>

Hinton, E., & Cook, D. (2021). The mass criminalization of Black Americans: A historical overview. *Annual Review of Criminology*, *4*(1), 261–286. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-criminol-060520-033306>

Jewell, J.O., Maynes, M. J., Lieberman, R. C., & Emigh, R.J. (2024). *Virtual issues: Race in the United States in Social Science History. Social Science History*, 48(3), 593-600. <https://doi.org/10.1017/ssh.2024.2>

O'Brien, R., Neman, T., Seltzer, N., Evans, L., & Venkataramani, A. (2020). Structural racism, economic opportunity, and racial health disparities: Evidence from US counties. *SSM - Population Health*, *11*, 100564. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2020.100564>

Pollock, A. (2021). *Sickening: Anti-black racism and health disparities in the United States*. University of Minnesota Press.

Riley, E. Y., & Peterson, C. (2019). Examining the impact of black political representation on white racial attitudes in majority black congressional districts. *Journal of Black Studies*, *50*(7), 611–631. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0021934719871179>

Triguero, R.M. (2024*). Colorblind Ethnocentrism: Racialized Imagined Communities in Western Europe and the United States*. (Doctoral Dissertation). Columbia University. <https://doi.org/10.7916/a02p-p022>