

PHIL 3018 PHILOSOPHY OF RACE AND RACISM

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 102789

Coordinator Jennifer Mensch ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jennifer Mensch/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jennifer%20Mensch/))

Description This subject focuses on philosophical approaches to race and racism. Academic discourse about race sits at the intersection of overlapping research programs taking place in a number of fields including cultural anthropology, the history of science, sociology, political theory, communication studies, and critical philosophy of race. This subject will draw on discussions from a number of these fields. Students will interrogate the ways in which subjects are racialized, both by culture and by the state. They will analyse major texts concerned with race and racism, and examine and critique the role of ignorance within racist discourse.

School Humanities & Comm Arts

Discipline Philosophy

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 3 subject

Assumed Knowledge

Successful completion of 60 credit points of study in currently enrolled program.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Apply the methodology of critical philosophers of race to interrogate and deconstruct the processes by which subjects are racialized by culture and the state.
2. Analyse major texts in the traditions of political phenomenology, intersectional feminist philosophy, and African American existentialism.
3. Use standpoint epistemology to diagnose and reframe the epistemologies of ignorance at work in racist discourse.

Subject Content

African American existential philosophy
 Political Phenomenology
 Philosophy of Race and the State
 Intersectional Feminist Philosophy
 Standpoint Epistemology
 Epistemologies of Ignorance
 Aboriginal sovereignty

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

| Type | Length | Percent | Threshold | Individual/ Group Task | Mandatory |
|-----------|-----------------|---------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Portfolio | 1500 words each | 60 | N | Individual | N |
| Essay | 2,000 words | 40 | N | Individual | N |

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Bankstown City

On-site

Subject Contact Jennifer Mensch ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jennifer Mensch/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jennifer%20Mensch/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=PHIL3018_25-AUT_BK_1#subjects)

Parramatta - Victoria Rd

On-site

Subject Contact Jennifer Mensch ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jennifer Mensch/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jennifer%20Mensch/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=PHIL3018_25-AUT_PS_1#subjects)