Class 10a: Race and ethnicity

- Race/ethnicity and territory
- African-Americans and Africans
- Apartheid and South Africa
- Race and the Census
Definitions

• Race: A genetically distinct population
  – Traits are passed on biologically
  – Racism: based on biological inferiority

• Ethnicity: A historically and culturally distinct population
  – Similar to nations
  – Usually describes minority groups
Ethnicity in the U.S.

- African-American (13%)
- Hispanic (11%)
- Asian-American (4%)
- American Indian (1%)
African-Americans

• Three migrations at three scales
• Forced migration from Africa
  – 1619-1863: over 10 million Africans
  – Source of labor for plantations
  – Triangle trade
African-Americans: Great Migration

- Push of poverty, cotton mechanization
- Pull of jobs, tolerance
- 1910s-1920s; 1940s-1950s
- Followed main transportation routes
- Maintained strong connections to home
African-Americans: Great Migration

- Push of poverty, cotton mechanization, segregation
- Pull of jobs, tolerance
- 1910s-1920s; 1940s-1950s
- Followed main transportation routes
- Maintained strong connections to home
African-Americans: Urban ghettos

• Extreme overcrowding (100,000 per square mile, not 10)
• Restrictive covenants
• Redlining of black neighborhoods
• City-within-a-city
• White flight and blockbusting (after Brown vs. Board of Ed)
New Africans in America

• Black ≠ African-American
• Recent migrants from Africa, Caribbean
• Tension between two groups
• But seen as same by whites
South Africa and apartheid

• Dutch, British colonists
• Refusal of Afrikaners to allow black rule
• Strict segregation by race (1948)
• White (13%), black (76%), colored
• Homes, school, jobs, stores, land, ambulances
South Africa and apartheid

- Blacks could not vote or run for office
- Whites-only jobs, territories
- Blacks needed papers to travel
- Homelands or bantustans
South Africa and apartheid

- Economic sanctions from 1978
- Prohibitions on international competitions
- 1984: some restrictions lifted
- 1991: apartheid declared over
- 1994: Nelson Mandela first black president
Race in the Census

- Included since 1790 Census (3/5 Compromise)
- 1850-1900: mulatto, quadroon, octoroon
- 1930: Mexican
- 1960-1980: Hispanic listed as white
- 2000: multiple boxes allowed (7 million)
- Long form includes “ancestry”
Race in the Census

• Asian = race
  – Multiple ethnicities within one race

• African-American, black = race
  – Only one category

• Hispanic = ethnicity
  – Multiple ethnicities, one race