

# 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

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# 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  $\neq$  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