Course Outline:
GGR 199: Race, Conflict and the Urban Landscape
Department of Geography, University of Toronto
Spring Term 2021: Mondays 2pm to 4pm
Location: Online (synchronous)

Professor:
Jason Hackworth
Department of Geography and Planning
Email: jason.hackworth@utoronto.ca
Office Hours: Appointment only (via zoom)

Course website:
Quercus (updated frequently)

Course Description:
This course will focus on how racial conflict affects the size, shape, composition, and landscape of cities. It will emphasize Canadian and American cities, but other international examples will be discussed for comparison. Ethno-racial conflict has been, and continues to be, an important force on cities throughout the world. Course topics will include housing and employment discrimination, ethno-racial uprisings, and inequality. The course will be a discussion-oriented blend of academic readings, popular journalism, and film. It will serve as an introduction to concepts that are dealt with in greater depth in second, third, and fourth year geography courses.

Required reading:
Weekly readings have either been posted on Quercus, or are available through the main University of Toronto library website.

Policies:

Zoom meeting format: Because of the pandemic, we will be meeting remotely as a class. I will post a “page” in Quercus with the zoom address for each week. I will record and post the lecture in case you are in a different time zone or unable to attend during a particular week.

Quercus grades: I will attempt to post grades on Quercus as quickly as possible to inform you of your standing in the class.

Penalties for late term work: Written term work will incur a penalty of 10 percent per day (with nothing accepted one week after the deadline).

Academic integrity: Plagiarism is a serious academic offense at the University of Toronto. Plagiarism includes quoting (or paraphrasing) the work of an author (including the work of fellow students) without proper attribution. Students also should not submit any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought, without first discussing with the instructor. Please consult the Rules
and Regulations section of the Arts and Science Calendar for further information and check the “How not to plagiarize” website.

Disability services: The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit the University’s Accessibility and Inclusion site as soon as possible.

Requirements:

Proposal for final project (10%): Due on February 1. Details have been posted on Quercus.

Second hour article presentation (10%): Variable due date. You are required to select one academic article for presentation to the class. Details have been posted on Quercus.

Term test (40%): There will be a term test on March 15. It will be based on all of the required readings and lectures up to that point. It will not include the second hour reading presentations. It will consist of several open-ended essays, and fill-in-the-blank questions. A detailed test review sheet will be provided on TBA.

Final paper and presentation (40%): Due on April 5. Details are posted on Quercus.
General schedule

* These chapters/articles have been posted on Quercus. You must retrieve all others from the University of Toronto Library (online).

Week 1 (January 11): Introduction to the course

Week 2 (January 18): Race, ethnicity, and the urban landscape

Required readings:


Week 3 (January 25): Race and racism in the Canadian city

Required readings:


Week 4 (February 1): Racial capitalism and the city

Term paper proposals due today

Required readings:


Week 5 (February 8): Housing, employment, and neighbourhood change

Required readings:


Discussion Article: Alini, E. (2020, June 27). What it is like to rent as a Black Canadian: ‘I don’t even have a chance’. *Global News.*

Reading Week

Week 6 (February 22): Race and urban decline

Required readings:


Week 7 (March 1): Pathologizing urban Blackness

Required readings:


Discussion Article (also will be included on the Term Test): Serwer, A. (2018). The cruelty is the point. *The Atlantic Monthly.*
Week 8 (March 8): Toward conflict or integration?

Required readings:


Week 9 (March 15): Term Test

Week 10 (March 22): Final Paper Presentations

Week 11 (March 29): Final Paper Presentations

Week 12 (April 5): Final Paper Presentations

Term Paper Due Today