



University  
of Victoria

# POLI 367 Politics of Race in Canada

---

**Instructor Spring 2022:** Dr. Rita Kaur Dhamoon

**Course delivery:** In the Spring 2022 term, this course will be delivered online both synchronously and asynchronously.

**Course description:** This course explores the effects of race-making in the Canadian political landscape, and how diverse groups of Indigenous people, Black people, and people of colour challenge racism and colonialism. The main theme of the course is power, specifically how forces of racialized and colonizing forces of power operate to construct group identities and the Canadian nation, and how resistant forms of power are enacted against racial and colonial inequities. After setting the groundwork, we will consider four sites in which the nation-state organizes and manages race politics in Canada. These are: i) territory ii) whiteness iii) the economy, and iv) national identity. We will specifically analyze how the Canadian nation-state is secured through relations of racial and colonial power.

**Prerequisites:** None

## **Course outcomes/objectives:**

- Understand why race is political.
- Explore settler colonialism and the dispossession of Indigenous lands.
- Explore some converging and diverging racisms and colonialisms in Canada.
- Identify ways in which Indigenous peoples, Black peoples, Asians, other people of colour, and white allies engage in resisting racisms, and creating alternative relations.
- Examine how race-making relates to other intersecting frames of difference, e.g. gendering, class, and sexuality.
- Develop written and verbal communication through research, writing assignments, and discussion.

## **Topics may include:**

Indigenous dispossession  
Whiteness  
Anti-Black racism  
Neo-liberalism and race  
Spatial and environmental racism

*This summary provides an overall sense of the course and it is not considered an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.*