

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
PH.D. COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION IN COLONIALISM, RACIALIZATION, INDIGENEITY
FEBRUARY 6-10, 2023**

You are required to answer THREE (3) QUESTIONS (ONE QUESTION FROM EACH OF PARTS A, B & C). Each answer should be 10-12 pages (12-point Times New Roman font, standard margins, and double-spaced) in length. The complete exam should not total more than 36 pages in length (12-point Times New Roman font, standard margins, and double-spaced), not including references. THE COMMITTEE WILL NOT READ PAST THE 36TH PAGE.

Part A

1. Explain why so many scholars in the field suggest that we cannot understand the emergence, and governance of modern nation states, without understanding race? In other words, why is the modern state so inextricably linked to race, racism and processes of racialization? How specifically do scholars in the field demonstrate this?
2. How has the field understood the relationship between race and power? How is power central to the material, discursive and ideological effects of race and racialization? What kinds of frameworks have been employed to conceptualize, map or in other ways, 'make known' the relationship between race, racialization and power?

Part B

3. One of the most salient debates in the sociology of race is the endogenous relationship between race and racism. As an analytical category, race allows us to draw out the particular ways in which people (in addition to different objects and places) become racialized. However, many scholars typically concentrate on the White-Black dichotomy in explicating the ways in which race operates. But these groups are not alone in their experiences and theorizing about race/racialization/racism. Provide examples of 'neglected' scholars and draw out their contributions to our understandings of these processes. Be specific in drawing out their theoretical portability and applicability to different cases and practices over time and space.
4. In thinking through the boundaries of racialization, some scholars concentrate their efforts on explicating the role of White supremacy and colonization in shaping relationships between global entities. However, others have decided to situate their focus within particular countries to illustrate how colonization results in marginality within singular political bodies. Given the literature, explain how scholars have employed these approaches. Discuss the methodological advantages and disadvantages of centering our understanding within a singular colonial empire (i.e., within Canada) versus across a set of empires (i.e., Europe, Canada, and the United States). Lastly, how does approach help us understand forms of resistance through global processes of decolonization?

Part C

5. Drawing on readings from the comp list, discuss the applicability of race scholarship to understand the experience of Indigenous peoples under settler colonialism. What insights does an analysis of racialization provide, and what are the limitations of this approach? Conversely, what can race scholarship more broadly learn from the work of Indigenous scholars?

6. Drawing on the readings from the comp list, discuss the relationship between “race” and statistics, including the political, ethical and epistemological dimensions of this relationship.