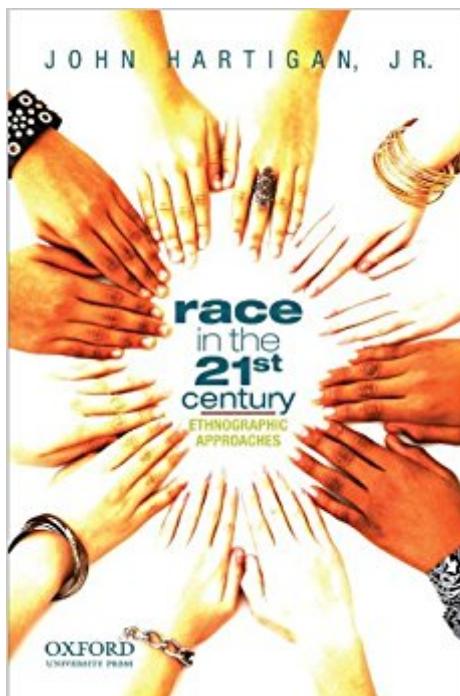


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# Race In The 21st Century: Ethnographic Approaches



## **Synopsis**

What is the state of race relations in the U.S.? Are we making progress toward ending racial discrimination and prejudice? What, exactly, does "race" mean? In *Race in the 21st Century: Ethnographic Approaches*, John Hartigan takes an anthropological look at questions such as these by introducing students to the study of race through qualitative approaches. In the first text to take an explicitly ethnographic approach, Hartigan summarizes and explains the current state of social science knowledge on race in the United States. In the process of surveying this research, Hartigan guides readers to think through basic important questions about race in relation to their own circumstances. Unlike many texts, however, this one focuses not on essential differences between racial or ethnic groups, but rather on the commonalities. The author concentrates on the particular contexts where people actively engage and respond to racial meanings and identities. In this way, he encourages readers to think critically about the meaning of race. Ideal for undergraduate courses in race and ethnicity, the anthropology of race, and cultural/human diversity, *Race in the 21st Century* seamlessly brings together classic and contemporary studies in one accessible volume. The author is also hosting a companion website <http://www.raceinthe21stcentury.com/> that features useful web links, sample assignments, and reviews of ethnographies not covered in the text.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"This well-organized and engaging text consistently pushes my students to reconsider deeply held

convictions about how race and racism are performed as lived experience, and how they can yield to critical, ethnographic inquiry. Hartigan does an excellent job of locating race as one of the foundations of cultural interpretation and performance and of framing questions relevant to student experience and contexts."--John Bodinger de Uriarte, Susquehanna University "Hartigan's work in this book is unique as he fully reviews contemporary ethnographic literatures on race--I know of no other text that does this. He also strikes a nice balance in tone and register. His writing is sophisticated but he uses language that is accessible to most undergraduates. It is an excellent resource for teaching critical thinking skills and deconstructionist perspectives on race."--Miranda Hallett, Otterbein University --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

John Hartigan is Associate Professor of Anthropology at University of Texas at Austin and the Director of the Americo Paredes Center for Cultural Studies. He is the author of *Odd Tribes: Towards a Cultural Analysis of White People* (Duke University Press, 2005) and *Racial Situations: Class Predicaments of Whiteness in Detroit* (Prince University Press, 1999)

I found this book as a great start to my race and racism class. It is a good introduction book, but is still informative. If you are looking for an extensive research book, this is not it. There is research, but not it is not detailed.

To be frank, I did not find this book to be particularly engrossing or insightful really. This is not a great interest area for me, however, so there were a few times where I felt like I'd rather be reading terms and conditions for some product. Bias aside, there were a couple instances of ignored assumptions, which gave off an impression of narrow-minded approach. I think there are probably better books on this subject that are more refined and offer better color.

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