Racism and Resistance | SOP77022

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<td>Module Coordinator</td>
<td>Dr David Ralph, Department of Sociology, TCD</td>
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Module Description:

We live in a world in which racism is opposed and denied as often as it is practiced. Viewing racism and anti-racism as collective political acts rather than expressions of individual understanding or ignorance, this module examines how politicised racism and anti-racism is articulated and practiced. The module examines key sites of contemporary racist and anti-racist political activism, drawing on examples such as the Black Lives Matter movement and pro- and anti-refugee solidarity activism in Europe.

Drawing on theories of social movements as well as interrogating the rhetoric of racism and anti-racism, the module firstly examines the rationale and practices of far-right and racist movements. Anti-racist groups have faced both the articulated racism of these groups as well as a more hidden but deeply embedded racism within society, and the module examines the issues such groups face – and how they have responded to these challenges. A key question is whether anti-racist groups have further embedded the language of race and racism in political life.

The problems and possibilities of anti-racist activism are examined both with respect to theoretical discussions surrounding anti-racism and post-race, but also through critically analysing the vehicles through which anti-racism is practiced – NGOs and social movements.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion, students are expected to be able to critically:

- Apply social movement theories to racism and anti-racism activism
- Explain key contemporary conflicts surrounding racism and anti-racism
- Develop an understanding of contemporary far-right and racist movements
- Evaluate contemporary debates surrounding anti-racism and post-race.
Delivery and syllabus:

The module is delivered in 11 seminar slots consisting of a lecturing input, student participation and informal presentations. Students are expected to read before each session to facilitate discussion.

Main topics

- Far right and racist movements and ideologies
- Theorising social movements and NGOs
- The history and practice of anti-racism
- Theoretical critique of anti-racism.

Recommended Texts

There is no set text, but the following texts will prove useful (all available in the library):

- Taylor, Keeanga-Yamahtta. 2016. From #Blacklivesmatter to Black Liberation. Haymarket

Course notes: Blackboard

Assessment

Assessment will be in the form of module diary (30%) and essay (70%).