# Homework

# Notes

* Active class participation is based on the study questions of the reading
* There may be in class quizzes

# Tuesday 8/26/14

* First colony to sanction slavery = virginia
* If you kill your slave in Virginia in 1669 you will not be punished because no one will intentionally destroy their property
  + Virginia’s second law: you can do whatever you want to a runaway slave, as long as you don’t kill them, if you do kill them, the slave owner can file a claim and get insurance

## Movie: Race the power of illusion

* People cant find any genetic markers that are all in one race, and not in any other race
* Humans are the most similar of all species : only one in every thousand DNA is different
* Scientists are part of their social context and their science is biased because of it
* By the 1920s, a single drop of African blood would identify anyone as black and inferior in every way and considered contaminants
* Eugenics movement was based on the inferiority of all races except white
* The windtribe: people of African, American, and white ancestry but could pass as white

# Book Notes: They came before Columbus

## Chapter 4: done

* Alvise da cadamosto did not know Phoenician sailors had circled Africa since 600bc
  + He was out at sea and saw a bunch of zopoli, with 25-30 negroes in each. The portugues attempted to signal that they came in peace, but could not dissuade the Africans. The Africans approached, but left, the portgues were very happy.
    - It was though to come within bowshot of these men were certain death
  + The next day cadamosto were approached by another company of black men of about 17 boats, probably 150 men total
    - Cadamosto was first to go straight into the company of boats, splitting them in two with the company of boats on either side of cadamosto
    - This time the men approached and began shooting off their arrows
  + These two encounters between the protugues and the boatmen on the gambia occurred in 1455. It is the only account of west African rivert=boarts documented by Europeans before the coming of Columbus.
* Zopoli: dugouts made from enormous trees hollowed out, propelled by oars, but much larger than the portugues ships.
* Recent investigations into African watercraft show that some west African tribes specialized in finishing and boatbuilding. That they ferried goods inhuge water buses across waterways.
* A.C. haddon and james hornell cite “fairly sophisticated watercraft” in use in pre European west Africa.
* P malzy an anthropologist writes about sewn boats large enough to carry twelve tons of caro across the niger. These boats were made by the Bozo, a west African people who live by fishing
* The talkin book records the oral tradition of the mali empire during the reign of Sundiata, (mali founder) who had a vast fishing fleet of the Somono, also a people of the niger, who covered that river with their boats so that sundiata’s infrantrymen would not wet their feet when returning from war
* Richard hull in his book said tha thtanks to the security maintained by armies and riverine navies of first mali and later songhay, huge boat laden with grain, ivory, and other commodities could travel sfitly and safely along the niger.
* The first people to inhabit America were mongols from asia who came ot this continent via the bering straights some forty thosuanda years ao
* Myths
  + The absence of a land bridge since the last glacial epoch has accounted for the resistance of scholars to any consideration of contact int eh postglacial epoch
    - The sea stood in their imagination more forbidding than ten saharas, an impassable wilderness of wind and wave,
  + Africans were thought of as naked barbarians with a boatless culture, how would they dare to sail to America?
  + Americans assume that the west & asia have always been the leader in technological progress, and that, as a corollary, other areas of the world di not have equal or superior sialing craft or navigational knowledge
  + They believe that European ships of the fifteenth century, must have been superior to those of thousand or two thousand years earlier. And if it was difficult for the Europeans, it must have been impossible for the Africans
    - Thus they polygenesists believ the watercraft of pre Columbian times could have crossed the oceans only accidentally and by miraculous good fortune. Thus there could not have been any significant influence on ancient America by the Africans
  + Africans had no knowledge of the sea, never hd mariners, never made boats, nurtured a landlocked race; that her empires ended at the edge of the desert,
* Refuting the myths
  + Winds, currents, natural Africa to America routes, basic survival kits, seafood and freshwater sources- all favor and facilitate the atlantic crossing
  + The 9pilots who uided the caravals of Columbus, in hi9s own words, were like “blind men”
  + The major inventions in maritime navigation that were to transform European shipping during the renaissance had been made before Christ and were completely lsot to Europe during the dark ages
  + The system of latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates, were used as early as 100 bc in china. The Europeans could not read longitude until the eighteenth century
  + The lateen sail hoisted on the Spanish and Portuguese caravels cam from the arabs
  + The astrolabe (an instrument to determine latitude by the suns altitude) were invented by the ancient greeks but developed further for centuries by the arabs
  + Africans were navigating the atlantic before Christ. They moved up to the north atlantic to Ireland, capturing part of that country in a very early period.
  + The engyptian ships built with papyrus reed could have made it across the atlantic from Africa to America
    - This was said & proven by Thor Heyerdahl
    - He built a papyrus boat and sailed it to within days of America from north Africa. He did not include a roap in the original African design
      * A second boat that included the roap, that was built by a native American tribe, the Aymara, made it across the atlantic from Africa successfully
* Swahili
  + The Swahili: were maritime African peasants. It appears that some of them while trading on the indian ocean, through storms in the monsoon season drifted/were blown into the kouro-siwo, a current known as the black stream. This is a parcific current at the terminal point of which on the pacific coast of north America. Is a tiny osolated African community, the black Californians has been found.
  + The Swahili: is a bantu-ismamic civilization. These Africans were trading with india and china many centuries before Columbus.
    - In the thirteenth century it is recorded that th Swahili transhiped an elephant to the court of the emperor of china as a gift
  + Mtepe: a Swahili trading vessel. It was used in indian ocean trade for many centuries. Some of these vessels weigh as much as seventy tons and are much larger than the one shown in the illustration. They are secured by palm fiber lashings and are completely without nails or other metal clinchings
  + Dua la mtepe: smaller version of the mtepe which alternated between the use of oars and sail so that the ship was not at the mercy of the wind and current and could maintain course and speed against them both.
    - This capability (to switch from oar to sail and back) was not available to the Spanish caravael, the type of ship that Columbus used.
      * Spain would have to weight (up to 8 months at a time) to set sail from port while waiting for a good wind to take them where they wanted to go
      * Due to this fact, a Spanish caravel could actually take longer to complete the Africa to America journey than the simplest African boat
      * Although the caraval was not as agile and meaneuvarable as the simpler craft, it may have been a better gamble on the ocean because of its size, which could withstand the buffeting of the wind and waves
      * However, the larger the size the boat, the greater the stresses set up by the wind and wave as they encounter the inertia fo the heavy craft and thus the greater the possibility of breaking p.
      * Smller boats that are well constructed is more likely to survive a long sea voyage
  + The invention of the sail occurred six thousands years before the introduction of the steamship engine.
    - Using a sail (wind) is slower than using the ocean currents
  + Ocean currents and accidental/planned voyages
    - Accidental African voyages would have been likely to make their landfalls within the same wind and current band,s triking points in the region of the gulf of Mexican, the Caribbean or the northeastern corner of south America.
      * Once cast into the mid atlantic, it is almost impossible to avoud the south American coast
    - Two main currents from Africa to maerica are the guinea current and the canaries current
    - The guinea current: flows east ward along the guinea coast, with frequent cycles out to sea where it joints the south equatorial current
    - The canaries current flows southward along the coast of Africa to cap blanc or cape verde where its plits. One branch continues south along the coast, the other branch flows into the atlantic and becomes the north atlantic equatorial current that strikes the American coast ina broad band from the Guianas through the Antilles. The strongest part of the current runs along the coast of Venezuela from Trinidad to the guajira peninsula.
      * This current also leaves the African continent ina most propitious region, along the coast of Senegal and gambia
      * The coast of Senegal and gambia was the atlantic border of medieval mali. And where the fleets of abubakari the second sailed for the western lands
      * They called the sahar the sandy sea and navigated both the sahar and the ocean via the stars. An arab text stated that the negroes travel in the desert as it were upo the sea, having guides to pilot them by the stars
      * The Africans used the stars and compass to direct thema cross the sahar desert, so of course tehyw oudl do the same thing across the sea
      * They navigated the

## Chapter 9: page 190 when you scroll

* Why did he open up the chapter about the heads
  + Dr. matthew stirling led a team from the Smithsonian institution and the national geographic society into the gulf of mexico to follow up a rumor that Mexican peasants had found a huge stone head in 1858 in the jungles of vera cruz
  + The heads were carved from a single block of basalt resting upon a prepared foundation of unworked slabs of stone
  + The heads had workmanship that is delicate and sure, and proportions perfect and amazingly negroid in character
  + The heads were six feet high and 18 feet in circumference, weighing over ten tons
  + The stone had dots and crosses, that told a date of November 4, 291 bc
    - Ten years later, carbon datings was in no way overestimated
  + He did a second excavation at la venta in the Mexican state of tabasco
    - This head was 8 1/2 feet high 22 feet in circumference, and vividly negroid
    - Description: massive, military, menacing,
    - fullness of lips, broadly fleshed noses
    - one wore earplugs with a cross carved in each
    - they all wore headdresses that were foreign and distinctive- domed helmets like those of ancient soldiers
    - all faced east, staring into the atlantic
* carbon 14 dating
  + nine samples of wood charcoal were taken
    - five samples related to the original construction of the court and gave an average reading of 814 bc, plus or minus 134 years
    - the living human figures upon which these heads wre modeled could not have appeared at la venta later than 689bc and could have entered the gul of mexico anytime between 800bc and 680bc which roughly spans the 25th dynasty of Egypt
    - the carbon datings cannot be contested
* ivan van sertima’s suggested dates
  + he would put it within the nine years between 688bc (the year of taharka’s assumption of the double crown of Egypt) and the year 680 bc
* theories
  + Irwin
    - Uncle sam: the single Caucasoid figure found amongst the heads that wore turned up shows
    - Only etruscans, hittites, and Phoenicians wore turned up shoes.
    - She said the etruscans were the least likely to have found their way to American shores
    - The hittites were landbound, plus their empire had disintegrated at the critical period of contact and were dispersed in refugee pockets among their neighbors in the Mediterranean
    - The Phoenicians were, by a simple process of elimination, the most logical choice for the identify of Uncle Sam. Plus the Phoenicians had a good navy and were trading along th Mediterranean.
    - Her theory to explain why uncle sam was amongst the huge negroid heads, she use an Assyrian source which described Phoenician ambassadors and their servants coming to pay tribute to the Assyrian court. The servants bore kettles on their heads like caps. Irwin pounced on the image and suggested that these figures were a cargo of captured blacks whom the Phoenicians had turned into their servants (since the negroid heads had the round helmets)
      * Sertima’s response
        + Nowhere does it mentinos blacks as servants of the Phoenicians
        + The blacks in this historical period were servants of no one, while the Phoenicians remained in a lowly state of living during that entire time period
        + And irwin’s interpretation of the facts are not valid, they did no wear the kettles on their head, but \*bore\* the kettles to carry tribute
        + In addition, this time period is nearly 100 years later than the latest possible date for the arrival of the negroid figures at la venta (680 and not 580 bc)
        + In addition, if the blacks were servants why were the negroids more prominent than uncle sam
        + Uncle sam was a flat representation or drawing, while the negroid heads are full bodied realistic sculptures of great size, nearly ten times larger than life
        + Irwin has found a balck man standing beside a white man, so the black man must obviously be the servant or captive or slave
        + Plus, the helmets on the negroid heads are the type of battle helmet the Nubians and egyptions wore in the contact period.
  + Baily
    - He conceives of blacks in ancient America as mercenary troops of the Phoenicians
    - He uses a time period circa 425 bc when Phoenician colonies along the seaboard of west africa
    - Sertimas response
      * Phoenicians were the mercenaries of the egyptions and in that period in question they were in no position to make mercenaries fo anyone, least of al lthe blacks who were then the rules of Egypt, were their protectors against a common enemy (the assyrians)
      * The time period when Phoenicians attempted to colonize west Africa was too late to account for the negroid heads
      * Both Irwin and baily share the same basic weakness: an inability to look through the window of ancient history with eyes untinted by the ethnocentric dyes of their day.
* case for contact
  + a find of patently egyption statuettes buried three meters deep in the stern beaches of acujutla in sal Salvador
  + the step pyramid found in America may be traced to ancient Babylon and Egypt, and is also known as the ziggurat and has been found nowhere in the old world without clear and incontestable proof of diffusion and goes back three thousand years before christ
    - there were no pyramids in America before the contact period (800-680bc)
    - the very first american pyramid (or stepped temple) appears at la venta, the site of the negroid heads
    - while egyptians stopped building step pyramids in 1600bc, the Nubians continued
  + we have indisputable proof of Mexican mummification like the mummified figure in the sarcophagus at Palenque
    - three features of this figure indicate an Egyptian influence: the jade mask on the face of the dead, mummification itself, and the flared base of the sarcophagus
    - Egyptian mummification techniques are most evident in peru
      * In the desert we find very specific and ample evidence of the Egyptian influence
      * The chemical formula of mummification used in peru was used in Egypt, down to the antiseptic substances for embaling are identical with ancient Egypt. And while the ingredients are common, the formula is very complex and elusive
  + The Egyptians buried parts of the corpse in four canopic jars (horus jars), certain internal organs were plced in each and colors assigned,
    - The color configuration appear in the color scheme of ancient mexico: red north, white south, a dark west, and a golden east
  + While dogs were mummified by Egyptian pharaohs, the Nubian kings were fascinated by horses
    - The Egyptian dog headed god, Anubis, bares resemblance to the olmecs who began to sculpt little clay dogs attached to wheels or tiny chariots with wheels (which is virtually their only use of the wheel)
    - Mummified dogs found in peru bare resemblance to the basenji, the specifies of Egyptian dog worshiped by the pharaohs. And the only surviving species of this dog is found today in Africa. The basenji has no body order and never barks
      * Columbus reports a species of barkless dog during his voyages to the Caribbean
  + Other similar burial customs have been noted: twisted rope designs on sarcophagi, golden mummy masks, anda small hole in the top slabs of death chambers for the release of the soul or the flight of the bird of death, and the burial ritual involving placement of a green stone in the mouth of the corpse.
  + Other ritual practices, like the wearing of false bears by high priests, the sue of purple s an exclusively royal and priestly color, incest between royal siblings, royal paraphernalia like the ceremonial umbrella and litter and the bird serpant motif in coats of arms and royal diadems
  + Also weaving techniques, such as the loom, point to old world influence. And where the loom appeared in peru it was identical with those found ina tomb at thebes, the sacred capital of the black kings. Both loom weaving techniques (peru and thebes) had tehs ame eleven working parts
  + An egyptian surgical procedure found in both ancient mexico and Peruvian civilization is trepanning, or trepanation. It was performed on the skulls of Egyptian-nubia soldiers to relieve pressure caused by blows on the skull.
  + Another feature shared is the fitted megalithic masonry. Like those found at Gizeh in Egypt, at lixus in morocco, and at saccsahuaman and cuzco in peru and across the pacific from peru and on easter island.

# 9/16

* He was disturbed that the anthropologists did not study the great African empires, but instead chose to study small tribes of people
* Dubois: somewhere on page 714
  + History is lies agreed upon
* English: Barbados and jaimica and nevis/ st kitts
* French: Haiti, Guadalupe, st. martin
* Holland: st. maartan,
* Spanish: Puerto rico, domincan republic, cuba

# 9/30

* Portguese and brazil
  + Portuguese have a Christian culture that clased with Brazilian culture
  + Black women are described as horny for white men
  + In early colonial courts if 2 men were foun to be havinga relationship they were executed, two women were publicly humiliated
  + Slavery was passed down through the mother, this law as passed so that men could enslave their children
* Religion
  + After 1667 statute, being baptized does not allow you to be a free person, before 1667, if you converted to Christianity you could argue your freedom
* Slave women rebellions
  + Direct: poison, arson, slave revoluts (nat turner, vesey, prosser), freedom petitions, military service, education, destroying property, not working, damaging animals/crops/food, runaway, maroon
  + Indirect: abortion, contraception; infanticide

# 10/14

* They put collars on peoples necks, similar to the way they did cows
* The daily life of house slaves
  + All the work is done by the house slaves
  + There was utter disregard for the life of the slaves, even for small things
  + Two meals a day; one way to punish them was to withhold food
  + House slaves could not leave the house without permission
* The grim keys: two white woman who were abolishionists
  + Their father was a slave owner
* Chaimber maids and mistresses slept on the floor, with no bedding or anything
* The way you control slaves is to divide them, anyway you can find to divide them you would
  + The objective is to make them more relatable to yourself, than to each other
* Viewing the masters property, as representative of the master himself. They would destroy the masters property
* Talented slaves would fetch a higher price at the auction, but were also the most confident and would refuse to work
* Overseers: hired by captors to watch over captives
* Gender was not a factor in who might resist
* West faliciana paris, slaves on the magnolia plantation, the Denmark DC revolt
* Maris slapped her owner, and was sold away from her children
* You can take a out a stake on a runaway slave
* According to apbacker
  + What factors were responsible for slave discontent/resistance/rebellion between 1791 and 1809
    - The American revolution
    - The negro uprising in the west indies (hatian)
      * Hatians beat napoleon
    - Economic depression
    - Native americans vs colonial America
* Prassar rebellion
  + Up to 1000 slaves rendevoiz 6 miles outside of Richmond Virginia. The bridge was flooded and they could not cross into town
  + Along with gabrial prassar, 16 other slaves were hanged

## Really good movie

* 4 million people were in slavery during the revolutionary war
* Blacks were believed to be born as slaves, because god himself has placed a mark of mental and physical inferiority
* Nat turner’s rebellion lasted 36 hours
  + Nat turner was a preacher; called himself a healer
  + He used his ministry as a front to make sure he can address his real cause to liberate his people
  + At least 200 blacks were killed as retribution for nat turners rebellion
  + Heads of blacks were put on fence posts to give as warning to toher blacks that the insurrection should not proceed
* they put black ministers out of business and white people in their places
* abolitionists: were considered arrogant by slave owners
* Frederick douglas fled from his southern masters to the north. He was a self educated man
  + He wrote a lecture about slave life, and his desire to be free
* Harriet Tubman: smuggled fugitive slaves to the north & freed at least 300 fugitive slaves
  + Provided fugitive slaves with identities, and jobs
  + To combat the underground railroad, slave owners hired bounty hunters to track down their property
  + Had no elected officials but stretched throughout the country
  + To slave owners it was organized theft
* Slave owners felt threated when the north threated the southerns rights to own slaves in the new territories opened upening up in the west
  + The states were taking over the native americans lands
  + The fugitive slave bill placed every black in the north in danger
  + This bill was passed to appease the south from the norths aggression
* Vigilance committees
  + Lookouts were developed, hiding places were developed
* William parker: was a black leader that held slaves
  + Ford and 5 men went to parkers house to look for runaway slaves. He was from the south
  + Ford demanded his ‘property’ or would give his breath in hell
  + Ford got killed. William parker and his men were put in jail but released. This was part of the reason the south wanted to recede
* Dred scott case
  + Had petitioned for his freedom after traveling to a free city with his slave master
  + The persons were are descended from slaves and imported from Africa, were never meant to be citizens and therefore cannot use the constitution to demand their citizenship/freedom
  + Many blacks in the north immigrated to Canada because they could not get freedom in America
* Abraham Lincoln agreed to support slavery if it was restricted to the southern states
  + The southern states rejected it
  + 6 weeks later Virginia ceded from the nation
  + 4 months later there was war
  + With the outbreak of the north vs south war, the slaves began to runaway and try to join the war and fight for the freedom
  + Lincoln said the war was not to free the slaves, but it was to preserve the union
  + In 1863 against his friends, Lincoln moved to end slavery

# 10/28/14

* Reconstruction
  + 1865 – 1896
  + Congress needed to pass federal legislation to protect black people
  + Congress overrided president Johnson’s veto
  + Because of the black codes and rising tides of violence, southern states were not deemed competent enough to rule themselves, so congress said they are going to have the highest ranking authority run the state (and not the southern governers)
* Derrick bell
  + A final example of black rights becoming risk to the interests of whites is seen in the presidential election of 1876
  + 1870 gave the rights to vote to black men
    - 15% of southern politicians were black
    - State constitution trumps federal constitution, so blacks lost their rights to vote
  + By 1876 the demolition of radical reconstruction (giving rights to black people) were well advanced
    - Tilden won the vote, but the voting returns in 3 voting states were challeneged (voter fraud, etc.)
  + What are black people doing in this time period?
    - Literacy rate: 10% in 1860 > 30% in 1880
    - Black children in school 2% > 34%

# 11/4/2014

* Dubois
  + Why are eople joining the KKK and the white nights
  + It is because of fear, fear is the nucleus of ordinary men that continue to give the mob its motivation
  + The antidote to fear is proving you’re a uman being, because this is a world that believes in war and ignoriance that cannot materialize intelligent men and peace on earth
* Dubois
  + The eagerness to learn was exceptional, which is unusual for people who have been oppressed,
  + He says African americans as a group never acted that way, but ran to it
  + Of the 487K negros, 326k attended school, only 91K were unable to read an write,
  + It was a crime to teadh a slave to read and write ins outhern states
* Dubois
  + Wealth without education was crippling, when you have power without education is crippling

# 12/9/2014

* Free black men tried to enlist in the military, but were denied at first
  + Once Washington became hungry for new recruits, he allowed blacks in the military
* Black men could not become officers in the war until world war 2 when trumen integrated the armed forces
  + FDR resisted doing that because he said it would be to disruptive during world war 2
* Tuskeegee airmen did a tremendous job during world war 2
* Port Chicago: owned by the navy
  + The navy of all of the armed forces was resisted integration the most, far more than the army or the airforce
  + Black men were given the crappiest jobs, like loading the ships that were carrying explosives
  + There was an explosion, and a bunch of black men were killed. The men that survived were told to report back to work, they refused, and were court martialed but never pardoned even to this day
* Colin powell was in the army and rose in ranks, he is a huge supporter of affirmative action because it allowed him to get into the service and rise through the ranks
* American violence: a book about violence in US history
* If you are going to exclude one group from unions and job, don’t be surprised that these folks come and take your jobs when you strike since they are not part of the union
* For racial reasons whites are not willing to replace systematic racism because they benefit from it, so they will say equality is good, but won’t act on it
  + People with power are not going to give it up
* El Shabazz