

# PHIL 3310 / ETHNC 3910

## Science and Society

CTIHB 459

MWF / 10:45-11:35

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### Course Description

How should we reconcile science's aim to produce objective knowledge with its status as a socially-embedded set of institutions and practices?

In this course we'll approach that question from a variety of standpoints, grounding the theories we cover in case studies where science has been entwined with issues of racial and social justice.

Case studies include:

- Climate science, economics, and disaster response
- Racial and cultural disparities in the health sciences
- Biology, psychology, and racial difference
- Citizen science and indigenous and local knowledge

### Objectives

Our goal is to empower class participants with greater ability to recognize and articulate how science and social issues intersect.

We'll do so by learning theoretical frameworks for understanding science and values from the history, philosophy, and sociology of science, and working together to apply these theories to case studies both contemporary and historical.

### Texts

There is no required textbook for this course. All readings will be posted to Canvas.