

21A.240
Race and Science
Spring 2004 MIT

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Topics for PAPER # 3

1. Puzzle through the "racial economy" of nuclear weapons work and testing using both
 - a. Churchill and LaDuke's notion of "radioactive colonialism" in Native America
and
 - b. The analysis of damaging stereotypes of Asian Americans in the nuclear complex outlined in Wong's "The Los Alamos Incident" and Masco's "Lie Detectors: On Secrets and Hypersecurity in Los Alamos."
2. Drawing on Takaki's "The Myth of the Model Minority" and English's "Race, Sex, and Nerds: From Black Geeks to Asian American Hipsters," examine the politics of racial (and gender) stereotyping in connection with science education in the United States. If you think it relevant, draw on your own sense of such dynamics at MIT.
3. Using Gomez-Peña's "Ethno-cyborgs and Genetically Engineered Mexicans" as an inspiration, suggest ways that Kumar's "Temporary Access: The Indian H-1B Worker in the United States" could be transformed into an artistically rendered political statement about the politics of South Asian immigrant workers in the United States.
4. Mix and match any of the above, or, using materials from the second part of our course, "Reformulating Race: Making and Remaking the Idioms of Science," develop your own topic.