

WHY IS MY CURRICULUM WHITE?

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*Black and Minority Ethnic
Students' Officer*



What should education provide?



What should education provide?

- The process of receiving or giving *systematic instruction*
- *Holistic education*
 - Accurate
 - Critical
 - Global



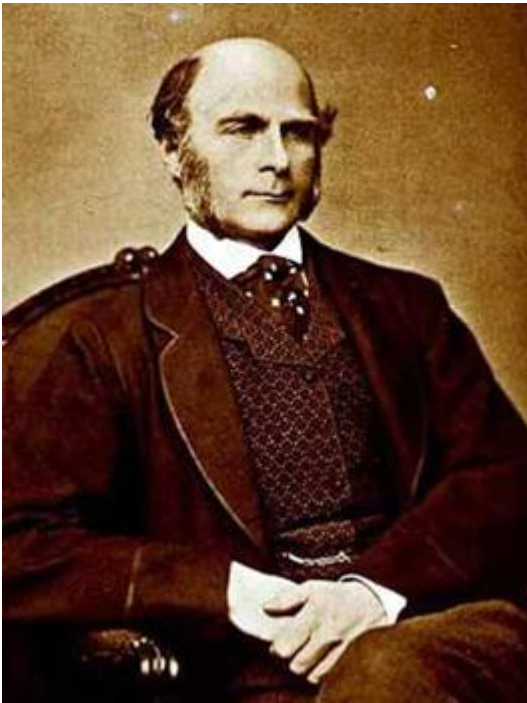
Whiteness

- “race” is a social construct
- Whiteness is an ideology
 - People racialised as White are morally and intellectually superior
- Academics and theories by White (and often men) are given value
- Areas outside of Britain are viewed with a White gaze
- **In which subjects can this Whiteness be seen?**



Heroes at UCL

Sir Francis Galton



“work is fundamental to large areas of contemporary psychology, particularly to the fields of differential psychology and psychometrics. He was the first to investigate and measure individual differences in human abilities and traits. He provided evidence that such traits might be largely inherited in man, and he was the first to employ the statistical technique of correlation to assess the relationship between measured qualities.”

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/pals/research/experimental-psychology/about/our-history/>

Heroes at UCL

Karl Pearson



“work was all-embracing in the wide application and development of mathematical statistics, and encompassed the fields of biology, epidemiology, anthropometry, medicine and social history...Pearson's thinking underpins many of the `classical' statistical methods which are in common use today.”

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/statistics/department/pearson>

Heroes at UCL?

- Eugenics



- The single story: *Britain is the centre of all knowledge everywhere*



Why this is important

“I study International Relations, and I find that it is very Eurocentric. Even in past papers, the question comes up: “Is IR Eurocentric?”. So I think the fact is that the university itself acknowledges the fact that its a very Eurocentric course in the way that its taught... but why is nothing happening about it?”

Can we justify labelling ourselves as something new and something on the verge of really breaking barriers and being “international” when we’re still very much set in a traditional mindset?”

Some of us, who aren't from the West, don't feel comfortable, and we don't feel like there's a place for us within academia if it's obviously shutting us out

To find out more...

- Reading Group
 - **Every Tuesday in Term 2**
 - **1 – 2 PM (lunch provided)**
 - **Check UCLU What's on Guide for more location**
- Sign up for follow up sessions
- Contact Hajera Begum (Black and Minority Ethnic Students Officer)



Thank you

- Any further questions?

