

Race: Question Bridge Assignment

Submit by email by the beginning of class, Monday 4/19

Worth 5 points toward your final grade

This can also count as your reading response for the week
(If you have done 10 responses, you'll get extra participation credit instead)

700–1000 words

This assignment is designed to have students think about the relationship between race and experience, and to briefly explore the complications brought out by this relationship.

Question Bridge is a video project where black males from across the country were each prompted to ask a question meant for other black males, and to respond to the questions asked by others. *NOTE: this site is not designed for mobile phone browsers!*

The steps for the assignment are as follows:

- 1) Go to <http://questionbridge.com/conversations>
- 2) Check out the questions in the titles and sample the videos if you like (you are of course free—and encouraged—to watch as many as you like)
- 3) Choose 1-2 questions (depending on the complexity/number of answers). The questions should be broadly relevant to the topic of racial identity and experience. Watch at least six answers for each (more if only one question is chosen) and then write a response, as described below...

Be sure to note which videos you watched in your responses. Points will be awarded for written answers to the following questions:

- What commonalities or recurring themes were there in the different answers? (1 point)
- Did answers differ or diverge in significant ways? Do you have a sense of why? (1 point)
- What do these commonalities and differences show about racial identity and experience? You might answer this question by considering some of the following:
 - o Do they indicate ways of defining these things in general, consistent terms?
 - o Do they introduce challenges for such a project?
 - o Do they suggest an alternative way to think of racial identity or experience that does not involve a set of “criteria” or “defining features”? (2 points)
- How does this connect to today’s readings about privilege? Choose one reading assignment and note how your above answers relate to claims made in it. (1 point)