



RACIAL LOGICS

SIR FRANCIS GALTON
(1822 - 1911)

- ▶ father of **Eugenics**: the theory of controlling the fertility of the populations to influence inheritable traits passed one from one generation to the next.
 - ▶ Backers of eugenics claimed that traits could be traced through bloodlines and bred into populations (for positive traits) or out of them (for negative traits).
 - ▶ “inferior races” were often subject to institutionalization and sterilization to prevent diluting bloodlines (continued in many places through the 1970s!)

LEGACIES OF RACIAL “PSEUDO-SCIENCE”

- ▶ While disproven, these racial classifications still pervade our understanding of racial categories and hierarchies.
 - ▶ Athletics
 - ▶ Are black people naturally better athletes?
 - ▶ I.Q. (Intelligence Quotient)
 - ▶ *The Bell Curve (1994)*
 - ▶ Richard Herrnstein and Charles Murray
 - ▶ Whites have higher IQs than blacks; these differences are genetic.
 - ▶ These differences can explain social ills and inequalities.