Syllabus

This course introduces students to discipline of Black Studies through the use of a paradigm designed to provide an interdisciplinary look at the experiences of people of African descent in Black Atlantic societies, including the United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America. This course provides a theoretical framework for examining African American experience in social, economic, cultural, historical, literary, political, and artistic terms. It explores ways in which Black life constructs and is constructed by their experiences in “the new world.” The class will learn central concepts and theories as well as research methods in African American Studies. Students are expected to gain an understanding of the internal and external forces that helped to shape the experience of African Americans through the development of critical thinking skills employed in the analysis of assigned readings, essay writing, and classroom discussion. Field trips and special programs also contribute to the class goal of promoting a better understanding of the past, present, and projected future day-to-day experiences of African Americans in the larger United States and Florida in particular. Special emphasis will be placed on understanding the role of slavery on the development of contemporary constructions of African American culture, as well as on the special role of women in the Black struggle for freedom. A life history or community study project will incorporate library, archival, and field research.

There are two required groups of readings for this class. The reader compiled specifically for this class is on reserve in Library West and Introduction to Afro-American Studies: A Peoples College Primer, which is available free on-line at http://eblackstudies.org/intro/. The online version of this syllabus has links for each assigned readings from the primer. In addition, The Soul of Black Folks by W.E.B. DuBois may be found on-line at the following web site: http://www.bartleby.com/114/ Other recommended readings for extra credit assignments will be placed on reserve in Library West. Class members are expected to have their Gatorlink ID and e-mail address activated.

There will be two "pop quizzes," two essay assignments, two exams, and a group presentation project that account for the major portion of your grade. Class participation will also count a great deal toward your final grade. All class assignments will be typed doubled-space with 1-inch margins, spell checked, and contain cover pages and Works Cited pages. This course uses Turn It In to analyze essays.

POINT SYSTEM

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Exams</td>
<td>60 (30 points each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Essays</td>
<td>50 (25 points each)</td>
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<td>2 Pop Quizzes</td>
<td>30 (15 points each)</td>
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<td>Presentation</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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Course Outline
Week 1
I. THE STRUGGLES
   A. Introduction to Course
   T 1/9 – Class expectations. What is African American Studies? How did the discipline begin?
   Th 1/11 – How did the discipline begin? Continued
   Assignment: Activate GatorLink Account and Email the professor your email address by 5 pm.
   Required Reading(s):
   1. INTRODUCTION
      Woodyard, Jeffrey Lynn (Reserve)

Week 2
B. The African Experience--Africa and The Middle Passage
   T 1/16 – “Before the Mayflower, Before the Trade”
   Required Reading(s):
   2. AFRICA BEFORE AND AFTER THE SLAVE TRADE; THE AFRO-AMERICAN HERITAGE

C. Forced Immigration: A comparison of two experiences
   Th 1/18 – “First Contact” on Western Shores
   Groups Assigned (Check email after 5 PM)
   Required Readings:
   Mbotela, James Juma. (Reserve)

   Kingston, W.H.G. (Reserve)

   Mannix, Daniel P. and Malcolm Cowley. (Reserve)

   Handlin, Oscar. (Reserve)

Week 3
T 1/23
Required Readings:
3. COLONIALISM AND THE SLAVE TRADE

D. The Slave Trade and Slavery: the Economic and Structural Building of a Nation
   Th 1/25
   James, C.L.R. (Reserve)
Week 4
T 1/30
Required Readings:
- Mintz, Sidney W. Mintz (Reserve)

E. Slavery as a Total Institution & Social Control
Th 2/1 – NO FORMAL CLASS – GROUPS MEET REGARDING TOPICS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES.
Assignment: Group Presentation Topics and working Bibliography Due by 5PM thru Email
Required Readings:
- Internet: http://www.yale.edu/glc/forum/davis.html - David Brion Davis “The Problem of Slavery”
- Finlay, Moses I. (Reserve)

Week 5
T 2/6
Required Readings:
- 4. THE SLAVE EXPERIENCE: THE MELTING POT OF AFRICAN PEOPLES

F. Resistance, Revolts, and Revolutions
Th 2/8 – Progress Report on Group Presentations Due by 5 pm thru Email
Required Readings:
- Darlene Clark Hine, William C. Hine, Stanley Harrold (Reserve)
  PART II.
  Chapter 8 Opposition to Slavery (Reserve)
  Chapter 9 Let Your Motto Be Resistance (Reserve)

II. The Social Impact of the Colonial Experience
Week 6
T 2/13
Required Readings:
- 8. THE BLACK MIDDLE CLASS

Th 2/15 – Essay #1 Due by 5 pm thru Email
A. “...some of us are brave.” The Role of Black Women in Antebellum & Post bellum Society
Required Readings:
- Blassingame, John W. (Reserve)
Week 7
T 2/20
Mid-Term Exam Posted to This Link by 5 PM

Group #1 Required Readings for Class Discussion:
Jones, Jacqueline. (Reserve)

Jones, Jacqueline. (Reserve)

Group #2 Required Readings for Class Discussion:
5. THE RURAL EXPERIENCE

Jones, Jacqueline. (Reserve)

B. “Freedom” AND Jim Crow - MID-TERM EXAM (Due by 5 PM)
Th 2/22

Group #3 Required Readings for Class Discussion:
Darlene Clark Hine, William C. Hine, Stanley Harrold (Reserve)
PART III.
Chapter 12 The Meaning of Freedom: The Promise of Reconstruction, 1865-1868
Chapter 13 The Meaning of Freedom: The Failure of Reconstruction

Week 8
T 2/27

Group #4 Required Readings for Class Discussion:
Darlene Clark Hine, William C. Hine, Stanley Harrold (Reserve)
PART IV.
Chapter 15 Black Southerners Challenge White Supremacy
Chapter 16 Conciliation, Agitation, and Migration: African Americans in the Early Twentieth Century

C. Social Structure and Black Culture
Group #5 Required Readings for Class Discussion:
10. RELIGION AND THE BLACK CHURCH
8. THE BLACK MIDDLE CLASS

D. The Struggle for Human, Civil, and Equal Rights
Th 3/1
Required Readings:
13. BLACK POWER AND THE U.S. POLITICAL SYSTEM
Week 9
E. The Great Migration
T 3/6
Required Readings:

6. THE URBAN EXPERIENCE

Th 3/8
Required Readings:

7. BLACK WORKERS AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT

Week 10 SPRING BREAK 3/10 – 3/17 NO CLASSES
Assignment: Groups 1, 3, & 5 Presentation Outline and Final Group Bibliography Due by 5 pm March 10 thru Email

Week 11
F. Education, Black Intelligentsia, Black Arts, and Black Nationalism
T 3/20 – Groups 2 & 4 Presentation Outline and Final Group Bibliography Due by 5 pm thru Email
Required Readings:

12. EDUCATION AND THE SCHOOL IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

Th 3/22
Required Readings:
Metcalf, George (Reserve)

Meier, August. (Reserve)

Week 12
T 3/27
Required Readings:

9. BLACK CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Th 3/29

15. NATIONALISM AND PAN-AFRICANISM

Week 13
G. Civil Rights and Race
T 4/3
Required Readings:

14. CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY

Harrison, Faye V. (Reserve)

Th 4/5
Required Readings:
Woods, Clyde M. (Reserve)
III. Theorizing the Black Experience and The Future of African American Studies

Week 14
T 4/10
Assignment: Essay #2 Due by 5 pm thru Email
Required Readings:

16. MARXISM AND THE BLACK LIBERATION
17. EVERYONE HAS A ROLE TO PLAY

Th 4/12
Required Readings:
Washington, Mary Helen (Reserve)

Week 15 Presentations
T 4/17 – CATCH UP CLASS (All absences must be approved.)

Th 4/19 GROUPS 1 & PRESENTATIONS (40 mins.)

Week 16 Presentations
T 4/24 GROUPS 2 & 3 PRESENTATIONS (40 min. Each)
Th 4/26 GROUP 4 PRESENTATION (40 mins.) (Exam #2 Posted to This Link by 5 PM)

FINAL EXAM DAY May 1, 2007 10 – 12 Noon. Exam #2 Due 12 Noon by email.

Suggested Readings:
PBS – Africans In America http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/home.html
Kevin Halloway (author) – Civil Rights and African American history – http://www.ghgcorp.com/hollaway/civil/contents.htm
Florida History Timeline - http://susdl.fcla.edu/fh/outline/outline.html


“The ruin of a nation begins in the homes of its people.”
Ghanaian Quote