

AFRICANA STUDIES - 2010 SPRING COURSES

AFRI0160 Sec 01 – Twentieth-Century Africa

An introduction to recent African history, the course combines chronological and topical approaches. It is organized around the major epochs of colonialism, decolonization and post-colonial independence, but within those periods, we will concentrate on themes such as health, environment, development, the state and artistic expression. Readings draw heavily on primary sources. Three exams and two projects, including group work.

Professor Jacobs

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AFRI0220 Sec 01 - Introduction to African American History from Emancipation to the Present

This course explores African American History through the lens of black freedom struggles. The struggles take all forms, between black and white from local to national levels, within and between black communities, and between men and women. This course assumes some familiarity with basic U.S. History and will utilize a variety of primary sources from autobiographical material to visual art and music as well as the usual monographs and articles. Aside from reading, students will be required to do some research, and write historical prose. Priority to freshmen and sophomores in Africana Studies and History. 3 papers; 2 exams.

Professor Hamlin

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AFRI0710 – Topics in Africana Studies

AFRI0990 Sec 01 - Black Lavender: Black Gay/Lesbian Plays/Dramatic Constructions in the American Theatre

An interdisciplinary approach to the study of plays that address the identities and issues of black gay men and lesbians and offers various perspectives from within and without the black gay and lesbian artistic communities. Focuses on analysis of unpublished titles. Also includes published works by Baraka, Bullins, Corbitt, Gibson, Holmes, West, and Pomo Afro Homos. Some evening screenings of videotapes. Enrollment limited to 20. Written permission required.

Professor Terry-Morgan

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AFRI1050 - Seminars in Africana Studies

AFRI1050A Sec 01 - Advanced RPM Playwriting

Third level of RPM Playwriting; for students that have successfully completed RPM Playwriting and Intermediate RPM Playwriting (workshop).

Professor Terry-Morgan

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AFRI1050D Sec 01 - Intermediate RPM Playwriting

Second level of RPM Playwriting; for students that want to continue developing their RPM plays or want to begin a new project (workshop).

Professor Terry-Morgan

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AFRI1050E Sec 01 - RPM Playwriting

Research-to-Performance Method (RPM) Playwriting guides students through the process of developing new plays that are informed by scholarly research (workshop).

Professor Terry-Morgan

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AFRI1050M Sec 01 – Roots of African American Fiction: Oral Narrative through Richard Wright

This course will employ a variety of narrative forms -- oral folktales, WPA narratives, slave narratives, short stories by European and American writers -- will also investigate the multiple traditions of African American fiction.

Professor Wideman

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AFRI1050P Sec 01 – Art and Civic Engagement: Creativity/Reality

The primary objective of this course is to learn about and reflect upon public art and communities - locally and nationally. This course will use selected public art and artists' ideologies as a framework for exploring culture, creativity, politics and practices. The course will focus on the ways in which these public art works and artists' responses to varied forms of internal and external operators and stimuli successfully and unsuccessfully give voice to aspects of the environment, history, culture, social justice,

health, politics and the imagination. Throughout the course existing public art and arts projects will be used to illustrate and explore topics, ideas, unique issues and concerns. Guest speakers will share their experiences, knowledge and ideas. Students will focus on practical application for approaching public art projects. This course will also pay attention to arts organizations, government agencies, history, power relations, human resources as well as leadership and the political that continues to impact and influence these public modes of artistic production. Finally the course will examine dynamics that inform approaches to public art - purpose, performance, space, time, and function.

Professor TBA

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AFRI1060 - Seminars in Africana Studies

AFRI1060P African Literature: Chinua Achebe

This course closely analyzes the major literary and critical works of Chinua Achebe. In particular, students will explore how Chinua Achebe's novels and essays define and explore issues of culture, family, language, identity and politics in post-colonial Africa. Student will consider the ways that Achebe reframes and contests the traditional and widely-held interpretations, understandings and assumptions of African people, ways of thinking and what constitutes literature. Course will be led by Professor Michael Thelwell, The C. Raymond Adams and Rachel B. Adams Visiting Professor in Africana Studies. Professor Achebe will attend several classes to engage students in conversation on his work and the larger themes and issues related to African literature. Interested students must attend the first class. Enrollment permission will be granted by Professor Thelwell after the first class meeting.

Professor Michael Thelwell

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AFRI1150 Sec 01 - Afro-Caribbean Philosophy

An introduction to the field of Afro-Caribbean philosophy. The first half focuses on the history of the field, identifying its African background and surveying some of its major schools, such as the Afro-Christians, the poeticists, the historicists, and existentialists. The second half consists of a more intensive comparative focus on the ontologies and epistemologies of two of these schools.

Professor Henry

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AFRI1260 Sec 01 - The Organizing Tradition of the Southern Civil Rights Movement

This seminar aims to fill in some of the gaps of the official canon by emphasizing that the modern (1954-1966) southern civil rights movement was not as it is mainly portrayed, a movement of mass protest in public spaces led by charismatic leaders; but rather, a movement of grassroots community organizing - quiet day-to-day work.

Professor Cobb

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AFRI1360 Sec 01 - Africana Studies: Knowledge, Texts and Methodology

This course will explore the issues of Africana Studies as a discipline by engaging in a series of critical readings of the central texts, which laid the protocols of the discipline. The course will also raise issues of knowledge production and methodologies. This course is a senior capstone seminar.

Professor Rose

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AFRI1710 – Topics in Africana Studies

AFRI1710A Sec 01 – Political Visions and Community Formations

This course aims to consider the depths of connection between forms of racialized, gender, class and sexual oppression vis-à-vis the creation and maintenance of community and intimate social bonds among the oppressed. We will read sociologists, historians and others who have worked at this intersection and musicians and writers such as: Morrison, Bambara, Baldwin, Hill-Collins, Hansberry, soul and neo-soul artists.

Professor Rose

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AFRI1970 Sec 01 - Independent Reading and Research

Students should contact professor directly regarding independent reading and research.

Staff

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SCSO1550D - Biomedicalization: the Body as a Social Problem

Why are more and more aspects of daily life seen as biomedical problems? What are the social processes and political effects that motivate people to view the body this way? This course explores how contemporary health and behavior conditions are being defined and treated by analyzing biomedical research, health, and bodily knowledge in its various institutional formations: governmental knowledge, health policy, capital markets, and popular culture. Prerequisites for the course are either one course in medical sociology or anthropology (e.g. Culture and Health) or one in science studies (e.g. Introduction to Science and Society).

Professor Bliss

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Courses of Interest to Concentrators in Africana Studies – Crosslisted Courses

The following courses may be taken for concentration credit. Please see the sponsoring department for the time and location of each course.

Anthropology

ANTH1110 – African Issues in Anthropological Perspectives

ANTH2110 (*Primarily for graduates*) – Anthropological Theories in Africa

English

ENGL1760T – Literary Africa

ENGL2760U (*Primarily for graduates*) – Reading the Black Masses in Literature and Critical Practice

History

HIST1971X – African Americans in the Twentieth Century

Modern Culture and Media

MCM1200D – African Cinema