AFRI 0090: An Introduction to Africana Studies
This course introduces students to the vibrant and contested field of Africana Studies by critically exploring and analyzing the links and disjunctures in the cultural, political, and intellectual practices and experiences of people of African descent throughout the African diaspora. Beginning with a critical overview of the history, theoretical orientations, and multiple methodological strategies of the discipline, the course is divided into three thematic units that examine intellectuals, politics, and movements; identity construction and formation; and literary, cultural, and aesthetic theories and practices in the African diaspora.
Professor Hamlin

AFRI 0210: Afro Latin Americans and Blackness in the Americas
This course focuses on the position of Blacks in the national histories and societies of Latin America from slavery to the present-day. Emphasis is on a multidisciplinary engagement with issues and the exposure of students to the critical discussion of national images and realities about blackness and Africa-descended institutions and practices. The role of racial issues in national and transnational encounters and the consequences of migration of people and ideas within the hemisphere are explored.
Professor Dzidziienyo

AFRI 0600: Race, Gender, and Urban Politics
This course will introduce students to the methods and practice of studying black urban life with a primary focus on US cities. We will critically examine the urban cultural studies debates concerned with race, gender, class and sexuality. The approach of the course will be interdisciplinary, drawing upon works from anthropology, literature, history, music, and film. Topics include tourism, immigration, poverty, popular culture, gentrification, violence, and criminalization.
Professor Perry

AFRI 1010C: Race, Gender, Ethics and Environmental Justice
African Americans, Gender, Ethics and Environmental Justice examines the role of African Americans in the larger environmental history conversation. It utilizes a gendered lens to investigate how African Americans interpreted their natural surroundings and contributed to the development of 20th century American environmental consciousness.
Dr. Fabien

AFRI 1150: 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-Americans, 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

AFRI 1190: Haiti, "A New World, A Free World": History, Art, Politics and Revolution
This course will examine the dual Haitian Revolution as a pivotal moment in the making of the modern world. It will review the various historical interpretations of the Haitian events, examine how these events contribute to or trouble our ideas about modern politics and notions of freedom as well as our conceptions of revolution. The course will engage in these issues by working through three archives: Vodou Religion; The Art of the Revolution and the conventional historiography about the revolution and will be tied to the hosting of a joint Brown/RISD exhibition on Haitian Art. Enrollment limited to 15 juniors and seniors concentrating in Africana Studies, Visual Art, or History; and 15 RISD students.

Professor Bogues

AFRI 1210: Afro-Brazilians and the Brazilian Polity
Explores the history and present-day conditions of Afro-Brazilians, looking specifically at the uses of Africana in contemporary Brazil, political and cultural movements among Afro-Brazilians, domestic politics and its external dimensions, and Brazilian race relations within a global comparative framework. Texts from a variety of disciplines. A reading knowledge of Portuguese is not required but students so advantaged should inform the instructor.

Professor Dzidzienyo

AFRI 1280: Writing About Race in the Post-Civil Rights Era
This seminar is an explanation of the transformation of racial policies, relations and rhetoric since the end of the civil rights era in the United States. We will examine the complex ways race has remained central to US society and yet has dramatically shifted - examining terms such as: color-blind society; integration; political race, racialized (and gendered) community formation.

Professor Rose

AFRI 1620: Black New Orleans: A Research Seminar
Examines the development of a unique African/American cultural and political identity in New Orleans. The seminar focuses on the development of the Faubourg Tremé, the oldest free black community in the United States, and covers the period from 1718 until 1899. Topics include: slavery and resistance; relations between enslaved and free blacks; social and political agitation; and the resulting early development of the nation's Civil Rights movement and legislation. There is discussion also of the formation and continued tradition of artists' and artisans' guilds; Creole language (e.g., Creole slave songs, proverbs); NOLA relationship to the Caribbean and Latin America.

Professor Osbey

AFRI 1630: Modernist Africana Poetry of the Americas
Focus on origins of Modernism among Africana authors of the Americas, with emphasis on the poetry, poetics and poetry movements of Brazil and Latin America, the Caribbean and US from 1888 through the first half of the 20th century. Begins with an overview of innovations wrought by Rubén Darío of Nicaragua, arguably the first modernist poet, and continues with the Harlem Renaissance of the 1910's and 20's; the Brazilian writers at the center of the Week of Modern Art of 1922; Caribbean writers of the Negrismo and Négritude movements; concludes with the work of
such US and Anglophone Caribbean poets as Gwendolyn Brooks, Robert Hayden and Martin Carter.

Professor Osbey

AFRI 2001: Theories of Africana Thought: Intellectual History and Critical Theory
This course will be a close reading of the various ideas, theories and practices of the thinkers, writers, artists and activists whose work and practices have constituted an Africana intellectual tradition. In conducting this review we will examine questions around the formation and the history of thought and intellectual traditions in general. We will also think about the various fields of knowledge which have shaped Africana thought. The course therefore will spend some time working through the different meanings of intellectual work and critical thought and theory. Enrollment limited to 12 graduate students.

Professor Bogues

AFRI 2101: Africana Studies and Interdisciplinarity
This graduate seminar brings together various methodological and theoretical approaches to interpreting Africana life, culture, thought, and politics. Placing special emphasis on emergent scholarship that shapes and reshapes the discipline of Africana Studies, we examine a selection of humanistic and social scientific studies of various local, national, and international contexts. The texts demonstrate the ways in which innovative interdisciplinary methods are crucial for understanding the complexity of the Africana world. We will give attention to the strategies scholars utilize to formulate their research questions, design their methodologies, and create new ideas that contribute to the advancement of Africana Studies scholarship.

Professor Perry

AFRI 2501: Race and Race Making in America, Part II
This is the second half of a graduate seminar-style class focused on the histories of race and race-making in the United States and, to a lesser extent, the Americas. The assigned readings are current and cut across a wide range of methodologies and disciplines. The goal of the class – parts I and II – is to facilitate the completion of a well-written, publishable essay on a topic related to race and race-making.

Professor Guterl

AFRI XLIST: ENGL 0510T American History and the Literary Imagination
This course explores twentieth- and twenty-first-century literary representations of the nineteenth century. We will primarily read novels, poetry, and cultural criticism regarding the U.S.’s antebellum period with particular emphasis on colonial expansion, slavery, and the civil war. We will consider how genre impacts historical interpretation in fictional histories, the recasting of historical events through marginal figures, and the contested though necessary role of memory in both literary and historical discourse.

Professor Clytus

AFRI XLIST: ENGL 0710E Postcolonial Tales of Transition
This course focuses on postcolonial British, Anglo-Caribbean, and South African works that exemplify or refashion the category of the bildungsroman, the novel of education. Issues to be considered include the ways the texts rework archetypal tropes of initiation, development, and the interplay of contradictory passions. We will also think about ways in which issues of race, gender, and sexuality emerge in the texts, and the connections or disjunctions between literature and the
world of actions, reality and individual perception. Writers include Coetzee, Ghosh, Ishiguro, Joyce, Lamming, Marechera, Naipaul, Rhys, Schreiner.

Professor George

AFRI XLIST: HIAA 0770 Architecture and Urbanism of the African Diaspora
This lecture course introduces the built environments in and of "Africa," from the earliest known examples to the contemporary moment. Through a consideration of texts and images, we will interrogate "Africa" as both a construct and concrete geographical entity characterized by diverse cultures, contexts, and histories. In addition to exploring the content of various architectural and urban traditions, we will approach our topic from the point of view of the theoretical paradigms that have governed the historiographical interpretation of particular periods, regions, and cultures. Readings will be arranged thematically and according to chronology and geography. Weekly one-hour section required.

Professor Osayimwese

AFRI XLIST: SCSO 1700C Science and Technology Policy in the Global South
Junior-senior seminar exploring the relationships among science, technology, society, and public policymaking in the Global South. Exemplar countries are South Africa, Brazil, India, and China. Biotech, nanotech, public health, environment, and science training policies are among those closely examined. Three writing assignments, plus electronic conversations with counterparts in the Global South.

Professor Augusto

AFRI XLIST: SCSO 1700Y Cross-Knowledge: Contemporary Indigenous Knowledges and the Sciences
For scholars and practitioners in many fields of natural and social sciences, engineering and technology, and the humanities, an understanding of indigenous knowledges (IKS) and their interaction with other forms of knowledge is becoming imperative. Using theoretical frameworks from an interdisciplinary literature and practitioners’ thinking, as well as cases, this seminar will be a rigorous critical introduction to IKS in contemporary life, probing a variety of locales and epistemic spaces where IKS and science coexist; learning about and interrogating ways to study indigenous knowledges; and thinking about practice where different knowledges and technologies "cross". Four graded writing/digital assignments; no prerequisites.

Professor Augusto

AFRI XLIST: FREN 1710E War Machines: Violence and Social Forms in West Africa
From civil war in Ivory Coast to terrorism in Mali, war and violence in Francophone Africa both provoke and respond to debates about France’s colonial legacy and continued presence on the continent. Yet these phenomena have much to tell us about emerging social relations, new forms of politics, and how ordinary Africans view the future—their own, that of their countries, and of the continent as a whole. This course studies these and related questions in a variety of media, including anthropological texts, written testimonies, novels, documentary films, philosophy, and investigative journalism. Anglophone Africa will also be considered. Taught in English.

Professor Izzo

AFRI XLIST: ENGL 1710P The Literature and Culture of Black Power Reconsidered
This course reexamines the Black Power movement as a signal development in American literature and culture. We will read classics from the period with a view toward reassessing the nuances and
complexities of their form and politics. At the same time, we will recover less familiar texts that complicate conventional understandings of what defines this movement. Authors include Malcolm X, Huey P. Newton, Angela Davis, Eldridge Cleaver, John Edgar Wideman, Ernest Gaines, and Amiri Baraka.

Professor Murray

AFRI XLIST: ENGL 1760T The Texts of Africa
This seminar considers the various ways in which “Africa” has been depicted in fictional and non-fictional writing from the nineteenth-century on. We begin with classic travel writing by European missionaries (Park, Livingstone, Moffat), and their African and black diasporic counterparts (Crowther, Freeman, Sims, Soga). We then turn to twentieth-century literature and non-fiction (Abrahams, Conrad, Dinesen, Greene, Ndebele, Wright), closely following the rhetorical devices used to evoke the continent as geographical or subjective reality. We will pay particular attention to questions of history, linguistic representation, and the vagaries of intercultural encounter.

Professor George

AFRI XLIST: BIOL 1920B Health Inequality in Historical Perspective
Seminar takes a historical perspective to explore causes of health inequality in the US. Draws on studies from the 19th century-present. Examine socio-political and economic context of health/disease, focusing on how race, class, and gender shape the experience of health, disease causality, and public health responses. Includes health consequences of immigration, incarceration, race-based medicine, the Chicago heatwave, and Katrina. BIOL 0200 and work in Africana Studies and/or science/technology courses preferred. Not for biology concentration credit. Suitable as related science or theme course for HHB. Enrollment restricted to 20, third-year students. Override required. Application for entry distributed on first day of class.

Professor Braun

AFRI XLIST: HIST 1979D American Slavery and Its Afterlife
This upper-level seminar considers slavery and its historical and contemporary legacies. Devoting about one third of the semester to an intellectual study of slavery mostly in the nineteenth century, the rest of the course unpacks what many scholars have called, “the afterlife of slavery.” A term introduced by literary scholars, the afterlife of slavery provides an interesting and provocative way to think about American culture and politics in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries as tied firmly to the institution that formed the economic basis of the founding of this nation.

Professor Hamlin

AFRI XLIST: ENGL 2761C Black Internationalism and Its Discontents
This seminar reassesses the broad influence of internationalism in African American letters from the age of abolition to the present. We will be concerned with literary writings that foreground the global struggle of black subjects to assert political agency in relation to Western imperialism and transatlantic slavery. Equally crucial will be a reconsideration of an established body of theoretical writings that conceive of diasporic modes of solidarity and cultural expression as alternatives to the black nationalist intellectual tradition. Authors include Martin Delany, W.E.B Du Bois, Richard Wright, Angela Davis, Brent Edwards, and Paul Gilroy.

Professor Murray