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 Perry

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 Dzidzienyo

AFRI 0660: Activist Scholarship: Research and Writing for Social Change
How can research advance the global social justice struggle? This course will emphasize the idea that education has never been a politically neutral undertaking. Students’ research can have social impact in the university and beyond. We will engage a variety of disciplinary fields to theorize key concepts such as intersectionality of oppression and resistance, power, hegemony, social justice, and activist research. Students will be required to carry out an original research project that tackles a pressing societal problem we face today.
Professor Perry

AFRI 0990: 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 Focuses on analysis of unpublished titles.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 40.
Professor Terry-Morgan
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 American interpreted their natural surroundings and contributed to the development of 20th century American environmental consciousness. This course is reading and writing intensive.
Professor Fabien

AFRI 1020C: The Afro-Luso-Brazilian Triangle
Examines three historical components of the South Atlantic in terms of history, culture, and contemporary political and economic consequences. European colonialism in Africa and Brazil constitutes the baseline for this exploration, but the long and tardy nature of Portuguese colonialism in Africa in comparison with other European colonial powers, especially in its post-World War II manifestations, is our starting point. Enrollment limited to 40.
Professor Dzidzienyo

AFRI 1020E: Race and Visual Culture
This is a sophomore seminar on race and visual media, including everything from high art on canvas to lowbrow film, from the comic book superhero Blank Panther to the Black Panther Party, from the avant-garde to the burlesque, from the web to graffiti to homemade t-shirts. People who sign up for the class should be prepared to read a lot and talk a lot, to regularly get to the RISD museum, to watch a lot of stuff on OCRA, and to maybe take a field trip or two to Boston's MFA and some similar sort of place. Curiosity is required.
Professor Guterl

AFRI 1050A: Advanced RPM Playwriting
Third level of RPM Playwriting; for students that have successfully completed RPM Playwriting and Intermediate RPM Playwriting (workshop). Instructor permission.
Professor Terry-Morgan

AFRI 1050D: 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

AFRI 1050E: 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

AFRI 1050T: Slave Resistance and Moral Order in Environmental History
This course is designed to examine the avenues by which enslaved persons redefined and re-appropriated the natural landscapes that kept them in bondage into direct forms of cultural and political resistance during the antebellum period. We will investigate rice production in South Carolina, the Dismal Swamp, maroon societies, Negro Spirituals, and the Black Judeo-Christian ethic to understand how the natural environment and the institution of slavery shaped slave resistance in the United States. This course is reading and writing intensive.
Professor Fabien
AFRI 1060E: West African Writers and Political Kingdom
Do West African writers have a role to play in the changing political landscape of their countries?
An examination of the ways and means through which a select group of West African writers have dealt with issues that relate to the role of the state in the management of individual and group relations, the politics of gender, civil and military relations, and the construction of new forms of civil society. Enrollment limited to 20.
Professor Dzidziienyo

AFRI 1110: Voices Beneath the Veil
Thirty plays, written by Afro-American playwrights and presented on the American stage between 1858 and the 1990s, are examined as cultural and historical documents of Afro-American realities. Supplementary readings from the humanities and social sciences provide critical framework for in-class discussions and student papers. Instructor permission required.
Professor Terry-Morgan

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-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

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 Dzidziienyo

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. Enrollment limited to 20.
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 Negrisimo and Négritude movements; concludes with the work of
such US and Anglophone Caribbean poets as Gwendolyn Brooks, Robert Hayden and Martin Carter. Enrollment limited to 20.

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 Henry

AFRI 2002: Theories of Africana Thought: Literary and Expressive Cultures
A preoccupation of Africana Studies involves the central yet highly contested role of the notion of what constitutes black culture in the modern world. To what degree can we claim aesthetic and other distinctions between black cultures in the Diaspora and other modern western cultural practices and expressive forms? What role did enslavement, forced migration and segregation play in shaping Africana culture in the modern west? These cultural debates which played a central role in literary, musical, philosophical, aesthetic, historical and sociological analyses of the culture of people of African descent frame this course. Enrollment limited to 12 graduate students.

Professor Guterl

AFRI 2104: Theorizing the Black Diaspora
This seminar will focus on the theorization of the black diaspora as a way to explore the various articulations of colonialism, gendered racism and resistance against that racism throughout African-descendant communities. Course readings will highlight the scholarship of black women who have contributed to the internationalization of radical black vis-a-vis theories of diaspora, transnationalism, transformative politics, identity formation, and community. Enrollment limited to 20.

Professor Perry

AFRI XLIST: BIOL 1920D Race, Difference and Biomedical Research: Historical Considerations
This advanced seminar places the current debate over race, health, and genetics in historical context. An overarching goal is to understand how the social world informs the scientific questions we ask, design of research studies, and interpretation of findings. How have the theories and practices of biomedical science and technology produced knowledge of “race” and racial difference historically? How does race relate to gender and class? What are the implications of this debate for understanding health inequality? Previous coursework in Africana Studies, biomedical science, history of science, and/or science and technology studies preferred. Enrollment limited to 20; instructor permission.

Professor Braun

AFRI XLIST: ENGL 0710B African American Literature and the Legacy of Slavery
Traces the relationship between the African American literary tradition and slavery from the antebellum slave narrative to the flowering of historical novels about slavery at the end of the twentieth century. Positions these texts within specific literary, historical, and political frameworks.
Authors may include Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, Charles Chesnutt, Octavia Butler, and Toni Morrison.

**Professor Murray**

**AFRI XLIST: ENGL 1710J Modern African Literature**
This course considers themes, antecedents, and contexts of modern African literature and related forms. Our readings will include fiction in English or in translation, traditional oral forms like panegyric and festival poetry, and some films. We will examine how these diverse materials explore the interplay of ethnicity, nationality, and race. We will also address the issue of "tradition" in contexts where nationalisms of various stripes are becoming stronger, even as the world becomes more interconnected through trade, immigration, and digital technology. Authors include Achebe, Cole, Dangarembga, Farah, Gordimer, Ngugi, Salih, Soyinka, Wicomb. Films by Blomkamp, Loreau, Sembène.

**Professor George**

**AFRI XLIST: ENGL 2900Z Postcoloniality and Globalism**
Seminar focuses on intersections and disjunctions between two currents in contemporary literary and cultural criticism: “postcolonial theory” and “world literature theory.” We read theoretical statements alongside imaginative literature by writers and critics associated with concepts of postcoloniality, globalism, and diaspora. We thereby stage encounters between theoretical and literary texts in order to explore the varied idioms, genres, and philosophical provocations that the authors present. Themes include: nationalism and “national consciousness”; biopower and “bare life”; historicity and temporality. Texts by Fanon, Ghosh, Hall, Jameson, Laclau, Naipaul, Phillips, Said, Spivak, Walcott. Enrollment limited to 15.

**Professor George**