Spring 2019 Course Offerings

AFRI 0550: African American Health Activism from Emancipation to AIDS
This historical survey course examines African American activism and social movements from Emancipation to the contemporary period through the lens of African American access to health resources. By paying close attention to how social and cultural aspects of medicine impact access and quality of care by race, gender, and sexuality, the course examines how segregation, poverty, incarceration, and policing shaped activism and healthcare. The course develops a sense of how African American activists crafted responses to different historical crises including Reconstruction, Jim Crow, Civil Rights, and the War on Drugs by the demands they made for specific resources. Enrollment limited to students with a semester level of 01 or 02. Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate level students.
Professor Ramos

AFRI 0610: Black Student Protest from Jim Crow to the Present
This is a history-driven class about black student protest. It puts this history in direct dialogue with other kinds of student protests over the long twentieth century. The point of the class is to ground conversations about contemporary protest culture in an historical context that extends well beyond Brown, that moves into the deep history of higher education and education more generally, and that reveals the intersection of protest with other global, national, and local plotlines. It is, as well, meant to think about how all of these histories have been represented popularly and politically in the very recent past. Enrollment limited to students with a semester level of 01 or 02. Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate level students.
Professor Guterl

AFRI 0880: Hip-Hop Music and Cultures
This course will explore both the history of the emergence of Hip Hop and the heated debates that surround it: aesthetics, censorship, sexism, violence, musical theft, originality, authenticity, the politics of cross-racial exchanges, urban black nihilism, and corporate influences on culture. These debates will be framed by our consideration of urban black life, African-American cultural formations, gender, representation, technology, commodification, pleasure and politics. Enrollment limited to 200.
Professor Rose

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 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 1030: Contesting the Carceral State**
This course introduces students to the study of crime and justice through Black, feminist, queer and prison abolitionist frameworks, with a particular focus on narratives by people of African descent in the U.S. since 1965.

**Professor Biggs**

**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 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 Dzidzienyo**

**AFRI 1090: Black Freedom Struggle Since 1945**
Lecture course that examines the extended history of the mass civil rights movement in the U.S. Starting at World War II, we consider the roles of the courts, the federal and state governments, organizations, local communities, individuals and various activist strategies in the ongoing struggle for African American equality, focusing on African American agency, particularly in the South, but also in Boston, Mass. Sources include photographs, documentaries, movies, letters, speeches,
autobiographies, and secondary readings. Requirements: Weekly readings, documentary viewings, 4 short papers, 2 exams.

Professor Hamlin

AFRI 1100B: The Caribbean: Cultures, Politics, Histories and Literature
The Caribbean archipelago has brought forth a new awareness of the region not as a fixed entity of islands as previously viewed; rather, it is a diverse group of islands that are not only geographically linked but share a common history of slavery and colonialism. This course aims to present students with an opportunity to delve into substantive multidisciplinary (social science and literary) texts that seek to analyze, expose and deconstruct forces that continue to shape the Caribbean.

Professor Sylvain

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 poetists, 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 1360: 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. Open to all senior Africana Studies concentrators; others by instructor permission only. Enrollment limited to 25.

Professor Meeks

AFRI 2002: Theories of Africana Thought: Literary and Expressive Cultures
A preoccupation of Africana Studies involves the central, 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 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 play a central role in literary, musical, philosophical, aesthetic, historical and sociological analyses of the culture of people of African descent frame this graduate course.

Professor Biggs

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. This course is open to upper level concentrators in Africana Studies by permission of instructor. Enrollment limited to 20.

Professor Perry