



Africana Studies (AFRA)

Undergraduate/Graduate Course Offerings/Descriptions—Fall 2018

AFRA 107-010—History of Rock

Hamant, A. TR 9:30am-10:45am

AFRA 107-011—History of Rock

Hamant, A. TR 11:00am-12:15pm

AFRA 107-012—History of Rock

Hamant, A. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm

The study of various styles of rock music. Introduction to folk, country, blues and jazz as predecessors to rock. Intended for the non-music major. No music reading skills required. Sections satisfy a Group B requirement. *Cross-listed with MUSC 107-010, MUSC 107-011 and MUSC 107-012.*

AFRA 110-010—Introduction to African American Studies

Dandridge, A. TR 3:35pm-4:50pm

AFRA 110-011—Introduction to African American Studies

Brown, A. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm

AFRA 110-012—Introduction to African American Studies

Serrano, J. TR 8:00am-9:15am

Assesses the status of Black America from early colonial America up to modern times through an examination of the major spheres of institutional life, including employment, education, politics, criminal justice, and the military. Sections satisfy a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 134-010—History of Africa

Maloba, W. MWF 11:15am-12:05pm

Introduction to African history south of the Sahara, from the earliest times to 1914. Introduces major themes in African history: pre-colonial African political, social and economic institutions; diversity in African political organizations; slave trade and colonialism. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with HIST 134-010.*

AFRA 205-010—Contemporary African American Issues: Addressing Social, Political, Educational and Economic Inequality

Smith, A. TR 11:00am-12:15pm

Through an interdisciplinary lens this course will explore current social, political, educational and economic inequities facing the black community and critically assess their causes, effects, and possible solutions (i.e. disenfranchisement, the school-to-prison pipeline, mass incarceration, policing, and poverty). Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 205-011—Contemporary African American Issues: Art in the Age of Black Lives Matter

Barber, T. MW 8:40am-9:55am

#BlackLivesMatter has figured prominently in the global public imaginary in recent years. This rallying cry and the network it has spurred are seen as extensions of the modern Civil Rights Movement. But what does art have to do with it? In this class, we will explore the place of art--from fine art to television and film to popular music--within black protest traditions and within our contemporary political moment more broadly. What can art teach us about social histories, the practice of democracy, and envisioning alternative futures? What is the relationship between art and activism, race and representation? What are (black) artists' social responsibilities, if any? We will wrestle with these questions through readings that historicize #BlackLivesMatter, the long Civil Rights Movement, and various forms of art produced within and alongside these cultural phenomena. We will also interrogate these movements' linear correlations and the ways in which black resistance has been thought as loud, violent, and reparative on the one hand and quiet or anti-redemptive on the other. Possible texts include: Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," Malcolm X's "The Ballot or the Bullet," Larry Neal's "The Black Arts Movement," Kevin Quashie's *The Sovereignty of Quiet*, Safiya Umoja Noble's "Teaching Trayvon," Shana L. Redmond's *Anthem*, Kendrick Lamar's 2016 Grammy performance, Beyonce's "Lemonade," Solange's "A Seat at the Table," and *Get Out*. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.





AFRA 206-010—Survey of African American Culture

Serrano, J. MWF 12:20pm-1:10pm

Historic and contemporary aspects of African American culture. A multi-faceted approach utilizing resources from history, literature, art, music, film, folklore, and anthropology. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 207-010—History of Jazz

Brown, M. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm

Chronological study of the style changes in jazz from the late 19th century to the present. Emphasis on the sociological, economic and technological influences of the period and on the principal personalities who have been primarily responsible for change. Section satisfies a Group B requirement. *Cross-listed with MUSC 207-010.*

AFRA 215-010—Race in Society

Johnson, M. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm

Social definitions of race, how race is incorporated into social institutions and how race structures relationships among diverse groups in society. Includes analysis of rights and privileges denied or extended to groups and how disadvantaged groups work towards racial equality. Section satisfies a Group C requirement. *Cross-listed with SOCI 215-010*

AFRA 220-010—The Civil Rights Movement

Gill, T. TR 11:00am-12:15pm

This course will examine the intense period of African American social and political activism from the 1940-1980s. Through readings, lectures, discussions and film, the course will address issues such as: the rise of non-direct action social protest, the struggle for voting rights, the role of women in the civil rights movement, the rise of black power, and debates over integration and nationalism. Particular attention will be paid to exploring the intersections of history and memory, as well as exploring the unfinished battles of the Civil Rights Movement in the 21st century. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with HIST 220-010.*

AFRA 225-010—Black Male Experience

Brown, A. MWF 2:30pm-3:20pm

Who are Black males, really? And how do *their* experiences affect *us*? To answer these questions, this course explores the complex and diverse experiences of Black males in contemporary U.S. society by examining the various factors impacting their lives such as family, education, prison, sports, relationships, etc. This course provides a better understanding of the thoughts and practices of Black males as well as the impact they have on society as a whole. In this course students will develop a critical understanding of, and a healthy sensitivity toward, the Black male experience. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 240-010—Create Performances About Black American History Using All Art Forms

El-Amin, H. TR 11:00am-12:15pm

Culminate in the creation of new theatrical works based in African American History using Theatre, Music, Dance, Writing, Literature, Painting, Sculpture, Sets, Costumes, Lighting, Sound, and Multi-media. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with THEA 240-010.*





AFRA 304-010—African American History to the Civil War

AFRA 304-011—African American History to the Civil War

Brown, A. MWF 10:10am-11:00am

This course will explore the development of race, gender, work and culture from the colonial era through the Civil War. Using primary and secondary sources, we will explore the social, political, religious and economic factors that produced change and transformation in the lives of African American men and women. This course has a number of goals, including providing a broad introduction to the interdisciplinary field of African American Studies. Through history, art, religion, film, music and cultural criticism, we will discuss and explore the construction of African-American identities during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Sections satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. **Section 011 satisfies the Arts & Sciences Second Writing Requirement.** *Cross-listed with HIST 325-010 and HIST 325-011.*

AFRA 305-010—Race, Image in Media/Culture

Barber, T. M 6:00pm-9:00pm

What does the anticipation and worldwide success of recent films such as *A Wrinkle in Time* and *Black Panther* tell us about the matters of representation? In this course, students will evaluate various forms of media that prompt nuanced understandings of black social life in the digital age, from film to Black Twitter to video games. What is diaspora? Where do we locate blackness? How do we make sense of our everyday encounters with difference, desire, pain, pleasure, and the future? Students will analyze images, narratives, performances of identity (including race, gender, sexuality, ability, nationality, and other socially constructed markers), and their relationships to black diasporic culture in the broadest possible sense--from fine art to entertainment media to practices of everyday life. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement.

AFRA 307-010—Black Thought and Philosophy

Richardson, J. TR 2:00pm-3:15pm

Readings and discussions of Black philosophies, ideologies and concepts as reflected in the thought of significant Black figures. This class will focus on Dr. Martin Luther King's contributions to twentieth-century philosophical thought. We will also consider what Dr. King's writing offers to philosophical dilemmas in our own historical moment. How does Dr. King speak to earlier thinkers from the Harlem Renaissance and the African Diaspora? How does he speak to today's social and political movements? Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements.. *Cross-listed with PHIL 307-010.*

AFRA 315-010—Returning the Gaze: Issues in Black Photography

McGee, J. TR 9:30am-10:45am

A critical race art history of blacks as subjects, producers, and theorists of photography. Includes examination of issues, ideas, and creativity with respect to African American and African diasporic photography from the late nineteenth century to the present day. Topics range from portraiture and documentary photography to considerations of race and representation, black consciousness, strategies of resistance and identity formation, class, sex, and gender. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 325-010—Contemporary Black Art & Visual Culture

McGee, J. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm

Examines the art of the African diaspora since the 1960s. Topics include the Black Arts Movement in the U.S. and Britain, Abstract Expressionism, the AfriCobra movement, recycled stereotypes, installation art and black performance art. How and to what degree are black cultural themes, such as the concept of "blackness" or Afrocentrism visualized by artists? What can we learn from the Kobena Mercer's diasporic model of criticism that gives close attention to aesthetic strategies while tracing the shifting political and cultural contexts in which black visual art circulates. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with ARTH 345-010*





AFRA 326-010—The African Diaspora and the World

Ramsay, G. TR 11:00am-12:15pm

The term “African Diaspora” has been used to refer to the grouping of diverse peoples and cultures that have retained a consciousness of shared origins and are identified as part of a cultural and social continuum with other communities of African origin, including those that remained on the African continent. The concept of an African diaspora allows us to speak of continuities and connections within the African world experience, without compromising the uniqueness and historical, geographical and cultural specificities of cultures in the African diaspora. The class will address the following main topics: history and geography of the African diaspora; slavery and responses to slavery (rebellions and revolutions); the “big thinkers” of the African diaspora, cultural manifestations (music and religion); discourses of whiteness, and ways to remember the Motherland. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with ANTH326-010.*

AFRA 327-010—Race, Gender, Science

Andreasen, R. TR 9:30am-10:45am

A critical analysis of the concepts of race, sex, and gender. We will examine these concepts in science, medicine, and/or in public policy – both historically and in contemporary American society. We will also discuss ethical issues surrounding the use of these concepts as well as how they would be understood and the role that they would play in a society free of racism and sexism. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with CGSC 327-010, PHIL 327-010 and WOMS 327-010.*

AFRA 334-010—African American Women’s History

AFRA 334-011—African American Women’s History

Gill, T. TR 2:00pm-3:15pm

This course explores the diversity of African American women’s lives and development of women, work, and culture from the colonial era through the late 20th century. Course topics examine the social, political, religious and economic factors affecting change and transformation in the lives of African American women. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. **Section 011 satisfies the Arts & Sciences Second Writing Requirement.** *Cross-listed with HIST 334-010 and WOMS 334-010.*

AFRA 345-010—African American Literature II

Spaulding, A. T. TR 9:30am-10:45am

Literature by African American writers from the Harlem Renaissance to the present. Section satisfies a Group B, the University multicultural and the **Arts & Sciences second writing** requirements. *Cross-listed with ENGL 345-010*

AFRA 355-010—Inequality, Crime and Justice

Fleury-Steiner, B. TR 11:00am-12:15pm

Introduction to challenges in addressing crime in multiracial, multiethnic, class-stratified society. This context serves as backdrop for inquiry into crime causation operations of the criminal justice system, and experiences of relevant actors. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. *Cross-listed with CRJU 355-010 and SOCI 356-010.*

AFRA 375-010—Peoples and Cultures of Modern Latin America

Guerron-Montero, C. TR 8:00am-9:15am

Latin America (understood as the areas of the ‘New World’ colonized by Latin countries, Spain and Portugal) is a land of continuity and change, a land of contrasts. This course studies the forces that generate these contrasts. In each section of the course, students gain an appreciation for the major topics, themes, and processes that have shaped (and continue to shape) Latin America. The course focuses on issues of gender, race, class and culture, and discusses the historical, political, economic and social experiences of Latin Americans in the Americas. Main themes covered in the class include gender and ethnic/racial relations, the role of the state and the military, human rights, globalization and migration. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with ANTH 375-010.*





AFRA 381-010—Understanding Black Men in the Streets and in Prison

Payne, Y. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm

Examines development of a street identity in Black men in the community and the criminal justice system, particularly as a result of inadequate economic and educational opportunity. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with SOCI 381-010.*

AFRA 391-010—Interdisciplinary Approaches to African American Studies (4 credits)

Serrano, J. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm & F 10:10am-11:00am

Develops methodology-based skills allowing for systematic thought and conduct of research on Black Americans in the African Diaspora. **Course required for AFRA majors.**

AFRA 392-010—Brazil in the Modern World

HIST 392-011—Brazil in the Modern World

Buckley, E. MWF 2:30pm-3:20pm

Examines the history of Brazil over five hundred years, from first indigenous contact with Europeans through independence, urban industrialization and Brazil's current place on the global stage. The course highlights parallels between Brazil's national history and that of other Latin American and developing countries worldwide. Comparisons to U.S. history and culture are also emphasized. Topics include colonial economies and society; gender & class dynamics; slavery, abolition and racial ideologies; poverty & social fracture; and revolutionary political movements of the 20th century. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.

Section 011 satisfies the Arts & Sciences Second Writing Requirement. *Cross-listed with HIST 392-010.*

AFRA 415-010—Race, Class and Gender

Payne, Y. MW 8:40am-9:55am

Analysis of current American social issues that show interrelationship of race, class and gender. Readings from sociology, Afro-American studies, feminist studies, history and literature. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement and the Arts & Sciences second writing requirements. *Cross-listed with SOCI 415-010 and WOMS 415-010*

AFRA 418-010—Race, Gender and Poverty

Johnson, M. TR 3:30pm-4:45pm

An examination of contemporary American poverty with attention to race and gender as fundamental dimensions of inequality. Social policy, employment and family composition are key topics. Section satisfies the Arts & Sciences second writing requirement. *Cross-listed with SOCI 418-010 and WOMS 418-010.*

AFRA 431-010—Race and Health

Cooper, C. MWF 2:30pm-3:20pm

Examines the health status of socially disadvantaged racial and ethnic groups in the US. Attention will be focused on the biology and how it interacts with socioeconomic status and behaviors. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. *Cross-listed with SOCI 413-010.*

AFRA 437-010—Race, Class and American Democracy

Martin, J. W 6:00pm-9:00pm

This course will explore, both theoretically and historically, the intersection of race, class and democracy in the United States. We will consider a variety of mainstream and oppositional theoretical frameworks regarding American democracy, Capitalism and Race. We will focus on a number of distinct historical eras (e.g., the American Founding; Reconstruction, etc.). The concluding section focuses on the contemporary era, an intense political competition over the legacy and continued legitimacy of every major policy development since the Progressive era – when it comes to matters of race and class. *Cross-listed with POSC 437-010.*





POSC 355-010—Urban Politics

Davis, T. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm

Former Speaker of the House Tip O’Neill is well known for saying that “all politics is local.” Among the many reasons to study of urban politics are: 1) more than 80% of the U.S. population lives in an urbanized area (and 50% of the world’s population lives in an urban area); 2) urban areas are the location of the most critical problems facing society (poverty, unemployment, inadequate housing, crime, transportation, education, land use, poor race relations, etc.), and 3) the importance of politics in urbanized areas lies in the role it plays with respect to the broader political and social systems. The objective of this course is to examine the evolution of urban communities, the framework for urban governance and politics, power structures and leadership, and the array of contemporary challenges and problems in urban society. The focus will be the interaction of diverse social, political and economic structures of cities, suburban and metropolitan areas. *Course is approved as an elective for the AFRA major and minor elective requirement.*

POSC 433-010—African Politics

Bauer, G. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm

This course provides students with a broad overview of contemporary politics and society in Africa (excluding North Africa). The course begins with a brief examination of pre-colonial and colonial Africa, before moving on to the rise of nationalism in the 1950s and the overthrow of colonial rule beginning in the 1960s. The course considers the emergence of single party and military rule in many African countries after independence, and then examines the political transitions of the last three decades. The course also investigates African economies in the post-independence and post-transition periods, with a focus on ‘Africa Rising.’ Further, the class touches upon social identities including religion, ethnicity, and gender. The course relies upon films, novels, scholarly journal articles and social media resources; it concludes with student presentations of critical issues facing Africa today such as China in Africa, Africa's natural resources, information and communication technologies in Africa, the role of diasporas and more. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. *Course is approved as an elective for the AFRA major and minor elective requirement.*

POSC 436-010—Politics and Literature: African Politics and African Literature

Bauer, G. MW 8:40am-9:55am

This class will consider politics in Africa, from the pre-colonial period to the present, through literature. We will read six novels by African writers (and view films by African filmmakers) that will help us to understand pre-colonial and colonial Africa, the early years of independence, strife and war on the continent, the roles of ethnicity and religion, particular issues facing women and girls, the hope of more recent economic and political transitions and the increasing place of ‘new diasporas’ across the continent and beyond. There will be a significant amount of reading and writing and students will assist in leading class discussion and participate in group-based class presentations. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with WOMS436-010 and LLCU 436-010.*

