



Africana Studies Department (AFRA)

Undergraduate & Graduate Course Offerings/Descriptions for Spring 2020

AFRA 107-010—History of Rock

Baab, S. TR 9:30am-10:45am

AFRA 107-011—History of Rock

Baab, S. TR 11:00am-12:15pm

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. Section satisfies 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

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

AFRA 110-011—Introduction to African American Studies

Stanford, B. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm

AFRA 110-012—Introduction to African American Studies

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

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. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 205-010—Contemporary African American Issues: Environmental Justice

Richardson, J. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm

This course will examine environmental justice efforts that are being driven by African Americans and other people of color as a response to polluting companies and racial and economic disparities in the application of environmental protections. The course will address some of the major struggles that have and are reshaping how we define the “environmental movement”, who we see as environmentalists and why it matters now more than ever. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 205-011—Contemporary African American Issues: African Antiquity

Serrano, J. MWF 1:25pm-2:15pm

This course will examine the history, literature and culture of ancient Egypt and its peoples from African origins of ancient Egyptian civilization to its decline at the time of Cleopatra (in ancient Greco-Roman Egypt) and in particular as understood from Cheikh Anta Diop and W.E.B. Du Bois and other perspectives. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 206-010—Survey of African American Culture: Sports, Street & Hip Hop

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

This course examines the interconnected relationship between Hip Hop, sports and “street” culture and how they work to reinforce or challenge social values. We explore the practice of each as a form of cultural, social, and identity politics and activism. This allows us to understand the origins of Black expression and its influence on popular culture, in both the U.S. and global context. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 215-010—Race in Society

Stanford, B. MW 5:00pm-6:15pm

This course examines social definitions of race, how race is incorporated into social institutions and how race structures relationships among diverse groups in society. Topics covered in the course include: 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 227-010—Popular Music of the Global South

Miller, C. TR 11:00am-12:15pm

Introduces students to popular musical styles that connect the transatlantic diaspora and inform the diversity of music genres from the Global South; introduces music as a cultural device and an aspect of political and sociological struggles for democracy and a cultural space for racial integration. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with MUSC 227-010.*

AFRA 230-010—Introduction to Politics and Social Justice

Oskooii, K. MWF 1:25pm-2:15pm

In order to challenge discrimination and oppression, it is vital to understand how systems of discrimination develop and are perpetuated and how these are challenged. This class will familiarize students with key concepts and issues in social justice, including: social construction, discrimination, privilege, systemic oppression, implicit bias and social activism. Because issues of social justice span the globe, this class will emphasize the links between both American and global social justice issues. Section satisfies a Group C requirement. *Cross-listed with POSC 230-010.*

AFRA 248-010—African American Art

McGee, J. MW 8:40am-9:55am

Survey of the fine arts produced by people of African descent in the United States. Explores issues regarding identity and aesthetics with a focus on their negotiation of the art world given its history of racial exclusion. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with ARTH 248-010.*

AFRA 250-010—Afro Future Females

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

This course focuses on visual, literary, and sonic representations of black womanhood of the 20th and 21st centuries in the context of black woman-authored speculative fiction and discourses of futurity. Through closely looking at and listening to visual, literary, and sonic texts by black women, we will consider social constructions of race, gender, and sexuality; the significance of self-fashioning; and notions of community and belonging. Section satisfies a Group A, Arts & Sciences second writing and the University multicultural requirements.

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

Barber, T. TR 3:30pm-4:45pm

What does Black Panther tell us about the matters of black representation now? In this course, students evaluate various forms of media that prompt nuanced understandings of black social life in the digital age, from mainstream film to Black Twitter to video games. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement.

AFRA 306-010—African American History Since the Civil War

AFRA 306-011—African American History Since the Civil War

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

This course surveys African American history from 1865 to the present. Students will examine the social, cultural, economic, and political forces that have shaped and reshaped the lives of African Americans in the United States since the end of the Civil War. Course topics include (but are not limited to): Reconstruction, the age of Jim Crow, the Great Migration(s), Black freedom movements, the Civil Rights Movement, Black Power, mass incarceration, and contemporary “race relations.”

Both sections satisfy a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. **Section 011 satisfies the Arts & Sciences second writing requirement.** *Cross-listed with HIST 326-010 and HIST 326-011.*





AFRA 307-010—Black Thought and Philosophy

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

This course will be a critical analysis of twenty-two Black thinkers and how they answer the following question: What is freedom? We will examine the lives and thought of Maria Stewart, Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, Bayard Rustin, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, Angela Davis, Steve Biko, Audre Lorde, Howard Thurman, Maya Angelou and others. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with PHIL 307-010.*

AFRA 321-010—Black Women and Popular Culture

Ford, T. TR 3:30pm-4:45pm

The American public is fascinated with black women's sexuality, their performance of gender (non) normativity, and their perceived criminality. This course will introduce students to cutting-edge black feminist and queer theory as it examines representations of black women in contemporary popular culture and digital media. Activities and assignments will focus on real and fictional black women such as Michelle Obama, Beyonce, Olivia Pope ("Scandal"), and "Awkward Black Girl." Students will view and analyze a wide range of primary sources—including fashion magazines, films, novels, music videos, and album cover art. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. *Cross-listed with WOMS 331-010.*

AFRA 322-010—Politics and the African American Experience

Davis, T. TR 9:30am-10:45am

This course is for anyone interested in the study of Blacks', as a proxy for racial minorities', struggle for inclusion into the social, political, and economic arenas of America. The first objective is to provide students with an insight and understanding of the complex role that race plays in America's political system and society. The second objective is to discuss racial inequality and inequity in America as a political phenomenon. The final objective is to explore the legal challenges and responses of the racial majority to racial minorities' quest for social, political, and economic rights. The demise of the Civil Rights Movement and the transition to new social movements such as Black Lives Matter will serve as the basis for discussion. Among the areas explored are: 1) Blacks' political activity and behavior (i.e., representation, apathy, mobilization, etc.), and 2) how politics contribute to racial differences in quality of life (i.e., health, poverty, life expectancy, etc.) and standards of living (i.e., employment opportunities, income, housing, etc.) Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. *Cross-listed with POSC 322-010.*

AFRA 324-010—The Art of Social Change

Gaiter, C. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm

Twentieth century international liberation artists' works are examined from interdisciplinary perspectives. Students will observe and write about art works using behavioral science methods. Interaction with contemporary social change artists and one visual project are part of the course. Section satisfies a Group C, the University multicultural and the Arts & Sciences second writing requirements. *Cross-listed with ART 324-010.*

AFRA 334-010—African American Women's History

AFRA 334-011—African American Women's History

Hicks, C. MWF 11:15am-12:05pm

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 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 373-010—Sociology of Gangster Rap Music and Culture

Payne, Y. TR 9:30am-10:45am

Critical look at evolution of Gangster Rap music and culture in low-income Black communities. Also, this course focuses on how "street identified" Black youth and adults or those engaged in crime as a lifestyle have organized a socio-political and economic movement through their music. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements. *Cross-listed with SOCI 373-010.*

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

Mejia, R. MWF 9:05am-9:55am

This course studies anthropologically the debate on the invention of Latin America, otherness, and the question about its modernity. It studies its changes and continuities. It navigates through the categories of culture, race, class, and gender. It discusses the diverse historical, political, economic and social experiences of Latin Americans, focusing on ethnic-racial and gendered relations, the role of the state, power mechanisms, migration and refuge, human rights and social movements. It emphasizes the experiences of indigenous and Afro-Latin American groups in countries such as Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela. Section satisfies a Group B, the University multicultural and DLE requirements. *Cross-listed with ANTH 375-010* **NOTE: Course will be taught in Spanish.**

AFRA 395-010—Pan Africanism

AFRA 395-011—Pan Africanism

Maloba, W. W 3:35pm-6:35pm

Traces the rise, development and varied expressions of the drive towards the liberation and unity of black people on the continent (Africa) and in the diaspora. Covers liberation struggles in Africa and the Civil Rights movement in the United States. Both sections satisfy a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. **Section 011 satisfies the Arts & Sciences second writing requirement.** *Cross-listed with HIST 395-010 and HIST 395-011.*

AFRA 436-010—African Politics and Literature

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

This class considers politics in Africa from the pre-colonial period through the present, through literature. We read six African novels that help us to better understand life in one part of Africa before the onset of colonialism, the experience of colonialism, the early years of independence, strife and war, the roles of ethnicity, gender and religion, the hope and aspirations of recent political transitions and the increasing place of new diasporas. Section satisfies a Group A requirement. *Cross-listed with POSC 436-010.*

AFRA 439-010—Topics in African Politics

Davis, T. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm

The primary focus of this course is the region south of the Saharan Desert on the African continent. Sub-Saharan Africa is rich in natural resources, and it is a region of great cultural and geographic diversity. Yet it is the part of the world that shares the misfortune of having some of the poorest countries in the world. According to the World Data Lab projections, in 2030, 73 million Africans will represent the bulk of the world's youth living in extreme poverty.





AFRA 439-010—Topics in African Politics (continued)

Davis, T. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm

This class will take a critical look at the character of development and governance in sub-Saharan Africa. While on one hand, sub-Saharan Africa is a continent that is at risk developmentally, on the other it is poised for what many refer to as the “African Renaissance.” This is not a class about politics and political systems in Africa per se, rather it is about: 1) understanding the social, political, and economic issues confronting post-colonial Africa, 2) understanding the issues associated with human development and poverty reduction in Africa, and 3) identifying and discussing strategies to improve governance and human development on the continent. *Cross-listed with POSC 439-010.*

AFRA 490-010—Senior Colloquium

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

A required research/methodological component to the AFRA major. Students will integrate the knowledge they have developed throughout their undergraduate academic careers into a final research project. *Junior and Senior majors only.*

AFRA 649-010—Civil Rights Law and Policy

Ware, L. TR 2:00pm-3:15pm

Examines the origin and evolution of the laws and policies that govern the rights of African-Americans and other people of color in the United States. Examines emerging approaches to civil rights scholarship and considers the implications of the Supreme Court’s recent embrace of a conservative posture in civil rights issues. *Cross-listed with UAPP 649-010, LEST 649-010 and UAPP 449-010.*

AFRA 650-010—Black Community Studies: Street Ethnography

Payne, Y. W 12:20pm-3:20pm

This course will explore the dominant theories, methodologies and empirical approaches used to study low-income Black and Brown urban communities particularly within the field of urban or street ethnography. Specifically, historical and contemporary forms of analysis, with an emphasis on crime, will be used to ethnographically examine street identified Black and Brown populations (i. e., Black youth and school violence, street life oriented Black men and women; prison re-entry; Latino youth in the streets, etc.) across the following three physical sites and/or institutions: (1) local communities, (2) schools; (3) and the criminal justice system. Further, students will be challenged to organize complex arguments with respect to internal characteristics, (i.e., attitudes, temperament), individual behavior (i.e., physical violence) and social structural systems (i.e., economic or criminal justice system). Also, the course will be grounded in a phenomenological orientation—in that the course will move from the perspective of those being studied (i.e., Black and Brown populations involved with/affected by the criminal justice system)—their assumptions; their ideas; their perspectives will be privileged and presented as the course’s core frame of reference. *Cross-listed with SOCI 650-010, EDUC 610-010 and UAPP 610-010.*

AFRA 651-010—Becoming a Public Scholar Activist

Coleman, M. T 2:00pm-5:00pm

What does it mean to be a public-scholar activist in the 21st century? Analyzes the concepts, challenges and practices of public scholar-activists, with a focus on inspirational/motivational content. Begin with the connection between the humanities and its connection to black communities and wider society, the lives of public scholar/spiritual activists, and theories about public scholarship. Students will form and reflect on their own identities of public scholars.

