Africana Studies Department (AFRA)
Undergraduate & Graduate Course Offerings/Descriptions for Spring 2022
(2/7/2022 - 5/17/2022)

AFRA 107-010—History of Rock
England Baab, S.  MWF 11:15am-12:05pm
This course offers a critical survey of American popular music as both a sonic and social phenomenon. We will trace the chronological development of popular music as a broad family of styles and genres, beginning with the birth of rock n’ roll and focusing on the period between 1950-2000. Musical developments will be explored within a rich historical context that includes important conversations about the intersections of music, race, gender, and class. Intended for the non-music major. No music reading skills required. Section satisfies a Group B requirement. Cross-listed with MUSC 107-010 and MUSC 107-011.

AFRA 110-010—Introduction to African American Studies
Serrano, J.  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 110-012—Introduction to African American Studies
Davis, T.  TR 2:00pm-3:15pm
This course examines the intellectual and theoretical basis of Africana Studies as an academic discipline. It uses a multidisciplinary approach to describe the significance of the Black American experience in America’s history and culture (i.e., through the Arts and Humanities). It introduces Africana Studies as a systematic way of examining the American society through the social, political, and economic experiences of Blacks as a racial minority. Finally, it explores the overarching components of Africana/Pan-Africanist thoughts. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 205-010—Contemporary African American Issues: Environmental Justice
Richardson, J.  MW 8:40am-9:55am
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 206-010—Survey of African American Culture: Wages of Whiteness
Stanford, B.  MW 3:35pm-4:50pm
Whiteness Studies focuses on how “White” developed as a racial category and how various ethnic/national groups (e.g., Irish, Italians, Jews, Germans) came to be included under that racial label. However, nearly a century ago, in 1935, sociologist W.E.B. Du Bois referred to the public and psychological wages of Whiteness—in part, meaning that the societal gravity or weight that the label “White” tends to carry. In this course, not only will we examine the socio-historical construction and development of whiteness as it relates to these various ethnic/national groups, but we will examine the empirical evidence that illuminates how much race/whiteness weighs in peoples minds -- explicitly and implicitly -- when they make decisions in various quality of life contexts -- for these contexts/decisions have grave implications for quality of life. In sum, if Du Bois’ assertion was correct -- that the problem of the 20th century was the problem of the color-line --, the question for us now is whether or not the color-line has created a crisis for the human future and if that crisis is one of whiteness -- tracing back to the falsified essence of a racial identity. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements.
AFRA 215-010—Race in Society
Stanford, B.  
MW 6:30pm-7:45pm
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 220-010—the Civil Rights Movement
Stanford, B.  
MW 5:00pm-6:15pm
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 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 and the University multicultural requirements. Cross-listed with POSC 230-010.

AFRA 240-010—Black History Live On Stage
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 306-010—African American History Since the Civil War
AFRA 306-011—African American History Since the Civil War
Hicks, C.  
TR 3:30pm-4:45pm
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
Richardson, J.       MW  3:35pm-4:50pm
This course will be a critical analysis of Black thinkers. We will take Martin Luther King, Jr. as our central focus, reading selected predecessors, contemporaries and current thinkers from America and the African Diaspora to provide a global context and a broader view of approaches to the central question of how best to achieve freedom in an America that King describes as afflicted by racism, economic exploitation and militarism. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. Cross-listed with PHIL 307-010. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements.  Cross-listed with PHIL307-010.

AFRA 321-010—Black Women and Popular Culture
Gaiter, C.          TR  5:00pm-6:15pm
Students learn how contemporary Black women defy historical expectations and cultural assumptions to craft new and empowering representations in popular culture. Discussing real and fictional Black women in society and culture, students study media sources using visual communication, black feminist, and queer theories. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements. Cross-listed with WOMS 331-010.

AFRA 324-010—The Art of Social Change
Gaiter, C.        TR  6:30pm-7:45pm
Students write about creative methods of changing behavior regarding climate change--through the lens of identity. We view and discuss recent international social change artists’ works. We use Sociology, Behavioral Science, and Art and Design tools for social change. Section satisfies a Group C, the University multicultural and the Arts & Sciences second writing requirements. Cross-listed with ART 324-010.

AFRA 334-010—Black Women’s History Since 1865
AFRA 334-011—Black Women’s History Since 1865
Hicks, C.            TR  11:00am-12:15pm
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 336-010—American Slavery
AFRA 336-011—American Slavery
Benjamin Golden, K.  MWF  10:10am-11:00pm
In this class we will examine the institution of slavery from 1619 through the Civil War. This course has a number of goals, one of which is to examine the ways enslaved people experienced and transgressed slavery over space and time within colonial and antebellum North America. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. **Section 011 satisfies the Arts & Sciences Second Writing Requirement.** Cross-listed with HIST 335-010 and HIST 335-011.

AFRA 355-010—Inequality, Crime and Justice
Gray, A.            MW  3:35pm-4:50pm
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 11:00am-12:15pm
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 418-010—Race, Gender and Poverty
Bouek, J. M 5:00pm-8:00pm
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 445-010—Black Bodies on Display: Race in Museums
McGee, J. T 2:00pm-5:00pm
This course considers the complex and performative nature of museums vis-à-vis race, remembrance and reconciliation with a focus on Black American and African Diasporic history and culture. What role[s] do objects, history, and culture perform under such curatorial and museum mandates and visions? How do changing socio-political and cultural landscapes and challenges to representational politics shape museum practices? Ethno-cultural museums and lieux de mémoire (sites of memory) chronicling, exhibiting, and contextualizing African and African diasporic history and culture have been on the rise since the mid-twentieth century. Considered here are Black cultural institutions, their formation and foundation as well as exhibition histories of Black visual art and culture. Section satisfies a Group B, the University Multicultural and the Arts & Sciences second writing requirement. Open to Juniors & Seniors only. Combined section with ARTH 455-010, AFRA 645-010, ARTH 655-010 and MALS 645-010.

AFRA 490-010—Senior Colloquium
Serrano, J. MW 8:40am-9:55am
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. Open to Junior and Senior majors only.

AFRA 601-010—Africana Research Methods
Serrano, J. R 12:30pm-3:30pm
A multidisciplinary introduction to the range of research methods used to examine history, cultures, and societies particularly from an Africana Studies methodological approach and orientation. This course involves a number of guest speakers (most UD faculty in or affiliated with the Africana Studies Department). Prerequisite: AFRA 600

AFRA 643-010—Africa Under Colonial Rule
Maloba, W. M 3:35pm-6:35pm
Introduces various colonial policies of the European powers in Africa, emphasizing the comparisons and contrasts among these policies. Attention paid to the effect of Colonialism on Africa’s economic, social and political development. Combined section with HIST 643-010.
AFRA 645-010—Black Bodies on Display: Race in Museums  
McGee, J.  
T  2:00pm-5:00pm  
This course considers the complex and performative nature of museums vis-à-vis race, remembrance and reconciliation with a focus on Black American and African Diasporic history and culture. What role[s] do objects, history, and culture perform under such curatorial and museum mandates and visions? How do changing socio-political and cultural landscapes and challenges to representational politics shape museum practices? Ethno-cultural museums and lieux de mémoire (sites of memory) chronicling, exhibiting, and contextualizing African and African diasporic history and culture have been on the rise since the mid-twentieth century. Considered here are Black cultural institutions, their formation and foundation as well as exhibition histories of Black visual art and culture. *Combined section with ARTH 455-010, AFRA 445-010, ARTH 655-010 and MALS 645-010*.  

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  5:00pm-8:00pm  
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*. 