Africana Studies Department (AFRA)
Undergraduate Course Offerings/Descriptions for Winter 2018

AFRA 205-010—Contemporary African American Issues: Racial Politics in Today’s Sports
Brown, A.  MTWRF 10:00am-11:30am
This course examines the recent political statements and demonstrations that have appeared in the sports world. It looks to place them in a racial and socio-economic context and discusses issues of racism, police brutality, power and privilege, and social commentary. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 205-194—Contemporary African American Issues: Black Religion and Spirituality
AFRA 205-195—Contemporary African American Issues: Black Religion and Spirituality
Smith, A.  ON-LINE COURSE
From Egyptian mystery systems and Orisha cosmology, to Islamic poetry and hand-clapping Gospel music, this course, using a multi-disciplinary approach, examines how Blacks in the Diaspora developed diverse ways of describing, making sense of and responding to their lived experiences of the universe. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

AFRA 220-194—The Civil Rights Movement
AFRA 220-195—The Civil Rights Movement
Gill, T.  ON-LINE COURSE
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 220-194 and HIST 220-195.

AFRA 321-194—Black Women and Popular Culture
AFRA 321-195—Black Women and Popular Culture
Ford, T.  ON-LINE COURSE
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.