Africana Studies Department (AFRA)

Undergraduate Course Offerings/Descriptions for Winter 2020

AFRA 293-010—Special Topics in Africana Studies: The Poetry of Black Lives Matter, From Emmett Till to Trayvon Martin
Doaks, C.  MTWRF  2:00pm-3:30pm
Art does not exist in a vacuum, and neither does poetry. Black poets, both past and present, have resisted multiple political regimes through their work. In this class we will explore poets such as Gwendolyn Brooks, Amiri Baraka, Nikki Giovanni, June Jordan, Langston Hughes, Nate Marshall, Ross Gay, Eve Ewing, Danez Smith and others. We will look at historical sites of injustice and how each poet crafts their ideal response. Poetry does not sit still during periods of civil unrest, and neither will we. You will engage with and write alongside our literary ancestors knowing that poetry may not provide answers, but it can offer protest and redress during tumultuous times. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement.

AFRA 367-010—Black Radicals: From DuBois to Black Lives Matter
Smith, A.  MTWRF  12:00pm-1:30pm
Looking at the thought and philosophy of Black radicals from Harriet Tubman and W.E.B Dubois through the Black Panthers and Black Lives Matter. We will also explore Lucy Parsons, Richard Wright, Paul Robeson, Ella Baker, MOVE and others as we examine their connections to anarchism, socialism, communism, environmentalism, and other schools of thought.

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 221-194—Race and Sports in American Society
AFRA 221-195—Race and Sports in American Society
Brown, A  ON-LINE COURSE
This course will examine the salient issues in U.S. society by using the context of sport to explore the social and cultural experiences of African Americans from slavery to today. Students will identify, analyze, discuss and critique theories and concepts regarding race and ethnic relations in U.S. sports. This course will develop critical thinking and analytical skills by comparing and contrasting the experiences of African Americans with other groups. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. Cross-listed with SOCI 221-194 and SOCI 221-195.