

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

COURSE NUMBER: 1211.01

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: M/W 9:55 – 11:35am

INSTRUCTOR: Marne L. Campbell

CORE AREA: Studies in American Diversity

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introductory course designed to give an overview of African American Studies in order to familiarize the student with the history, culture, aspirations, and contemporary issues of the African American experience. The main objective of this course is to explore the experience of African Americans in these larger contexts, the diversity of the African American community as a whole, and the ways in which African Americans have been portrayed throughout history in various venues of mainstream society (such as the media, literature, music, and film). We will examine class, gender, and ethnic differences amongst African Americans during the twentieth century, understanding that there is no monolithic experience within the African American community.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES;

1. Understand the African American experience in the United States.
2. Understand the historical significance of African American Studies as a discipline.
3. Identify the ways in which race operates in American society.
4. Utilize primary source material for critical understandings of how systems of power and privilege operate among marginalized and oppressed communities.
5. Analyze current issues facing the African American community.
6. Apply methodologies and theoretical frameworks of African American Studies to conceptualize current events.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND

N/A

REQUIRED TEXTS

This course will utilize documentary texts with additional readings, which will be available online, through Brightspace. You are also required to watch one film on Netflix (students may need to buy a subscription for that).

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to African American Studies

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 1211.02

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: T/R 9:55 – 11:35am

INSTRUCTOR: Magaela Bethune

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPLE TOPICS:

The aim of this course is to critically examine some of the key concepts, theories, people, events, and artifacts related to the experiences of African-descended people residing in or associated with the stolen land and imaginary and socially-engineered border encompassing "America." This survey course provides broad and interdisciplinary perspectives for examining and exploring the experiences of these peoples - commonly referred to as "African Americans," within historiographic, sociopolitical, and cultural contexts. The aim of this course is to provide students with an overview of the African American experience and some of the major frameworks, ideologies, and theories pertaining to Black and/or African American Studies.

This course is interactive, engaging, and fully delivered online through both synchronous and asynchronous learning activities. As the course instructor, I draw from a bevy of Afrocentric and feminist pedagogies through the integration and facilitation of collaboration, critical dialogue, reflection, and points of praxis.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

In this course, this student will learn:

- the scope, history, and foundations of African American/Black Studies;
- some foundational approaches to African American Studies, including its prominent ideologies, theories, themes and Black intellectual traditions;
- some inquiries and examinations of African American Studies, including Black art, culture, and identity; education; spirituality and religion; and politics; and contemporary applications of African American Studies methodologies and praxis points

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND: None

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Norment, N. (Ed.). (2001). *The African American Studies Reader*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press.

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Learning in this course will be assessed through various modes. Students will be evaluated on their engagement in online learning activities, discussions, performance on quizzes and exams, a roundtable discussion assignment, and a group-based charrette project. Rubrics will be available for students to review expectations for assignments and will be used to structure feedback.

COURSE TITLE: Race & Contemporary Society

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 1998.01/03/04/05

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: See PROWL

INSTRUCTOR: Faculty

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPLE TOPICS:

With particular emphasis upon the contemporary era (i.e., the 1970's forward), this course primarily follows the struggles and triumphs of African Americans through the various developments and contributions of selected intellectuals, artists and religious leaders. Additionally, the course will acquaint students with the history and struggles of selected other ethnic groups in the U.S. via interdisciplinary and intersectional modalities. We will examine some of the cultural, historical, religious, political and artistic influences which have contributed to the survival and empowerment of selected ethnic groups in American society.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The successful student will be able to do the following at the end of the course:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the historical trajectory of the African-American freedom struggle
- Demonstrate an appreciation of African-American artistic and religious diversities
- Articulate in clear manner the influences of specific intellectual and religious leaders upon American ethnic minority groups
- Understand the complexities and nuances of discourse on matters of race, identity, culture and society

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND: N/A

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Stacyann Chinn, *The Other Side of Paradise*

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Students can expect to be evaluated via quizzes, 2-3 essay assignments and a final exam.

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to African American Studies

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 1211.03/04/05/06/07

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: See PROWL

INSTRUCTOR: Faculty

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPLE TOPICS:

This purpose of this course is to provide students with an overview of African American Studies and to familiarize students with significant movements in the intellectual history of the African Diasporic experience. The course will cover important issues such as (but not limited to) enslavement, freedom, justice, citizenship, equality, class, and gender/sexuality politics. Students in this course will become well versed in the myriad of approaches present throughout African American Studies, aware of the seminal debates in disciplinary discourse, and proficient in the inquiry of the African Diasporic experience.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe the African American experience in the United States and the Diaspora during the 20th and 21st century.
- Identify the players and events that allowed for the emergence and maintenance of African American Studies as a discipline in the academy.
- Define and assess theoretical frameworks used within the discipline of African American Studies
- Interrogate the construction and operation of race in an United States context
- Situate contemporary issues facing African Americans within a historic intellectual lineage and framework.
- analyze and evaluate primary and secondary materials
- demonstrate oral & written competency in the analysis of theories and practices

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND: None.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Books, articles, and films are all through Brightspace & Hannon library

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Short Assignments

Essay

Group Project

COURSE TITLE: Black Cultural Arts

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 2221.01

SECTION DAYS/TIMES: MW 9:55-11:35am

INSTRUCTOR: Faculty

CORE: FOUNDATIONS – Studies in American Diversity

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A study of Black American art forms, such as music, dance, theatre, film, television, painting, sculpture and literature as they have developed in the African Diaspora from slavery to the modern age.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In the broadest sense this course aims to lay a foundation upon which to build a deeper understanding of black cultural arts as well as the evolution and diversity of perspectives in characterizing this dynamic collage of cultural production. In terms of student outcomes this course seeks to provide students with a comprehensive, concise, critical and substantive grasp of the major and relevant sociological theories, concepts, social thinkers, cultural critics and socio-economic/political/historical/cultural dynamics that have and continue to inform and construct black cultural arts.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Explain and analyze black cultural arts by applying the core concepts and theories covered in class.
2. Analyze and explain the multiple perspectives that underlie debates on important historical and contemporary issues concerning black cultural arts.
3. Know appropriate linkages between African American social relations and black racial formation that have impacted modes of black cultural production.
4. Identify several fundamental issues concerning the role of commerce and race that impact black cultural arts in American society.

COURSE TEXTS:

The use of the textbooks are key to establishing the framework by which to engage the range of material. This course, however is lecture intensive and involves committed note taking. In other words the texts are necessary to pass the course, but not sufficient to excel in the course.

COURSE TITLE: Comics, Race and Representation

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 2623.01

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: TR 1:45-3:25pm

INSTRUCTOR: Nama

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPLE TOPICS:

Comic books are considered one of only two original American art forms (jazz is the other), and American culture is thoroughly imbued with their influence and iconography. Moreover, comics have been transformed into movies, TV shows and the subject of academic publications. As a central form of popular culture comics have also courted severe criticism as agents of cultural, moral and intellectual decline in American society. Such arguments are particularly resonant when it concerns racial representation within the medium. This course explores many of these perspectives and debates and links the way comics have presented, engaged, promoted and rejected notions related to race and in particular black racial formation in America.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Know the history of the comic book medium and trace its development, focusing on its origins, social and political influences and emerging social trends

- The ability to discuss and write analytically and critically about the political, ethical and ideological implications of the superhero/comic/graphic novel genre concerning the cultural politics of race.

- Identify major aesthetic trends and conventions that make a particular comic genre.

- Demonstrate the ability to deconstruct comics for their encoded ideological message and cultural codes that correspond to race, class, gender and sexual orientation social constructions

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:N/A

REQUIRED TEXTS: TBD

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

- Written Presentation: 100pts
- Two Exams: Midterm is a combination of multiple choice, fill in and short essay exam worth a total of 100pts
- End-term exam is not cumulative only material covered after midterm is of concern and is also worth a total of 100pts.

TITLE: Gospel Choir Gospel Choir II Gospel Choir III Gospel Choir IV

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 2261.01 2262.01 2263.01 2264.01

SECTION/DAYS/TIMES: TBA

LOCATION: TBA

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. William Washington

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Gospel Choir provides students an experience of African-American Gospel Music through artistic, cultural and spiritual means. Students learn to perform vocal music styles representative of Gospel music, including Traditional Gospel, Contemporary Gospel, Praise and Worship, Hymns and Spirituals in a choir rehearsal context. The course includes informal lecture segments, musical demonstrations and church worship experiences both in and out of the classroom. Students are taught basic vocal technique and gospel singing interpretation. The class is conducted primarily in the form of a choir rehearsal. Music is learned mostly by rote, with some score reading introduced. Neither audition nor musical experience required. Class discussions will include theological, scriptural, historical, spiritual, and cultural perspectives of Gospel music and related forms. Live and video-recorded performances as well as guest presenters will enhance students' exposure and understanding of the art form. Course work culminates in a concert presenting repertoire mastered in class.

COURSE TITLE: African American Religious Experience

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 3231.01/02

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: TR 11:50am – 1:30pm/TR 1:45pm-3:25pm

INSTRUCTOR: Martin, Darnise

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS

This course follows the struggles and triumphs of African Americans through the various theological developments and contributions of selected African American theologians, sociologists, intellectuals and religious leaders. We will read and explore notions of freedom and Black Liberationist Theologies via African American experiences from enslavement to the present.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The successful student will be able to do the following at the end of the course:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the historical trajectory of African-American religious practices
- Articulate in clear manner the influences of specific intellectuals and religious leaders upon African-American religious development
- Demonstrate an appreciation of African-American religious diversity

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND

Intro level religion course recommended

REQUIRED TEXTS

James Cone, *A Black Theology of Liberation*

Slave Religion, Albert Raboteau

Additional readings available on the LMU Eres system and MyLMU Connect

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS

Short papers, quizzes, major paper, final exam

COURSE TITLE: Black Community Engagement

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 3643.01

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: TR 11:50am-1:30pm

INSTRUCTOR: Bethune

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPLE TOPICS:

In this course (a major requirement and engaged learning flag), students will actualize the mission of Black Studies within the larger Black community of Los Angeles. They will use their intellectual talents, time, and energy to address the needs of neighbors and organizations. As they share, the students will acquire knowledge and skills that will make them useful to the community. In addition to reading assignments that will provide context for engagement, students will be responsible for oral and written assessments regarding their progress and accomplishments.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Identify key issues of concern and celebration for the Black community
- Recognize impactful and effective organizations and organizers in the community
- Geographically navigate neighborhoods in Los Angeles' Black community
- Use their interdisciplinary training to assess and evaluate community problems
- Work in community, as “men and women for and with others,” to solve problems

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

None

REQUIRED TEXTS:

TBD

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

This course will require students to engage Black community leaders and organizations. Students will spend at least 3 hours each week in service to the community. In addition to the reading assignments and designated class meetings, students will be expected to submit bi-weekly reports and a final report of activities.

COURSE TITLE: American Cinema and Black Representation

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 3623.01

TIMES and SECTIONS: T 6:00-9:20pm

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. A. Nama

Description: In this post-Civil Rights era, African Americans are a part of American culture in ways that reflect not only a high degree of visibility but also extraordinary popularity. Moreover, American cinema has delivered, whether real or fictional, various representations of black people, racial progress and notions of racial pathology. This course examines how Hollywood cinema, has defined the issue of race in American society by offering controversial, entertaining and engaging representations of African Americans. Accordingly, an in-depth exploration of the history and criticism of the Black image in film, the film industry along with issues of audience reception are covered concerning how to critically “read” film for the ideological subtext as well as social and political symbolism. The class is also concerned with connecting the cultural ferment created by the Civil Rights, Black Power Movements of the 1960s and the mainstreaming of Hip-Hop as substantial moments in bringing about many of the changes in the status, role and representation of African Americans in American film.

Required Textbooks:

Guerrero, Ed. Framing Blackness: The African American Image in Film, Temple University Press, Philadelphia, PA: 1993.

Hall, Stuart. Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices. Sage. 1997.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Identify and explain how political-social-historical-cultural factors have influenced and shaped perspectives of the images associated with the African American and fundamental literature, arguments, substantive arguments and critics associated with the intersection of black racial formation in film.
- Explain debates concerning historical and contemporary representations of African Americans by deconstructing debates/issues associated with negative stereotyping and mass media effects.
- Through evaluative essays, exams and oral presentations explain the difference between black cultural criticism and other more traditional approaches to examining film, for its encoded ideological message and cultural appeal to race, class, gender and sexual orientation mythologies that often masquerade as common sense or social fact.

Instructional Methods:

Lecture/Discussion for the first hour of class followed by a screening of a film, documentary or television show. The following meeting will involve a critical lecture and discussion of the material viewed along with the reading assigned.

COURSE TITLE: Social Justice Internship/Research Experience

COURSE NUMBER: 3800

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: MW 3:40-5:20pm

INSTRUCTOR: Marne L. Campbell

CORE AREA: N/A

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An opportunity to connect the academic side of African American Studies with the black community. Students will work with a community organization or conduct research in the area of African American Studies or Social Justice organizations. Students will complete 60 hours of work with a local organization to work with and in the community they serve. Or, students will be paired with a scholar in African American Studies and/or related field and work on a guided research project. The course will provide mentorship in professional development and graduate and professional school preparation.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Understand the needs of local communities of color
2. Improve writing and critical thinking skills
3. Create a community outreach plan for continuing this work beyond LMU
4. Develop a policy paper specifically related to the chosen organization
5. Collaborate and connect with local community outreach programs
6. Apply theoretical frameworks to the work being done

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

N/A

REQUIRED LAB FEE:

TBD

REQUIRED TEXTS:

N/A

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Complete 60 hours of work at an approved organization

Policy Paper

Community Outreach Plan

COURSE TITLE: Hip-Hop Culture

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 4422.01

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: MW: 1:45-3:25pm

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Marne Campbell

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPLE TOPICS:

This course will examine how hip-hop relates to African American philosophical and political ideologies, gender representation, and influences on popular culture. In doing so, this course intends to illuminate the important contributions of African in shaping popular culture in America as well as throughout the African Diaspora. This course will challenge traditional histories that have excluded African Americans. In doing so, this course intends to illuminate the important contributions of African Americans throughout the African Diaspora. In addition to honing critical thinking skills, upon completion of this course, students will have accomplished three goals: 1. They will have a well-rounded understanding of African American culture and it's oral tradition, 2. Understand what African American Studies is as a discipline, and finally, 3. Connect the subject matter of the course to broad social themes that coincide with the university's missions of developing the whole person and social justice.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

In addition to honing critical thinking skills, upon completion of this course, students will have accomplished three goals:

1. They will have a well-rounded understanding of African American culture and it's oral tradition,
2. Understand what African American Studies is as a discipline.
3. Connect the subject matter of the course to broad social themes that coincide with the university's missions of developing the whole person and social justice.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:N/A

REQUIRED TEXTS: TBD

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Quizzes (total) 30%

Class Participation 10%

Group Presentation 25%

Group Project 35%

Total 100 %