

TERM: Fall 2025

COURSE NUMBER & CATEGORY: ENGL 3600: Race, Intersectionality, and Power

COURSE TITLE: Languages of Liberation

TR 1:45-3:25 pm MWF

INSTRUCTOR: Kweku John

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

Have you ever wondered about the role of the CIA in influencing MFA workshops? Or why poets like Maya Angelou stormed UN meetings in the 60s? In this course we will uncover the role of literature, music, and art in combating colonialism during the era of Black Power and African Independence (1950-1970). Moreover, we will investigate how these artistic outpourings spoke against and reinforced propaganda campaigns. Finally, students will appreciate the role of the artistry in speaking against global systems of oppression and inequality.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students will learn advanced close reading strategies.
- Students will appreciate the role of prosody, craft, and revision, in crafting creative texts.
- Students will interrogate the external political, social, and economic factors that undergird literary movements, as well as the theories of race, power, and identity central to the Black Power and Negritude Movements.
- Students will submit a cumulative 10-15 page creative writing portfolio that incorporates elements of decolonization. Students will also submit shorter analysis essays that highlight de-colonial theory and literature.

CLASS LEVEL RESTRICTION:

Junior/Senior Only

RECOMMENDED/PREREQUISITES:

N/A

COURSE ATTRIBUTES:

OLD CURRICULUM

- GENRES (LD)
- HISTORIES (LD)
- AUTHORS (UD)
- CRITICAL/THEORETICAL (UD)
- COMPARATIVE (UD)
- CREATIVE/ARTISTRY

CORE ATTRIBUTES:

N/A

NEW CURRICULUM

- DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH (LD)
- HISTORY OF LIT, MEDIA, AND CULTURE (LD)
- READING AND WRITING GENRES (LD)
- THEORY, POWER, AND RHETORIC (LD)
- PRE-1800 (UD)
- CREATIVE ARTISTRY (UD)
- RACE, INTERSECTIONALITY, AND POWER (UD)
- UPPER-DIVISION ELECTIVE (UD)
- 5000-LEVEL SEMINAR (UD)