COURSE TITLE: Introduction to African American Studies

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 1211

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: T/R 9:50 – 11:20am

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:

Prerequisites: None

REQUIRED TEXTS:


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 discussant 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: INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

COURSE NUMBER: 1211

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: 2:00 – 3:30 M/W

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: Race & Contemporary Society

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 1998.01 and 1998.02

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: TR 11:50 – 1:20pm and TR 1:50 – 3:20pm

INSTRUCTOR: Darnise Martin

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.
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:  TBD

LOCATION:  SACRED HEART CHAPEL

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 HISTORY

COURSE NUMBER: 3211

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: M 6:30 – 9:30

INSTRUCTOR: Stefan Bradley

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The purpose of this synchronous and asynchronous course is to provide young scholars with a foundational understanding of the African American experience. The course will explore the role of the African American experience within the larger context of U.S. History as well as the History of the African Diaspora. In addition to the political, cultural, and economic aspects of African American life, this course investigates the social norms and mores of the African American community. Young scholars will examine the experience of African Americans from pre-Atlantic Slave Trade to the Movement for Black Lives. In doing so, young scholars will note the ways in which African Americans have been portrayed throughout history in the media, literature, music, and film. This course will call young scholars to recognize the nuances of class, gender, and ethnic differences amongst African Americans throughout the history of the United States.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND: N/A

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
Young Scholars will:
1. increase content knowledge by applying what they are learning in the classroom.
2. Identify critical figures, events, and periods in the African American experience.
3. Engage the contemporary African American community in dialogue.
4. Enhance their ability to integrate knowledge across contexts, disciplines, and sub-disciplines while centering African Americans.

REQUIRED READING LIST
TBD

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS
1. Openness to learning from a African American perspective
2. Consistent attendance and participation
3. Reading and analyzing various forms of text for comprehension and integration
4. Cogent Communication and defense of assertions in the written and oral form
COURSE TITLE: African American Religious Traditions

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 3112.01

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: MW 2:00 –3:30pm

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: SS: Race, Comics and Film

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 3998.01

TIMES and SECTIONS: TR 1:50-3:20pm

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:

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: Race, Health, and Social Justice

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 3998; HEAS 3998

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: T/R 11:50am – 1:20pm

INSTRUCTOR: Magaela Bethune

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPLE TOPICS:

The aim of this course is to explore some prominent themes, queries and applications toward an understanding of race/ism, health, and society. Drawing from cross-disciplinary perspectives, frameworks, approaches, and materials from across the social, health, and medical sciences, our departure point is the understanding of race/ism and its construction upon a foundation of anti-Blackness and anti-Indigeneity. This course also explores the ways in which the history, development, and the evolution of racial politics and anti-Blackness have and continue to shape and transform the health and livelihoods of people at various intersections of human experience. The course critically examines and interrogates racialized health disparities and the social and structural determinants of health. This course cultivates a critical lens through analysis of historical (i.e., medical apartheid) and contemporary (Hurricane Katrina disaster response, COVID-19) case studies, illuminating the role of social, political, and economic landscapes to which health inequities foreground. Students leave the course with a set of practical concepts, justice-oriented frameworks, and reflexive practices that can serve as a foundation for the work of racial justice in health.

While some themes of global relevance are explored, the primary geospatial and geopolitical scope of this course emphasizes the role of race within the imaginary, socially engineered border commonly referred to as "America."

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:

The active and engaged learner in this course will ask more critical questions and make complex connections between both the historical and contemporary, personal and political, as well as the theoretical and practical. They will embrace discomfort, seek knowledge, and be able to engage in critical conversations, which taken together, form a foundation for liberation thinking and anti-racism praxis.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

Prerequisites: None

Recommended Previous Coursework: AFAM 1211 – Introduction to African American Studies, and/or HEAS 2000 – Introduction to Health and Society

REQUIRED TEXTS:


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 discussant assignment, and a group-based design charrette. Rubrics will be available for students to review expectations for assignments and will be used to structure feedback.
COURSE TITLE: Capstone Project

COURSE NUMBER: AFAM 4641.01

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: T 6:30-9:30pm

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Adilifu Nama

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

This is the capstone course for students who are majoring/minoring in African American Studies. It will provide them with the opportunity to work closely with the instructor to explore primary and secondary sources on the African American experience as well as to develop and complete a thesis based upon original research.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

To analyze and discuss primary and secondary documents and sources to gain an in-depth comprehension of the different approaches and methodologies that have been used to examine the African American experience; to formulate a specific topic and to write a thesis based upon original research.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND: AFAM majors/minors

REQUIRED TEXTS: TBA

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Students will be evaluated by their class attendance and the successful completion and presentation of their theses.