Office Hours & Location: Virtual Office Hours MWF 3:00-4:00 pm (Canvas) by appointment.

Email: ashleypreston@ufl.edu Phone: 352-392-5724

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An integrated interdisciplinary exploration of selected themes and representative materials in the African American experience in North America, emphasizing continuity and change. (H) (WR) 4000.

COURSE GOAL: The goal of this course is to critically examine some of the key concepts, theories, issues, people, moments and events related to the African American experience in North America.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The experience of Africans in America and the Diaspora has been broad and deep. Our study of that experience will begin in Africa, the birthplace of civilization and humanity. It will focus on the Black experience in North America and incorporate elements of the African Diaspora. We will take an interdisciplinary approach to explore some of the political, cultural, economic, artistic and social themes that have influenced the construction of Black American realities in the past and present. Class sessions will consist of lectures, discussions, debates, powerpoint presentations, media clips, and attendance at an outside lecture or panel discussion.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will 1) gain a general introduction to the origins of African American Studies 2) learn about some of the theories and theorists of African American Studies 3) be exposed to interdisciplinary approaches to the study of African American people, experiences, beliefs, cultures and conditions. 4) demonstrate an understanding of basic concepts common in discourse about African Americans, 5) be able to present a general historical overview of the history of African Americans, 6) be exposed to some of the contemporary socio-cultural issues facing African Americans, 7) enhance critical analysis and research skills.


REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION AT A GLANCE:

Module Discussions 25%
Critical Reflection Papers 35%
Midterm Quiz/Final Quiz 15%
Research Paper 25%

REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION:

Module Discussions:
Students will be expected to watch the lectures, read and develop a critical analysis to the module discussion questions. All discussion questions and responses will be posted to Canvas.

Critical Reflection Papers:
There will be four reflection papers this semester. Each paper should be a minimum of 500 words. These reaction papers are to critically reflect on some aspect of the readings done usually over a few week’s period. Essays should
examine issues that run across more than one text. Students are free to express their personal reactions and to write autobiographically; however, personal opinions and experiences should be informed by the conceptual and empirical substance of the assigned and recommended readings. Although quotes from the readings can be used please do not fill the paper with long quotes. For more information check out this article:  
http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/rwc/handouts/the-writing-process-1/invention/Writing-a-Response-or-Reaction-Paper

Midterm & Final Quiz

Quizzes will cover class readings, lectures, discussions, and any additional films. They will consist of short (essay) items) and will be submitted online.

Research Paper:

Research and write a 5 - 8 page, **minimum of 1250 words** (this does not include your title and reference page) paper on your pre-proposed topic. The paper must include cited references from scholarly journals, books and newspapers. Below are 6 topics that can be chosen:

Dr. Carter G. Woodson & Black History Month
Historically Black Colleges and Universities
The Black Studies Movement
The Back to Africa Movement
Black Athletes and Social Justice
Police Violence and African Americans

Module Discussion Due Dates
9/1
9/15
9/29
10/13
10/27
11/10
11/24
12/4

Critical Reflection Papers
9/3
9/30
10/28
12/2

Midterm Quiz
10/11
Final Quiz
12/8

**The midterm & final will be posted a week before the due date**

Research Paper Due
11/15

University of Florida Honor Code

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University of Florida’s Student Honor Code and Code of Conduct. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student’s own work. Do not plagiarize. All work must be cited. Students suspected of academic dishonesty or of violating the Honor Code will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. To learn more about the UF policy regarding Academic Honesty, please visit:  http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php
Students with Disabilities

Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed. Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting an accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Evaluation of all Assignments Criteria

1) Quality, scope and organization of documentation; 2) Clarity and coherence of expression; 3) Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation; 4) Quality of critical analysis; 5) Demonstration of an understanding of information and concepts addressed in the readings and/or discussed in class; 6) Following directions and completing assignments on time. See Grading rubric for specified distribution of points. UF has an online writing for students Visit their site at http://web.cwoc.ufl.edu/owl


General Education Learning Outcomes AFA 2000 is a 4000 (approximately 16-18 pages) word Gordon Rule course which satisfies the General Education requirements for Humanities (H). You must complete and turn in at least 4000 words of evaluated writing during the semester in order to receive credit. You must earn a grade of “C” or better to earn general education credit.

MODULE 1 (August 20-September 1)
Course Overview & Introduction to African American Studies

Intro to Afro-American Studies: A Peoples College Primer Chapter 1 http://www.eblackstudies.org/intro/chapter1.htm

“The Struggle and Dream of Black Studies” Carlene Young (Via UF Online Library Database)

African American Studies at UF

African American Studies History https://afam.clas.ufl.edu/history/

Virgil Hawkins and the Fight to Integrate the University of Florida Law School https://www.floridamemory.com/blog/2014/06/25/virgil062514/

"UF in 1958: I was the first black student" Orlando Sentinel


Molefi Kete Asante Speaks on the African American PhD Program at Temple University https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNck7m5jixw&t=1s

MODULE 2 (September 2-15)
African Origins

Chapter 1
Mansa Musa https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3YJMaL55TM
Chapter 2
Read selected pages of chapter 7 of *Exchanging Our Country Marks: The Transformation of African Identities in the Colonial and Antebellum South* by Michael Gomez
(The E-Book is available on the UF Database)

**The African Diaspora & Slavery**
Chapter 3
Chapter 4
Florida Frontiers TV - Episode 9 - Fort Mose
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYybsYkJu9M

**MODULE 3 (September 16-29)**

**Building Communities of Resistance**
Chapter 5
Chapter 6
Read “The Dark Side of Thomas Jefferson” by Henry Wiencek

**Slavery & Abolitionism**
Chapter 7
Chapter 9
Harriet Tubman: Bound for the Promised Land
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZ0tmNfgB7A

**MODULE 4 September 30-October 13**

**Civil War & Reconstruction**
Chapter 10
Watch: Voices of the Civil War
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iE3UeGncxDM
Watch: Behind the Emancipation Proclamation
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/videos/category/history/behind-the-emancipation-proclamation/
Chapter 11

**Jim Crow & Self Determination**
Chapter 12
Read: Ida B. Wells: The Unsung Heroine of the Civil Rights Movement
Chapter 13

**MODULE 5 October 14-27**

**Pursuing Democracy & The New Negro Movement**
Chapter 14
Read: “The Harlem Renaissance” by Cary D. Wintz
https://www.humanitiestexas.org/news/articles/harlem-renaissance-what-was-it-and-why-does-it-matter

Chapter 15
Selected pages from *Philosophies and Opinions of Marcus Garvey*
Marcus Garvey: Look for Me in the Whirlwind
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7g_RfSh7Uqq&t=1158s
The New Deal Era, Double V for Victory & The Influence of Mary McLeod Bethune

Chapter 17
Chapter 18
Read: “Three women to thank for Tuskegee Airmen existence”
https://www.march.afrc.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/167712/three-women-to-thank-for-tuskegee-airmen-existence/

MODULE 6 October 28-November 10

The Long Civil Rights Movement

Read excerpts from “Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It” by Jo Ann Robinson

Eyes On The Prize - (Part 2) Fighting Back 1957–1962
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4D5xwC6M_Gk

Chapter 20
Read “Bigger Than a Hamburger” by Ella Baker
http://www.crmvet.org/docs/sncc2.htm

Read “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” by Dr. Martin Luther King
https://www.africa.upenn.edu/Articles_Gen/Letter_Birmingham.html

Read “This Nonviolent Stuff Ain’t No Good. It’ll Get Ya Killed.”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YYaaEffMFk

Module 7 November 11-24

The Black Power Movement

Chapter 21
Read: “Lowndes County and the Voting Rights Act” by Hasan Kwame Jeffries

Read “Beyond Berets: The Black Panthers as Health Activists”
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5024403/

Read “Children can’t learn on an empty stomach”: The Black Panther Party’s Free Breakfast Program
By Husain Lateef & David Androff

Vanguard of the Revolution- The Real Story of the Black Panther Party
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6qb27VJzDY

Module 8 November 25-December 4

Perspectives on the Present

The New Jim Crow
Michelle Alexander, author of “The New Jim Crow” - 2013 George E. Kent Lecture
Dr. Preston’s Module Lectures

Module 1 - The Black Studies Movement
https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/aa68ff6d6c6f14e51afbf630e11c657bc1d

Module 2 - Establishing North American Slavery
https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/c3f57efdead849708fff4bb3cada4f01d

Module 3 - Building Communities in the Early Republic
https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/41fd0361cd044b2da4222bc767f6e5fb1d

Module 4 - The Confederate States of America
https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/b41e3f2a7e0c4f112b3f5408467cd0771d

Module 5 - Intro to African American Studies
https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/5ae8e1e4ae1a46ca996a2cc297bc06a01d

Module 6 - The Women of Movement
https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/1d443ba8e3b94beb91756b432b265df4d1d

Module 7 - The Transformation of Malcolm X
https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/d1c0984eb3a04655922445a51df683e11d

Module 8 – The New Jim Crow
https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/48072f164a104a1c9e3ec7794ee6df4e1d

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SYLLABUS IS A GUIDE FOR THE COURSE. DR. PRESTON RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THE SYLLABUS AT ANYTIME.**