Intro to African American Studies
AFA 2000 – Class Number 10302 – Spring 2019
African American Studies Program – The University of Florida
Dr. Ashley Robertson Preston- Lecturer

Class Times & Location: MWF 1:55-2:45 pm/ FAC 0120

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

Email: ashleypreston@ufl.edu

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:

Participation & Attendance 15%
Discussion Boards 30%
Reflection Papers 25%
Midterm & Final Quiz 10%
Research Paper & Presentation 20%

REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION:
**Participation & Attendance:**

We will start class with a current event that will be presented by a student. The event will be presented and together as a class we will discuss its significance to events and/or topics being discussed in African American Studies. Each student is expected to present one current event as part of their participation grade. Please be on time to class, engage in class discussions and complete all readings before class. Even when you are not in class you are still responsible for the material that was covered. You will also be expected to participate in class discussions and you will need to read before every class.

Attendance will be taken during **EVERY** class. You are allowed up to three unexcused absences and thereafter I will deduct 2 points per missing class. Missing more than six unexcused classes will result in failing the course. Also, please do not arrive to class late or leave early. Late assignments will receive 50% credit and no late assignments will be accepted after 48 hours. No exceptions (unless hospitalization has occurred).

**Discussion Board:**

Students will be expected to watch the weekly online video lectures (on Friday’s) and develop a critical analysis to the weekly discussion board question. All discussion questions and responses will be posted to Canvas. **Again, every Friday there will be a video lecture that will be posted and you will need to watch and respond via the discussion board. This will serve as the meeting for the Friday class with the exception of our library day with Ms. Birch.**

**Reflection Papers:**

There will be four reflection papers this semester. Each paper should be a minimum of two pages (500 words). The papers should fully analyze and discuss the questions. Although sources may be consulted as part of your research of the topic please develop your responses from a personal perspective.

**Midterm & Final Quiz**

Quizzes will cover class readings, lectures, discussions, and films. They will consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer and short (essay) items). Quizzes will only be rescheduled in the case of a medical emergency.

**Research Paper:**

Research and write a 6 - 8-page paper on your pre-proposed topic (this does not include your outline and reference page). 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

**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 (352-392-8563, 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.

Student Learning Outcomes- Content and Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Humanities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Know the history, underlying theories and methodologies used within the discipline of African American Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weeks 1 & 2 Course Overview & Introduction to African American Studies

January 7
Welcome & Course Overview

January 9
Intro to Afro-American Studies: A Peoples College Primer Chapter 1
http://www.eblackstudies.org/intro/chapter1.htm

January 11
Online Lecture: Dr. Kendi Ibrams
Black Campus Movement in Higher Education, 1965-72
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xJ6cLKoyy4
Discussion Board

January 14
"The Struggle and Dream of Black Studies" Carlene Young (Via UF Online Library Database)
“Africology, Black studies, African American Studies, Africana Studies, or African World Studies? What’s So Important about a Given Name?” Victor Oguejiofor Okafor, Ph.D
http://www.jpanafrican.org/docs/vol6no7/6.7-9Okafor.pdf

January 16
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

January 18

Online Lecture: Dr. Molefi K. Asante
Molefi Kete Asante Speaks on the African American PhD Program at Temple University
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNck7m5jjxw&t=1s
Discussion Board

Week 3 African Origins

January 21
Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observance

January 23
Chapter 1
Watch Mansa Musa (4 min video clip) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3YJMaL55TM

January 25
Chapter 2 (pages 23-40)
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)
Discussion Board

Week 4 The African Diaspora & Slavery

January 28
Chapter 3

January 30
Chapter 4
Reflection Paper Due

February 1
Online Lecture: Florida Historical Society
Florida Frontiers TV - Episode 9 - Fort Mose
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYybsYkJu9M
Discussion Board

Week 5: Building Communities of Resistance

February 4
Chapter 5

February 6
Chapter 6
Read “The Dark Side of Thomas Jefferson” by Henry Wiencek

February 8
Library Research Workshop
Ms. Stephanie Birch
(Meeting in the Smathers Library)

Week 6 Slavery & Abolitionism

February 11
Chapter 7
Reflection Paper Due on Nate Parker’s Interview with the Breakfast Club
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7hMDO-7NZuM&t=1479s

February 13
Chapter 9

February 15
Online Lecture: Dr. Kate Clifford Larson
Harriet Tubman: Bound for the Promised Land
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZ0tmNfgB7A
Discussion Board

Week 7 Civil War & Reconstruction

February 18
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/
February 20
Chapter 11
Read “The History of the KKK in American Politics”
https://daily.jstor.org/history-kkk-american-politics/
Reflection Paper-Compare the tactics and ideals of the current alt-right and the KKK.

February 22
Online Lecture: PBS
Slavery By Another Name
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcCxsLDma2o
Discussion Board

Week 8 Jim Crow & Self Determination

February 25
Chapter 12
Read: Ida B. Wells: The Unsung Heroine of the Civil Rights Movement
Review the Monroe Work Lynching Project http://www.monroeworktoday.org

February 27
Chapter 13

March 1
Online Lecture: Celebrating Life and Radical Spirit of Ida B. Wells
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9m-8_D-dzd8
Discussion Board

Week 9 *Spring Break March 2-9, 2019*

Week 10 Pursuing Democracy & The New Negro Movement

March 11
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

March 13
Chapter 15
Selected pages from Philosophies and Opinions of Marcus Garvey

March 15
Online Lecture: Marcus Garvey: Look for Me in the Whirlwind
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7g_RfSh7Uqg&t=1158s
Discussion Board

Week 11 The New Deal Era, Double V for Victory & The Influence of Mary McLeod Bethune

March 18
Chapter 17

March 20
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/

View clips on African American Women’s Involvement During World War II:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBMnZJD63I8
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P84q-1Xs5jo
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5HM6_2ZiIqE&t=522s
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dq1uRyya4U

March 22
Online Lecture: Christopher Paul Moore, author of "Black Soldiers: The Unsung Heroes of World War 2."
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v4FY1pnaWHQ

Discussion Board

Week 12 & 13 The Long Civil Rights Movement

March 25
Watch “The Murder of Emmett Till” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrHrMHtRlDs

March 27
Read excerpts from “Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It” by Jo Ann Robinson

Reflection Paper Due: Are we living in a modern day “Civil Rights Movement?” If so how can we be involved in it?

March 29
Online Lecture: Eyes On The Prize - (Part 2) Fighting Back 1957–1962
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4D5xwC6M_Gk

Discussion Board

April 1
Chapter 20
Read “Bigger Than a Hamburger” by Ella Baker
http://www.crmvet.org/docs/sncc2.htm

April 3
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.”

April 5
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YYaaEffMFk

Discussion Board

Weeks 14 The Black Power Movement

April 8
Chapter 21
Read: “Lowndes County and the Voting Rights Act” by Hasan Kwame Jeffries

April 10
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

April 12
Online Lecture: Vanguard of the Revolution- The Real Story of the Black Panther Party
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6qb27VJzDY
Discussion Board

Weeks 15 & 16 Perspectives on the Present

April 15
The New Jim Crow
Research Papers Due

April 17
The New Jim Crow

April 19
Online Lecture: Michelle Alexander
Michelle Alexander, author of "The New Jim Crow" - 2013 George E. Kent Lecture
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GlnlJwDUl64
Discussion Board

April 22 & 24
The New Jim Crow

April 26
Reading Day

Final Quiz: 4/30/2019 @ 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

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