

AFRICAN & AFRICAN DIASPORA STUDIES
Course Listings for Fall 2015

AADS 1104 African-American History I

M W F 10

Cross Listed with HIST 2481

The two-semester survey examines the history and culture of African-Americans from the pre-colonial period to the present. The first semester focuses on the period before the middle passage, the evolution of slave and free society, the development of Black institutions, and the emergence of protest movements through the Civil War's end. During the second semester, the emphases are placed on issues of freedom and equality from Reconstruction, urban migration, civil rights struggles through current consideration of race, class, and gender conflicts.

Karen Miller

AADS 1110 Introduction to African Diaspora Studies

M W F 12

A survey of the African continent and the Diaspora that would include geography, history, politics, economics and literature. The purpose of the course is to introduce students to specific historical, cultural, social and political topics related to Africa and the African Diaspora. Because the scope of the course is so vast, we will explore important issues and themes to give students a desire to further pursue more specific classes in African and African Diaspora Studies. Boston College faculty members will be invited to lecture in their area of expertise specific to Africa and the Diaspora throughout the semester.

Eric Williams

AADS 1118 Haiti and the DR: Haitian and Dominican Literature

T TH 1:30*

The Island of Hispaniola, the two nations now known as Haiti and the Dominican Republic - has a complex history. This class examines that history through the literature of both countries. Looking at different historic time periods and themes such as dictatorship, migration, race and national identity we will focus on how fiction writers express what it means to be Dominican/Haitian and how the two are constantly in conversation with one another both implicitly and explicitly. We will focus on readings from Junot Diaz, Edwidge Danticat, and Julia Alvarez, and draw from music, politics and current events of both countries.

Regine Jean-Charles

AADS 1120 Religion in Africa

T TH 9:00*

Cross Listed with THEO 1107

Satisfies Cultural Diversity Core Requirement

The course is designed to introduce the variety of African religious experiences within the context of world religions. The significance and contents of Africism as the African autochthonal religion will be outlined. Heterochthonal religions to Africa will be discussed. These include the following: Middle East originating religions, like Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and those originating in India, like Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Parseeism. While emphasis will be laid on the impact religion has had on African communities within the context of peace and justice in the world, the course will also consider the role of Africism in a changing Africa.

Aloysius Lugira

AADS 2194 Reading Race at the Millennium

T TH 10:30*

Cross Listed with COMM 2194

Hipster racism, hashtag activism, and Columbusing are just some of the new ideas used to talk about race in this post-Millennial moment. This course will explore the new vocabulary of race emerging in this purportedly “post-racial” moment through study of cases drawn from popular culture, politics, and increasingly important digital spaces. We will focus on “reading” and writing about race in this moment through case studies such as Wes Anderson’s films, Black Twitter, racially appropriative Halloween costumes, Asian food trucks, and the Obama presidency in order to understand how race, racialization, and racism continue to evolve.

Anjali Vats

AADS 2253 The Modern Black Freedom Movement

M 4:30-6:50

Satisfies Core Requirement for Cultural Diversity

This course is a comprehensive history of the people, the stories, the events, and the issues of the civil rights struggle in America. The course focuses on the stories of the little-known men and women who made this social movement and presents the material so that both those who lived through these turbulent years and those too young to remember them will come to know their importance in our lives.

Lyda Peters

AADS 2290 Gospel Workshop

T TH 6:30-8:30

Zero credit for class 2014 and beyond

Cross Listed with MUSP 1770

This course emphasizes study and performance of the religious music of the Black experience known as Spirituals and Gospels. One major performance is given each semester. Concerts and performances at local Black churches also occur with the Voices of Imani Gospel Choir.

Members are required to attend a number of rehearsals and performances. Members of the classes may sing in the choir but it is not required for the course.

David Altenor

AADS 3310 Studies of Race, Law, and Resistance

W 6-8:25

This course will examine and analyze protest movements for racial and economic justice from 1896 to 1968 and how these struggles contributed to sweeping reforms in U.S. law and public policy during and beyond this period. This course will examine violence and other resistance, focusing on the legal and extra-legal strategies by disadvantaged ethnic minorities challenging *de jure* and *de facto* discrimination based on race, color, national origin, and/or ancestry. This course will be of special interest to students interested in social justice and those considering post-graduate legal studies.

Juan Concepcion

AADS 3319 Politics of Race & Ethnicity

T TH 9*

This course analyzes the influence of race and ethnicity in political development. It discusses how political decision, actions, omission are the outcome of racial/ethnic politics. The first part of the course (up to 1994) focuses on how race has influenced politics in the United States, Brazil and South Africa. The second part of this course will analyze the impact of ethnicity in democratic and non-democratic politics, its linkage to identity politics, and its impact on global and diaspora politics.

Abel Amado

AADS 4460 New Orleans: Justice in the City

T 11-1:25

This course investigates, analyzes, and grapples with the history, persistent problems, and prospects of New Orleans a decade after Hurricane Katrina.

M. Shawn Copeland

AADS 4472 Race, Law, and Media

T TH 3*

Cross Listed with COMM 4472

*Satisfies one of two writing intensive courses required within the Communication major
Department permission required from the Communication department*

This writing intensive course focuses on the relationship between race, law, and media. We will read seminal texts in critical race theory and cultural studies in order to theorize how concepts such as race, criminality, deviance, property, and originality are articulated in legal contexts, often in ways which make whiteness appear to be natural and "right." Then, by way of case studies such as the Scottsboro Boys, the Central Park Five, *Korematsu v. United States*, *Prosecutor v. Charles Taylor*, and *State v. Zimmerman*, we will explore how the media represents race and law. Evaluation will be based on quizzes and papers.

Anjali Vats

AADS 4482 Ghana/U.S. Historical & Cultural Connections

M W F 1

Cross Listed with HIST 2481

Satisfies Core Requirement for Cultural Diversity

This course examines selected historical and cultural intersections between Ghana, West Africa and the United States. We explore "African" and "American" components of African American identity through course readings, film and lectures that focus on four connected areas: slavery/slave trade, civil rights/independence movements, emigration/immigration, and identity/cultural exchange. Ghana is uniquely situated for such comparative study because of its recurring presence in the unfolding of African American history, including its roles as inspiration to Martin Luther King, home to scholar WEB DuBois, haven to African American emigrants, and producer of the kente cloth many wear.

Karen Miller

AADS 4485 History of Medicine & Public Health/African Diaspora

M W F 11

Cross Listed with HIST 4485

Satisfies Core Requirement for Cultural Diversity

This course is a comparative study of the complex historical interplay of medicine, ideas of racial difference, and relationships of power in the African diaspora. Through an examination of slavery in the Americas, colonialism in Africa, and race relations in post emancipation United States and Caribbean, this course explores the ways in which racial difference has acquired a particular truth through the production of biomedical knowledge and its deployment in therapeutic practice and public health policy. The course will also examine how people of African descent have used medical knowledge and healing practices to contest their subordinate position in racist societies.

Martin Summers

AADS 4900 AADS & Community Action

W 3-5:25

Department permission required from the African and African Diaspora Studies Program

Third or Fourth year (under special circumstances, 2nd year students may be considered) AADS Minors or AADS Independent Majors are eligible to enroll in this course.

This seminar examines themes in the field of African Diaspora Studies and emphasizes discipline-based research methods that compliment the majors of AADS minors (e.g. Communication, English, History, Political Science, and Sociology). Engaging these themes and methods, students will focus on this seminar's theme: Community Activism. Engaging this topic from Arts, Humanities, and Social Science perspectives increase students' knowledge of intersectional issues, and make them invaluable assets to Community Action sites that serve local communities, conduct research, or are invested in social policy or human services. Students will demonstrate their mastery of these essentials in their critical reflections blogs and final research essay.

Rhonda Frederick

AADS 5597 Contemporary Race Theory

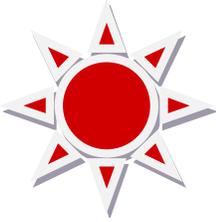
T TH 3*

Cross Listed with SOCY 5597

To get sociology credit for the major or minor, you must register for SOCY5597 rather than cross-listed course.

This class will explore how various contemporary writers engage with the question of race, both in the United States and transnationally. We will look at social constructionist theories of race, postmodernism, feminist theory, critical legal studies, and the intersection between contemporary race theory and queer theory.

Zine Magubane



NOTES

