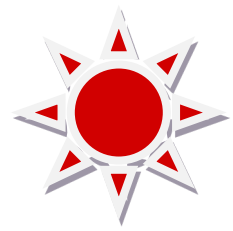


**AFRICAN & AFRICAN DIASPORA STUDIES**  
**Course Listings for Fall 2018**



**AADS 1104 African-American History I**

**M W F 11-11:50**

*Cross Listed with HIST 2481*

*Satisfies Core Requirement for: Cultural Diversity*

This two-semester survey examines the history and culture of African-Americans from the pre-colonial period to the present. The first semester treats 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, and civil rights struggles through current consideration of race, class, and gender conflicts.

*Karen Miller*

**AADS 1110 Introduction to African Diaspora Studies**

**M W 3- 4:15**

*Satisfies Core Requirement for: Cultural Diversity and Social Science*

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.

*Rhonda Frederick*

**AADS 1114 When Gods Begin Again: Intro. to African & African Diaspora Religions**

**M W F 11-11:50**

*Cross Listed with THEO 2114*

*Satisfies Core Requirement for: Cultural Diversity*

This introductory course examines African Christianity, Islam, and indigenous religions, as well as African Diaspora religions of Haitian Vodou, Cuban Santería, and Black American conjure/roots work. Employing a comparative religion approach, we explore Black Atlantic religious themes such as: God(s) and ancestor veneration, divination and sacred space, initiation and sacred arts, healing and the environment, gender and power, the impact of slavery on conversion/continuity, migration and diaspora. Ultimately, this course encourages students to reevaluate their understanding of African religions, recognize diverse cultural philosophies and ritual knowledge systems, and engage with written and visual materials that underscore the values of these traditions.

*Kyrah M. Daniels*

**AADS 1501 From BlackLivesMatter to MeToo**

**M W F 1, TH 6-7:50**

*Must register for the co-requisite course SOCY1511*

*Course Open to Freshmen only*

*Satisfies Core Requirement for: Literature, Social Science*

*From BLM to MeToo Lab: AADS150201 T 10:30 – 11:45; AADS150202 T 12-1:15*

This course explores pressing problems of modern race and gender-based sexual violence in the U.S. and throughout the African Diaspora. Utilizing interdisciplinary perspectives in both the humanities and social sciences, we will examine the roots of sexual violence, the ways in which it has been expressed, the meanings attached to it, and its implications for society from an intersectional perspective. Students will: 1) examine the wide-ranging ramifications of racism on rape culture; 2) formulate solutions for intervening in and eradicating rape culture; and 3) summon their imaginations to envision a world without sexual violence.

*C. Shawn McGuffey, Régine Jean-Charles*

**AADS 2182 Black Popular Culture**

**T 4:30-6:50**

*Cross Listed with COMM 2182*

In this class, we will critically examine the development of black popular culture from blackface minstrelsy in the 1800s to present day. While we will primarily focus on black popular culture in the United States, we will also consider the work of diasporic authors and artists and the international implications of American media. Readings will draw upon theories and concepts in media studies, cultural studies, and rhetoric to center our discussion of black popular cultural texts such as television shows, films, music, poetry, and fashion. Course evaluation will be based on regular quizzes, two short papers, and a creative project.

*Anjali Vats*

**AADS 2201 Versions in Black: Genres of Black Women's Writing**

**T TH 10:30-11:45**

*Satisfies Core Requirement for: Cultural Diversity*

The phrase “Black Women’s Writing” implies that such literature is homogeneous and can be neatly represented. Our course constitutes itself against this idea: rather than experiencing writing by black women as an easily definable type, this class presents it as diverse, complicated, and contradictory. By so reading, discussing, and writing about these works, students will be encouraged to examine and reexamine notions of race, gender, and history. Significantly, we will de-construct Black Women’s Writing by examining the various genres these writers use to express their imaginings, specifically: fantasy, mystery, and experimental novels; drama; poetry; and autobiography.

*Rhonda Frederick*

**AADS 2248 Advanced Community Service Research Seminar**

**T TH 10:30-11:45**

*Satisfies Core Requirement for: Cultural Diversity*

*Department permission required*

*Cross-listed as SOCY225401 and UNAS225401*

CRP is a two-semester program that offers leadership, research, and public policy training for students interested in working with communities of color in Massachusetts. In the fall, students will participate in a seminar to study the process of community-based research and its methodologies and begin to design a research proposal for an independent study with a faculty advisor for the spring semester research project. The seminar will also include a lecture series, in which academic researchers and community professionals will discuss their current work and experiences on issues related to four research-interest communities.

*Marla Derosa*

This listing is updated as of August 23, 2018 and is subject to change. Please contact Richard Paul at paulri@bc.edu with any questions.

**AADS 2290 Gospel Workshop**

**T TH 6:30-8:30**

*Performance Course – Zero Credit*

*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.

*Shannon Jacob*

**AADS 2330 The History of Jazz**

**M W F 10-10:50**

*Cross Listed with MUSA 2330*

A history of America's music from its origins in African traditions through the contemporary scene. The course will explore its African roots; its consolidation in New Orleans and its spread into the cultural mainstream in the Jazz Age; its transformation into bebop, cool, third stream, funk, and avant-garde trends; and the return to traditionalism. Key figures covered will be Armstrong, Ellington, Parker, and Marsalis, among others.

*Timothy Mangin*

**AADS 2350 Blackness and the Problem**

**T TH 9-10:15**

*Cross Listed with ENGL 2350*

In *The Souls of Black Folk*, W.E.B. Du Bois famously observes that to be black is to serially confront a question: "How does it feel to be a problem?" This course undertakes a survey of African American Literature as an ongoing mediation on the "problem" of being black, from the advent of racial slavery through to its contemporary afterlives. Reading broadly across a black literary tradition spanning four centuries and multiple genres, we will consider how black writers represent the "problem" of being black not merely as an unwelcome condition to be overcome, but an ethical orientation to be embraced in refusal of an anti-black world that is itself a problem.

*Jonathan Howard*

**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 4016 Reporting Civil Rights**

**T Th 12-1:15**

*Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity*

*Cross Listed with ENGL401601 & JOUR201601*

This course explores first-hand accounts from the front lines of movements to advance social justice, from the abolitionist and anti-lynching campaigns of the 19th century and those that toppled Jim Crow, to broader issues such as prisons and poverty, immigration and education. Students will develop their knowledge of civil rights reporting history in the U.S, gain skills and practices, and learn how to apply all three in reporting and writing in core beat areas.

*Angela Ards*

**AADS 447201 Race, Law, and Media**

**T TH 1:30-2:45**

**AADS 447202 Race, Law, and Media**

**T TH 3-4:15**

*Satisfies one of two writing intensive courses required within the Communication major*

*Cross Listed with COMM4472*

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 versus United States, Prosecutor versus Charles Taylor, and State versus Zimmerman, we will explore how the media represents race and law.

*Anjali Vats*

**AADS 4483 African American Life Stories**

**M W 3**

*Satisfies Core requirement for Cultural Diversity*

A recurring theme in African American life histories is the narration of the moment when the black subject or author first becomes aware of himself/herself as a racial being in a society in which blackness has meaning. This course examines how these kinds of moments shaped individual perspectives of personal and racial identity and uses narratives and autobiographies to analyze how meanings of blackness are shaped by region, class, gender, sexuality, and historical context.

*Karen Miller*

**AADS 5006 Sem: School's Not Everything: Education & Af-Am Lit**

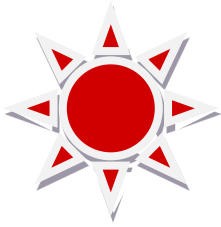
**T TH 1:30 – 2:45**

*Cross Listed with ENGL5006*

*Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity*

This course explores moments of school and education in African American literature. From Frederick Douglass' 1838 narrative to Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*, we will examine representations of African Americans' ongoing-fight for equal educational opportunities (i.e. black colleges, *Brown v. Board of Education*, affirmative action) alongside black literature's many depictions of stolen education, hidden classrooms, and resistances within traditional school settings. Additionally, we will attend to black writers' awareness of the schooling force of language and literary genres and the various ways their own texts emerge as schools and pedagogies that challenge the cultural-political ideologies enacted in American schools.

*Allison Curseen*



**NOTES**

