



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



AADS 1101 Africa Since 1850

M W F 1:00-1:50

Cross Listed with HIST 2180

This course provides an overview of the recent history of sub-Saharan Africa. It begins by examining colonization and the dynamics of colonialism, then traces the development of anti-colonialism and nationalism, and concludes by surveying the trajectories of post-colonial states and societies. Throughout the semester we will think about popular experiences in addition to institutional or elite narratives, ask questions about the changing position of Africa in the world, and contemplate the stakes of conceptualizing African history in the present. Materials will include a range of academic literature, fiction and non-fiction works by African intellectuals, and visual media.

Priya Lal

AADS 1105 African-American History II

M W F 1:00-1:50

Cross Listed with HIST 2482

Satisfies Cultural Diversity Core Requirement

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 Intro to African Diaspora Studies

T TH 3:00-4:15

Cross Listed with SOCY 1045

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity, 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.

C. Shawn McGuffey

AADS 1155 Intro to African American Society

T TH 1:30-2:45

Cross Listed with SOCY 1043

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity, Social Science

In 1896, distinguished scholar W.E.B. DuBois became convinced that the experience of Africans in the Americas was so distinctive that it was imperative to study Black people in order to understand power dynamics at all levels of society. This course will study those power dynamics. While paying particular attention to the many ways that racial power dynamics have impacted all people of African descent in the United States, this course does not assume a uniform Black experience. We shall see that gender, class, and sexuality greatly shape the differing experiences of African-Americans.

C. Shawn McGuffey

AADS 2194 Reading Race at the Millennium

T TH 1:30-2:45

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 S Vats

AADS 2199 Introduction to Caribbean Writers

T TH 12:00-1:15

Cross Listed with ENGL2199

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

The Caribbean, merely viewed through the lens of colonial history, often does not reflect the diversity and complexity of the region. From a colonial perspective, therefore, the Caribbean is both "known" and "unknown." Our work for this course compares and contrasts versions of the region by examining colonial histories and current literary traditions. We will pay particular attention to the ways oppositional cultures and identities manifest in Caribbean literature.

Themes of this course include: colonialism, History/histories, gender, geography, sexuality, class, and culture. Varied texts and media will assist in our interpretations of the Caribbean and its diaspora.

Rhonda Frederick

AADS 2210 Festival, Carnival & Masquerade

T TH 12:00-1:15

Cross Listed with ARTH2210

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

In acts of mourning and in times of celebration, in solemn rites of passage and in elaborate performance, we decorate our faces and adorn our bodies. This course introduces students to the diversity of African and African Diaspora ritual arts traditions. We take a comparative approach to study traditions of masquerade in initiation ceremonies, street festivals, carnivals, and funerary rites of the Black Atlantic. Employing a material culture approach, we explore particularly festive sites such as the sacred city of Ilé-Ifè, Nigeria, which hosts festivals nearly 360 days of the year, a Caribbean carnival-capital in Jacmel, Haiti, and New Orleans traditions of Mardi Gras Indians and jazz funerals. Students will gain concrete skills in visual art analysis, research, and writing, becoming versed in the fields of art history, religion, anthropology, and museum studies. By the end of this course, students will gain familiarity with various definitions of parade, masquerade, funeral, and carnival, and analyze the role of masks and art implements in private ritual ceremony as well as public festival. In this way, students will develop a deeper understanding of the intricate relationship between sacred arts and religious ceremony.

Kyrah Daniels

AADS 2222 Black Education Movement

M 4:30-6:50

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

This course will cover the history of Black education movements, including freedman schools, citizenship education, court ordered school desegregation, war on poverty's education programs, community control of schools, revolutionary political education, liberation schools, affirmative action, and the twenty-first century issue of re-segregation.

Lyda Peters

AADS 2243 Gender and Slavery

TH 3:00- 5:20

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

Discussions of slavery have focused upon the enslaved males' roles and responses. To gain a more complete picture of the complex social interactions and political and social consequences of slavery, we will examine it from the enslaved female's perspective as well. This course focuses upon women's labor, their roles in family life, the plantation community, and how gender informed the style and types of resistance in which men and women engaged. We will also discuss the effects of white paternalism upon gender roles in the slave communities and white female responses to the effects of slavery upon their lives.

M. Shawn Copeland

AADS 2249 Advanced Community Service Research Seminar II **T TH 10:30- 11:45**

Cross Listed with SOCY 2255 and UNAS 2255

Department Permission Required

CRP is a two-semester program (SOCY2254 and SOCY2255) offering leadership, research, and public policy training for students interested in working with Latino, Asian American and/or African Diaspora communities. In fall, students in SOCY2254 learn the process of community-based research and its methodologies, and begin to design a proposal for an independent study for spring. In spring, students sign up for SOCY2255 in conjunction with a Readings and Research to conduct their projects. The Spring seminar complements the R&R serving as a forum for students to discuss their research and continue to develop their oral presentation skills.

Marla Derosa

AADS 2306 Musics of Africa

M W F 11:00-11:50

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

Cross Listed with MUSA 2306

This course is a survey of the musical diversity and cosmopolitanism of one of the world's most populous continents. Drawing from ethnographic studies of African music, we will explore some of the political, economic, and historical circumstances out of which certain genres and styles of music emerge and at the ways in which these genres and styles circulate in global music and performance markets.

Timothy Mangin

AADS 2334 Hip Hop in American Culture

M W 3:00-4:15

Cross Listed with MUSA 2334

This course is an historical and ethnomusicological review of hip hop. We will examine the roots of hip hop in African expressive culture, the emergence of the hip hop genre in the United States, and hip hop's impact in other places around the globe. The course requires active listening, readings, and use of multimedia.

Timothy Mangin

AADS 2484 Montgomery Bus Boycott

M W F 10:00-10:50

Cross Listed with HIST 2484

This course dissects the 382-day bus boycott by Montgomery, Alabama's black residents.

Though not the first protest of its kind, it introduced two iconic figures to the national stage:

Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks. Four simple questions provide the foundation for the

class, but the answers are unexpectedly complicated: What "law" did Parks violate? Why did

Montgomery's black residents rally around Parks' 1955 arrest? How did Rev. King become the

boycott's "voice" and "face," even though he was a relative newcomer to the city? How did this

lengthy boycott change Montgomery's black community in the short term?

Karen Miller

AADS 2487 Race and Identity in African American History

M W 3:00-4:15

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

Cross Listed with HIST 2487

This course examines and engages readings that reflect a variety of approaches to questions of racial identity and “American-ness” over time. Textual materials have been selected to illustrate both historical and literary treatments of “race” and “identity” within the context of the United States. How do individuals become conscious of themselves as “racial” beings and as national citizens? How do racial identities comport with other identities? How does racial identity influence or color one’s sense of self and relations with others within and outside of one’s race? How, ultimately, does race impact the study and writing of history over time?

Karen Miller

AADS 3000 Black Church Black Protest

T TH 10:30-11:45

Cross Listed with THEO3000

“This ain’t yo mama’s civil rights movement.” Then whose is it, what fuels it, and why? Taking the urgency of the #blacklivesmatter movement as a point of departure, this course considers the theological premise and political role of the “Black Church” in US social movements for liberation. From the slave rebellions of the antebellum South to the religious icons of the Civil Rights Movement, this course focuses on reading and writing that centers African American religious experience - as well as understandings of morality, power, intersectional identity, and leadership - to contextualize the moral investments along the continuum of movements for black lives.

Amey Victoria Adkins

AADS 3002 Black Nature: Race and Ecology

M W F 10:00-10:50

Cross Listed with ENGL 4017

With a history that includes being drowned in the ocean during the trans-Atlantic slave trade or strung from trees in the American South, African Americans are entangled in nature in incredibly complex and precarious ways. This course is an opportunity to explore African American literary engagements with the natural world, through our readings of slave narratives, fiction, and poetry. Together we will ask: What stories do we tell about nature? How are the stories we are able to tell about nature informed by race? And how do these stories shape our understanding of what it means to be human?

Jonathan Howard

AADS 3302 Racism: French and American Perspectives

M W F 12:00-12:50

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

Cross Listed with RLRL 3302

French visitors have been observing and commenting on race relations in the United States since before the Civil War. During the twentieth century Paris became a magnet attracting disillusioned African-American artists, musicians and writers in search of a home and an opportunity to express their talents. And today the French confront a history of colonialism and struggle to combat racism as they interact with immigrants from former colonies. What is racism? What are the influences that shape attitudes towards race relations? We will explore these issues in the writings of Tocqueville, Beauvoir, Wright, Baldwin, and Fanon, among others.

James Flagg

AADS 4016 Reporting Civil Rights

T TH 4:30-5:45

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

Cross Listed with ENGL 4016 and JOUR 2016

This course explores first-hand accounts from the front lines of movements to advance social justice, from the 1960s direct-action campaigns that toppled Jim Crow to broader issues such as education and labor, housing and prisons. Sample texts include the following: *Reporting Civil Rights*, Library of Congress; *Common Ground*, J. Anthony Lukas; *Nickel and Dimed*, Barbara Ehrenreich; *American Hunger*, Eli Saslow; *Evicted*, Matthew Desmond; *New Jack*, Ted Conover; *13th*, dir Ava Duvernay.

Angela Ards

AADS 4414 Race and Philosophy

M W 12:00- 1:15

Satisfies Core requirement for: Cultural Diversity

Cross Listed with PHIL4414

This course employs methods of recent Anglophone philosophy to examine such topics as the bases and justification of racial solidarity; whether races are real and, if so, what they are (social constructions? natural categories?) and how they come to exist; racial identity; and the nature, preconditions, loci, subjects, and targets of racism.

Jorge Garcia

AADS 4472 Race, Law, and Media

T TH 3:00-4:15

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 5513 Capstone: Growing Up Ethnic in America

TH 4:30-6:50

Cross Listed with UNCP 5514

In this seminar students will read writing that depicts a variety of experiences but suggest that what constitutes an American identity is far from settled. Ethnic difference has a profound effect on personal and social understandings of what it means to be an American. As we discuss the literature, students will be expected to share their own personal narratives of growing up? Stories of race, ethnicity, class, gender, faith, and nationality? And what it means to be American? Some of the writers we will read include: Jhumpa Lahiri, Amy Tan, Louise Erdrich, Chang Rae-Lee, Sherman Alexie, Sandra Cisneros, Junot Diaz, Edwidge Danticat, Mat Johnson and Ta-Nehisi Coates.

Akua Sarr

AADS 5521 Comparative Slavery in the Atlantic World

M W 4:30-5:45

From New England to Brazil, American slavery was central to the emergence of the modern world. This course examines the comparative history of Atlantic slavery, tracing the institution's evolution from an engine of colonial expansion, to the backbone of an industrial plantation economy. We will focus particularly on the lived experience of slavery, examining how people made sense of, survived, and challenged enslavement across diverse historical contexts. By comparing the different combinations of racism, material inequality, and political exclusion that undergirded centuries of enslavement, we will attempt to understand how and why slavery's legacies continue to burden an entire hemisphere..

Sergio Pinto-Handler

AADS 5597 Contemporary Race Theory

T TH 12:00-1:15

Cross Listed with SOCY 5597

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

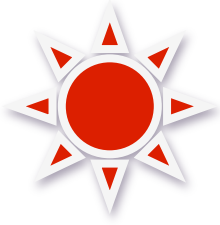
AADS 6600 Senior Seminar

T 3:00-5:20

Department Permission Required

This course explores the discourses of diaspora by taking into account the origins, various meanings, multiple dimensions, cultural iterations, and restrictive limitations of the term. How does "the practice of diaspora" translate in different forms of cultural work such as music, film and literature? How has diaspora shifted in the age of globalization? How can we use diaspora as an analytical tool for reading from a critical perspective? We will consider closely how diaspora is theorized, practiced, and represented in various forms of cultural production. Therefore we will be taking an interdisciplinary approach reading across genre, medium, and disciplines.

Régine Jean-Charles



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