

AFRICANA STUDIES (AFCNA)

AFCNA-141 Introduction to Modern African History

Spring. Credits: 4

This course provides an introduction to African history over the past three centuries. Venturing beyond the stereotypes, we will explore the complex histories that constitute a diverse continent. Special attention is given to spotlighting the voices of African people through a range of primary and secondary sources, including memoirs, film, music, cartoons, speeches and photography. Students will gain knowledge of African geographies and histories, develop the skill of primary source analysis, and be able to connect events in – and narratives of – present-day Africa to a deeper historical past.

Crosslisted as: HIST-141

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

A. Abdulrahman

AFCNA-142 Introduction to Pre-colonial African History

Fall. Credits: 4

This course surveys the social, political and economic history of Africa from earliest times to 1750. We will consider developments in early significant units of the continent such as Ethiopia, Kush, Zimbabwe, and Egypt. We will focus on themes such as human origins, agriculture, migration, Islam, gender, slavery and the transatlantic slave trade. By the end of the course, students will have a sound understanding of key developments in African history from ancient times to the eve of European expansion in Africa.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive

A. Abdulrahman

AFCNA-181 Introduction to African Diaspora Religions

Fall. Credits: 4

Over the last century, religionists have labored to discover the meaning of African dispersal beyond the continent and its accompanying spiritual lineages. What theories of encounter sufficiently adjudicate the synthetic religious cultures of African-descended persons in North America, South America, and the Caribbean? What are the cross-disciplinary methodologies that scholars utilize to understand African religious cultures in the Western hemisphere? Firstly, this course will introduce the field of Africana religious studies. This background will inform the second and primary objective of the course: thematizing and exploring West and Central African religious traditions housed in the Americas.

Crosslisted as: RELIG-181, CST-149AD

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

M. Coleman-Tobias

AFCNA-200 Foundations of Africana Studies

Spring. Credits: 4

This reading- and writing-intensive course draws upon the intellectual traditions of African American, African, and African diasporic studies in order to explore the connections and disjunctures among people of African descent. While the course pays attention to national, regional, and historical contexts, it asks this question: what do African descended people have in common and when and how are their experiences and interests different? What can we glean from contemporary discourses grounded in the consideration of global black lives?

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive

R. Ansong

AFCNA-208 Introduction to Twentieth-Century Critical Race Theory

Fall. Credits: 4

This course examines the discursive relationship between race, power and law in contemporary U.S. society. Readings examine the ways in which racial bodies are constituted in the cultural economy of American society where citizens of African descent dwell. We explore the rules and social practices that govern the relationship of race to gender, nationality, sexuality, and class in U.S. courts and other cultural institutions. Thinkers covered include W.E.B. DuBois, Kimberle Crenshaw, Derrick Bell, and Richard Delgado, among others.

Crosslisted as: CST-253

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
L. Wilson

Restrictions: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors

Advisory: Critical Social Thought 248, 249, or 250 recommended but not required

AFCNA-221 Engaging Ghana: Inquiry and Action

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 2

This course prepares students to pursue curated internships in Ghana. It provides the historical, social, economic, political and cultural context crucial for powerful student learning experiences and ethical engagement with Ghanaian organizations and communities. Guest lectures, readings, and class discussion will provide an intellectual orientation to the country, as well as contextualize student work in curated internships across a range of fields and sites. The course begins a journey of reflection on personal and internship organizations goals that will continue when instructor and students are on site in Ghana in the summer.

Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement

P. Smith

Instructor permission required.

AFCNA-234 Black Metropolis: From MLK to Obama

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

"Black Metropolis" refers to the more than half a million black people jammed into a South Side ghetto in Chicago at mid-twentieth century that featured an entrenched black political machine, a prosperous black middle class, and a thriving black cultural scene in the midst of massive poverty and systemic inequality. This course will follow the political, economic, and cultural developments of what scholars considered to be the typical urban community in postwar United States. We will examine such topics as Martin Luther King's failed desegregation campaign; Harold Washington, first black mayor; William Julius Wilson's urban underclass thesis; and the rise of Barack Obama.

Crosslisted as: POLIT-234

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives

P. Smith

AFCNA-241 Topics in Africana Studies**AFCNA-241BA Topics in Africana Studies: 'Black Atlantic Diasporas: Departures, Travels, and Arrivals'***Spring. Credits: 4*

We explore modern encounters of African-Americans and Afro-Europeans in the spaces and peripheries of the Black Atlantic, as the spaces constitute diasporic practices. Diasporic Blackness serves as a critique of and community-based resistance to global anti-Blackness, largely in response to Europe's colonial and imperial activities. Our materials frame anti-Blackness as a source of trauma, travel, and resistance, where each of these is a vital part of an emancipatory movement. We include textual and visual materials that examine the consequences of representations of past, present, and future Black freedom dreams and their lived effects. How is diasporic Blackness constituted through time and space? How does the critique of Black-white binarist thought compel a rethinking of controlling narratives of race as nation? What about encounters with other racialized folks?

*Crosslisted as: GRMST-231BA, CST-249BA**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive**K. Remmler, L. Wilson**Prereq: Previous college-level coursework in history, literature or social theory.*

Notes: Taught in English. Students interested in developing their German language speaking skills in conjunction with this course are encouraged to enroll in the GRMST-231BA-01 section of the course and in the 2-credit discussion section GRMST-295-01.

AFCNA-241EN Topics in Africana Studies: 'The Early African American Novel'*Spring. Credits: 4*

This course tracks the beginnings of the African American novelistic tradition in the nineteenth century. The early African American novel had to contend with a number of other literary forms within its political and cultural context such as the slave narrative with its central claim to truth. We will consider: What is specific to the form of the novel? How does it differentiate itself from and even include other forms of writing and literature? What are the politics of the early African American novel in the era of slavery and abolition? We will examine how early novels by Black Americans imagine more emancipatory futures while also critiquing the unfreedom of the nineteenth century.

*Crosslisted as: ENGL-254EN**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**A. Moskowitz***AFCNA-241EU Topics in Africana Studies: 'European Expansion in Africa'***Fall. Credits: 4*

Between the 1870s and 1910s, Africa was conquered by and divided among European powers. Why were European powers interested in informal and formal control of Africa? Why were they in competition with one another? How did Africans respond to European conquest and rule? What were the impacts of colonial rule in Africa? This course answers these and many other questions. The course is divided into two phases. The first focuses on the activities of the European powers in the late nineteenth century. The second examines the post-conquest period and examines African responses to the European conquests and rules in the early twentieth century.

*Crosslisted as: HIST-245EU**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive**A. Abdulrahman***AFCNA-241HS Topics in Africana Studies: 'African American History, Precolonial to Emancipation'***Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

This course will examine the cultural, social, political, and economic history of African Americans through the Civil War. Topics covered include the African background to the African American experience, the Atlantic slave trade, introduction and development of slavery, master-slave relationships, the establishment of black communities, slave revolts, the political economy of slavery, women in slavery, the experiences of free blacks, the crisis of the nineteenth century, and the effect of the Civil War.

*Crosslisted as: HIST-281**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**The department***AFCNA-241PE Topics in Africana Studies: 'African Performance Aesthetics'***Fall. Credits: 4*

This class explores African approaches to performance, premised on the interdisciplinarity of theatre in many African societies. We take our inspiration from centuries of apprentice-style artist training in some indigenous West African societies. The evolution of oral and popular performance traditions into literary theatre has also necessitated a similar trend in the training of the modern actor. The primary object of this class is to be able to embody a plethora of idiomatic expressions. Thus, we will move to the energy of the drums, we will train the ears to transmit the complex musicality of several sonic elements and raise our voices in song and apply them in scene explorations. Ultimately, we intend to unlock new ways of using our minds, bodies, and voices as conduits of exciting storytelling.

*Crosslisted as: FMT-240PE**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**M. Ofori***AFCNA-241PT Topics in Africana Studies: 'Introduction to Poetry of the African Diaspora'***Fall. Credits: 4*

What is African poetry and how has it evolved over time from oral to written literature? In this course, we will read and respond creatively and critically to poetry by people of the African diaspora with a focus on people with ties to the Sub-Saharan region. We will explore both oral and written poetry as well as themes of identity, nationhood, and spirituality. By the end of the semester, students will create a chapbook with (20-30) poems and will be encouraged to submit their poems to journals for publication.

*Crosslisted as: ENGL-216**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive**R. Ansong**Restrictions: This course is limited to first-years and sophomores.*

AFCNA-241SV Topics in Africana Studies: 'Slavery and Emancipation in Africa'*Fall. Credits: 4*

Slavery and emancipation is a broad theme in the history of the modern world. The study of this theme has usually been centered on the Atlantic world and the focus has always been on the enslavement of Africans in the Americas. Yet, slavery was a global phenomenon. Slavery has been one of the most common historical settings in all regions of the world. This course focuses on Africa and examines the meanings and nature of slavery, methods of enslavement, slave use in Africa, internal and external slave trades, the place of women, slave resistance, abolition, and the persistence of slavery in Africa during the colonial rule. We will compare slavery in Africa and other regions of the World.

*Crosslisted as: HIST-245SV**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive**A. Abdulrahman***AFCNA-241TR Topics in Africana Studies: 'The Early African American Novel'***Spring. Credits: 4*

The course examines horror and comedy as genre conventions that become strained and distorted when bent to the demands of black critical expression. This course will center on themes of life and death as they are framed in black film and literature through idioms of the absurd and the ghastly. We will encounter film and writing by Ralph Ellison, Zora Neale Hurston, Chester Himes, Toni Morrison, Danielle Fuentes Morgan, Bill Gunn, Donald Glover. Students will learn how to close-read our media-saturated environment, thinking through the ways in which representation functions to condition our perception of enjoyment and terror.

*Crosslisted as: ENGL-254TR**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive**K. Maye***AFCNA-246 Womanist Religious Thought***Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

As a conceptual framework which reconsiders the rituals, scriptures, and allegiances of religious black women, womanist thought has expanded the interdisciplinary canon of black and feminist religious studies. This course is a survey of womanist religious scholars from multiple religious traditions: Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, and Yoruba-Ifa – as well as theorists who understand womanism as a "spiritual but not religious" orientation. Course participants will use the interpretive touchstones of cross-culturalism, erotics, earthcare, and health – among others – to examine contemporary womanist religious thought.

*Crosslisted as: RELIG-246, GNDST-210WR**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**M. Coleman-Tobias***AFCNA-251 Contemporary African American Literature II***Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

This course will examine African American literature and culture in the postwar period as American identities are coalescing around the concept of the US as a world power. Specifically, our task during the semester will be to discuss the myriad ways black authors and artists attempt to interrogate the structure of racial hegemony by creating poetry and prose meant to expand notions of culture and form. We will also examine music, visual art, and advertisements from this era to have a greater sense of the black experience through various cultural representations. Writers will include James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, Ralph Ellison, Michael S. Harper and bell hooks.

*Crosslisted as: ENGL-251**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**The department***AFCNA-257 African American Literature***Fall. Credits: 4*

This course surveys Black literary production with special attention to the idea of genre as a choice of form made by Black writers from the antebellum era through the present to communicate critique, effect political change, and render new worlds. Structured around debates about the genre status of Black writing, this course introduces students to slave era texts by Harriet E. Wilson, David Walker, Phillis Wheatley; 20th century works by Nella Larsen, Zora Neale Hurston, Amos Tutuola, Chester Himes, Bill Gunn, James Baldwin, Toni Cade Bambara; and contemporary work by Saidiya Hartman, Octavia Butler, Jeremy O. Harris, and Rita Dove. Reading, writing, and critical viewership will be central to the course.

*Crosslisted as: ENGL-257**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**K. Maye***AFCNA-282 African American History from Emancipation to the Present***Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

This course will examine the social, cultural, political, and economic history of African Americans from emancipation and Reconstruction through the present. Emphasis will fall on postwar southern social and economic developments, the rise of segregation, northern migrations, black class stratification, nationalism, the twentieth-century civil rights movement, and current trends in African American political, social, and economic life.

*Crosslisted as: HIST-282**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**The department***AFCNA-295 Independent Study***Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 4**The department**Instructor permission required.*

AFCNA-308 Luminous Darkness: African American Social Thought After DuBois*Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

Examines the life, work, and legacies of WEB DuBois. Drawing on domestic and diasporic fictional and nonfictional meditations on black life and progress in and beyond the 'DuBoisian century,' the course considers the changing meanings of and movements for global racial justice for people of African descent. The course also confronts the globalization of the color line in the post-Civil Rights/Black Power era. Due to increasing precarity for the masses, emphasis is given to more recent ideas like afro-pessimism, racial capitalism, and afro-futurism, as contemporary responses to DuBois's 1903 question, 'How does it feel to be a problem?' Readings by Jemisin, Gyasi, Robinson, Fields, Butler, Davis, Ransby, Hartman, Wilderson, Fanon, YamahttaTaylor, among others form the core of the course.

*Crosslisted as: CST-349LD**Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives*
*L. Wilson**Prereq: 8 credits in Africana Studies or Critical Social Thought.***AFCNA-341 Topics in Africana Studies****AFCNA-341AE Topics in Africana Studies: 'Race, Gender and Sexual Aesthetics in the Global Era' Justice'***Fall. Credits: 4*

Reading across a spectrum of disciplinary focuses (e.g. philosophies of aesthetics, post-structural feminisms, Black cultural studies, and queer of color critique) this course asks the question what is the nature of aesthetics when it negotiates modes of difference? This course explores the history and debates on aesthetics as it relates to race, gender, and sexuality with particular emphasis on Black diaspora theory and cultural production. Drawing on sensation, exhibitions, active discussion, observation, and experimentation, emphasis will be placed on developing a fine-tuned approach to aesthetic inquiry and appreciation.

*Crosslisted as: GNDST-333AE, CST-349AE, ARTST-380AE**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives*
*S. Smith**Prereq: 8 credits in Gender Studies.***AFCNA-341AF Topics in Africana Studies: 'African American Spiritualities of Dissent'***Fall. Credits: 4*

This course seeks to understand how protest fuels the creation and sustenance of black religious movements and novel spiritual systems in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. We will examine the dissenting qualities of selected African American activists, community workers, scholars, spiritual/religious leaders and creative writers. By the end of this course, students will be able to thoughtfully respond to the questions, "What is spirituality?"; "What is dissent?"; and "Has blackness required resistive spiritual communities?"

*Crosslisted as: RELIG-331AF, CST-349AF**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives*
*M. Coleman-Tobias***AFCNA-341AT Topics in Africana Studies: 'African Theater'***Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

This course introduces the oral traditions, important playwrights, and aesthetic innovations in postcolonial literary theatre in some African societies. The oral theatre traditions of Africa are an example of the innate human quest to perform and will eventually be the basis for understanding some of the innovations made in African literary theatre. We shall also focus on writings by African writers and writers of African descent who deal with the post-colonial conditions of Black Africa and the African Diaspora. This class is designed to serve as a window into the continent of Africa: its people, its ideas, triumphs, struggles, and the complex histories emerging from its vastness and diversity.

*Crosslisted as: FMT-330AT**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives*
*M. Ofori**Restrictions: This course is open to juniors and seniors**Prereq: 8 credits in Africana Studies or Film, Media, Theater.***AFCNA-341DC Topics in Africana Studies: 'Decolonization and the Civil Rights Movement'***Spring. Credits: 4*

This course explores pan-African collaborations between the continental Africans and the African Diaspora during the age of decolonization and the Civil Rights Movement. It examines key developments in the global black movement with a focus on (de)segregation, the Civil Rights Movement, decolonization, and the Black Power Movement. Through readings and discussions, students who complete this course will come to understand the contributions of continental Africans to the Civil Rights Movement in the United States and the responses of the African Diaspora to social, political, and economic conditions in post-colonial Africa.

*Crosslisted as: HIST-341DC**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive**A. Abdulrahman**Restrictions: This course is open to juniors and seniors**Prereq: 8 credits in History or 4 credits in History and 4 credits in Africana Studies.***AFCNA-341DE Topics in Africana Studies: 'Development in Africa: A Critical History'***Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

How and why has Africa become synonymous with "development"? This class traces the historical construction of an idea so pervasive that it has become almost invisible. Moving through 200 years of history, we interrogate the ways that different projects for "developing" Africa have been envisioned, challenged, planned, implemented and lived. Throughout, we return to key questions. Why and how have the lives of African people become entangled with various ideologies of "progress"? What visions of African "development" have been articulated in the West, in the African diaspora, on the continent itself? And, fundamentally, is "development" still a useful concept today?

*Crosslisted as: HIST-341DE**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives**E. Prosperetti**Prereq: 8 credits in History.*

AFCNA-341EM Topics in Africana Studies: 'The Age of Emancipation'
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

This colloquium examines the causes and the course of the Civil War, its social, economic, and political results during Reconstruction, and the early roots of both de jure segregation and the civil rights movement. It will examine the process of emancipation from the perspective of social history. Violent conflicts over free labor, the establishment of sharecropping, and the political and economic policies pursued by various groups—freedpeople, ex-masters, northern policymakers, wage laborers, and African American women, for example—will be covered. African American viewpoints and histories will receive particular emphasis.

Crosslisted as: HIST-301EM

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

The department

Prereq: 4 credits in History.

AFCNA-341MT Topics in Africana Studies: 'Bodies of Thought: Metaphors of Embodiment in Black Literature'

Spring. Credits: 4

This course tracks uses of the body as a metaphor in literature by black writers in the 20th and 21st centuries. Thinking about the body as a conceptual unit that refers to a broad range of configurations – the physical body, the national body, bodies of knowledge, and so on – this course will ask students to think about the limits and potentials of the body as form when it is marshaled by black writers toward a range of political, social, and aesthetic projects. We will read texts by Frantz Fanon, James Hannaham, Jesmyn Ward, Octavia Butler, Jamaica Kincaid, and others.

Crosslisted as: ENGL-350MT

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

K. Maye

Restrictions: This course is open to juniors and seniors

AFCNA-341RB Topics in Africana Studies: 'Postcolonial Literatures of Anglophone Africa and South Asia'

Spring. Credits: 4

This course brings together literatures from Anglophone South Asia and Africa to explore how belonging to the nation is complicated by realities of marginalization and displacement. Postcolonial histories demonstrate tensions between the ideological aspirations of the nation as home and the reality of internal conflicts and wars that expose the limits of belonging. Texts include novels, literary criticism, and critical theory on internal displacement and refugees, the gendered and ethnic minorities, the political other, and trauma. We will read Chinelo Okparanta's *Under the Udala Tree*, Bapsi Sidhwa's *Cracking India*, Michael Ondaatje's *Anil's Ghost*, and Tsitsi Dangarembga's *The Book of Not*.

Crosslisted as: ENGL-382RB

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive

A. Mandal

Restrictions: This course is open to juniors and seniors

Prereq: 8 credits in English.

AFCNA-341SE Topics in Africana Studies: 'Black Sexual Economies'
Spring. Credits: 4

At once viewed as a dysfunction of normative ideas about sexuality, the family, and the nation, Black sexualities are intimately linked to and regulated by political and socioeconomic discourses. Slavery studies scholars remind us of how it has proven foundational for modern notions of race and sex by making explicit links between labor and exploitation. Thus, this course moves through themes such as slavery historicity, intersections between Black feminisms and Black sexualities, sexual labor/work, pleasure, and the erotic, in order to consider the stakes of our current critical approaches to Black sexual economies and interrogate its silences and possibilities.

Crosslisted as: GNDST-333SE, CST-349SE

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

S. Smith

Prereq: Two courses in Gender Studies or Africana Studies.

AFCNA-341TM Topics in Africana Studies: 'Toni Morrison'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

This course will examine the work and the centralized black world of the last American Nobel laureate in literature, Toni Morrison. Morrison is the author of eleven novels and multiple other works, including nonfiction and criticism. In a career that has spanned over forty years and has informed countless artists and writers, Morrison's expansive cultural reach can hardly be measured accurately. In this course we will endeavor to critically analyze the arc and the import of many of Morrison's writings. Readings include: *The Bluest Eye*, *Sula*, *Song of Solomon*, *Jazz*, *Playing in the Dark*, *Paradise*, and *A Mercy*.

Crosslisted as: ENGL-350TM

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

The department

Prereq: 4 credits in English or Africana Studies.

AFCNA-341WM Topics in Africana Studies: 'The African/American Woman in Literature'

Spring. Credits: 4

This course surveys historical representations of Black female subjects in the literature of the African Diaspora. We will read *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead, *Beloved* by Toni Morrison, *The Farming of Bones* by Edwidge Danticat, *Efuru* by Flora Nwapa, and *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi as well as a curated list of short stories. Discussions will center on the changing notions of values for these women as a result of their geographical location: how does space/relationship to land shape African/American women's identities? Students will also compose critical reflections and a final creative project which may include an art collection, documentary, short story, or a series of blog posts.

Crosslisted as: ENGL-350WM

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

R. Ansong

Restrictions: This course is open to juniors and seniors

AFCNA-349CB Topics in Africana Studies: 'Contemporary Black Memoir'
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

This course traces the formation of the Black public intellectual in the internet age. All memoirs read in this class have been published within the last decade, and include works by luminaries such as Kiese Laymon, Tressie McMillan Cottom, Roxane Gay, Hari Ziyad, and Da'Shaun Harrison. Students will examine the elasticity of memoir as a category, and assignments will compare and contrast authors' online personas to their published work.

Crosslisted as: ENGL-350CB

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
K. Wright

Prereq: 8 credits in English or Africana Studies.

AFCNA-361 The Aquatic Life of Black Devotion

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

Water informs religious and spiritual worldviews the world over; commonplace rituals from baptism to libation underwrite its prescience. The religious cultures of West and Central Africa, along with its multiple diasporas, theorize, encounter, and engage water centrally. Seminar participants will dive deeply into the water-based epistemologies of African and African diaspora religions, probing liturgical language, ritual performance and spiritual entities for aquatic common threads. Seminar participants will analyze the historical realities that have made water such a contested yet indispensable feature of black religious life.

Crosslisted as: RELIG-361

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
M. Coleman-Tobias

Restrictions: This course is open to juniors and seniors

AFCNA-363 Rastafari

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

From its counterhegemonic beginning as a nexus of Garveyism, Ethiopianism, and Pan-Africanism, Rastafari has shifted from a Caribbean theological movement to a new religious and socio-political movement globally. What were the epistemological tenets that enabled Rastafari to boast such a multi-sited diaspora? What was the role of reggae music in spreading the religious culture? How have women negotiated their roles within its textured prescriptions? Seminar participants will explore these questions, among others. Beyond understanding the diverse beliefs and practices of global Rastafari, seminar participants will consider some of the enduring motifs of black, dissentive religions as iterated through Rastafari.

Crosslisted as: RELIG-363

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
M. Coleman-Tobias

Restrictions: This course is open to juniors and seniors

AFCNA-395 Independent Study

Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 8

The department

Instructor permission required.

Related Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Africana Studies		
AFCNA-141	Introduction to Modern African History	4
AFCNA-142	Introduction to Pre-colonial African History	4
AFCNA-181	Introduction to African Diaspora Religions	4
AFCNA-200	Foundations of Africana Studies	4
AFCNA-208	Introduction to Twentieth-Century Critical Race Theory	4

AFCNA-234	Black Metropolis: From MLK to Obama	4
AFCNA-241BA	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Black Atlantic Diasporas: Departures, Travels, and Arrivals'	4
AFCNA-241EN	Topics in Africana Studies: 'The Early African American Novel'	4
AFCNA-241EU	Topics in Africana Studies: 'European Expansion in Africa'	4
AFCNA-241HS	Topics in Africana Studies: 'African American History, Precolonial to Emancipation'	4
AFCNA-241PE	Topics in Africana Studies: 'African Performance Aesthetics'	4
AFCNA-241PT	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Introduction to Poetry of the African Diaspora'	4
AFCNA-241SV	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Slavery and Emancipation in Africa'	4
AFCNA-241TR	Topics in Africana Studies: 'The Early African American Novel'	4
AFCNA-246	Womanist Religious Thought	4
AFCNA-251	Contemporary African American Literature II	4
AFCNA-257	African American Literature	4
AFCNA-282	African American History from Emancipation to the Present	4
AFCNA-308	Luminous Darkness: African American Social Thought After DuBois	4
AFCNA-341AE	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Race, Gender and Sexual Aesthetics in the Global Era' Justice'	4
AFCNA-341AF	Topics in Africana Studies: 'African American Spiritualities of Dissent'	4
AFCNA-341AT	Topics in Africana Studies: 'African Theater'	4
AFCNA-341DC	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Decolonization and the Civil Rights Movement'	4
AFCNA-341DE	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Development in Africa: A Critical History'	4
AFCNA-341EM	Topics in Africana Studies: 'The Age of Emancipation'	4
AFCNA-341MT	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Bodies of Thought: Metaphors of Embodiment in Black Literature'	4
AFCNA-341RB	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Postcolonial Literatures of Anglophone Africa and South Asia'	4
AFCNA-341SE	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Black Sexual Economies'	4
AFCNA-341TM	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Toni Morrison'	4
AFCNA-341WM	Topics in Africana Studies: 'The African/American Woman in Literature'	4
AFCNA-349CB	Topics in Africana Studies: 'Contemporary Black Memoir'	4
AFCNA-361	The Aquatic Life of Black Devotion	4
AFCNA-363	Rastafari	4

Anthropology

ANTHR-216BD	Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Sex and Gender in the Black Diaspora'	4
ANTHR-216CF	Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Cultures of Africa and the African Diaspora'	4
ANTHR-216HR	Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Anthropology and Human Rights'	4

Art History

ARTH-290SW	Issues in Art History: 'Here +54: From the Smithsonian to Soweto, Arts of the African Americas and Africa'	4	ENGL-350WM	Studies in African American Literature: 'The African/American Woman in Literature'	4
Art Studio			ENGL-382RB	Advanced Topics in English: 'ruptured Belonging: Postcolonial Literatures of Anglophone Africa and South Asia'	4
ARTST-380AE	Advanced Topics in Studio Art: 'Race, Gender and Sexual Aesthetics in the Global Era' Justice'	4	Environmental Studies		
Critical Social Thought			ENVST-210	Political Ecology	4
CST-149AD	Topics in Critical Social Thought: 'Introduction to African Diaspora Religions'	4	Film, Media, Theater		
CST-249BA	Topics in Critical Social Thought: 'Black Atlantic Diasporas: Departures, Travels, and Arrivals'	4	FMT-230PR	Intermediate Courses in History and Theory: 'African Opera in Theory and Practice'	4
CST-249BW	Topics in Critical Social Thought: 'Black Women and the Politics of Survival'	4	FMT-240PE	Intermediate Courses in Production and Practice: 'African Performance Aesthetics'	4
CST-253	Critical Race Theory	4	FMT-330AT	Advanced Courses in History and Theory: 'African Theater'	4
CST-349AE	Advanced Topics: 'Race, Gender and Sexual Aesthetics in the Global Era' Justice'	4	French		
CST-349AF	Advanced Topics: 'African American Spiritualities of Dissent'	4	FREN-219	Intermediate Level Courses in Culture and Literature: Introduction to the French-Speaking World	4
CST-349BF	Advanced Topics: 'Foundations in Black Feminist Thought'	4	FREN-341NE	Courses in Francophone Studies: 'Revisiting the Negritude Movement: Origins, Evolution, and Relevance'	4
CST-349LD	Advanced Topics: 'Luminous Darkness: African American Social Thought After DuBois'	4	Geography		
CST-349SE	Advanced Topics: 'Black Sexual Economies'	4	GEOG-313	Third World Development	4
Dance			GEOG-319	Africa: Problems and Prospects	4
DANCE-132	Introduction to Hip Hop	2	Gender Studies		
DANCE-141	West African Drumming for Dance	1	GNDST-204AE	Women and Gender in the Study of Culture: 'Women and the Informal Economy in Africa'	4
DANCE-142	West African Dance	2	GNDST-209	Sex and Gender in the Black Diaspora	4
DANCE-146	Afro-Fusion Dance	2	GNDST-210WR	Women and Gender in Philosophy and Religion: 'Womanist Religious Thought'	4
DANCE-232	Intermediate Hip Hop	2	GNDST-212BW	Women and Gender in Social Sciences: 'Black Women and the Politics of Survival'	4
DANCE-272AF	Dance and Culture: 'Improvisation from an Africanist Perspective'	4	GNDST-333AE	Advanced Seminar: 'Race, Gender and Sexual Aesthetics in the Global Era' Justice'	4
DANCE-272FD	Dance and Culture: 'Funk Styles'	4	GNDST-333BF	Advanced Seminar: 'Foundations in Black Feminist Thought'	4
Economics			GNDST-333FP	Advanced Seminar: 'Women and Writing in French-Speaking Africa'	4
ECON-306	Political Economy of Inequality	4	GNDST-333NE	Advanced Seminar: 'Women and the Informal Economy in Africa'	4
Education			GNDST-333SE	Advanced Seminar: 'Black Sexual Economies'	4
EDUC-205	Social Justice in Education	4	German Studies		
English			GRMST-231BA	Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context: 'Black Atlantic Diasporas: Departures, Travels, and Arrivals'	4
ENGL-251	Contemporary African American Literature II	4	History		
ENGL-254EN	Topics in African American Literature: 'The Early African American Novel'	4	HIST-141	Introduction to Modern African History	4
ENGL-254TR	Topics in African American Literature: 'Tragicomedy in Black: Humor and Horror in Black Critical Expression'	4	HIST-142	Introduction to Pre-colonial African History	4
ENGL-257	African American Literature	4	HIST-180	Introduction to Latin American Cultures	4
ENGL-350AM	Topics in African American Literature: 'Race and Sensory Perception in Nineteenth-Century American Literature'	4	HIST-245EU	Topics in African History: 'European Expansion in Africa'	4
ENGL-350CB	Topics in African American Literature: 'Contemporary Black Memoir'	4	HIST-245SV	Topics in African History: 'Slavery and Emancipation in Africa'	4
ENGL-350MT	Topics in African American Literature: 'Bodies of Thought: Metaphors of Embodiment in Black Literature'	4	HIST-281	African American History, Precolonial to Emancipation	4
ENGL-350TM	Topics in African American Literature: 'Toni Morrison'	4			

HIST-282	African American History from Emancipation to the Present	4
HIST-341DC	Topics in African History: 'Decolonization and the Civil Rights Movement'	4
Latin American Studies		
LATAM-180	Introduction to Latin American Cultures	4
Music		
MUSIC-161	Beginning West African Drumming Ensemble	1
MUSIC-226	World Music	4
MUSIC-228	African Opera in Theory and Practice	4
MUSIC-229	African Popular Music	4
MUSIC-261	Intermediate West African Drumming Ensemble	1
Philosophy		
PHIL-248	Philosophical Issues in Race and Racism	4
Politics		
POLIT-234	Black Metropolis: From MLK to Obama	4
POLIT-249	African Politics	4
POLIT-252	Urban Politics	4
POLIT-355	Race and Housing	4
POLIT-387PD	Advanced Topics in Politics: 'Other Political Dreams'	4
Psychology		
PSYCH-213	Psychology of Racism	4
Religion		
RELIG-181	Introduction to African Diaspora Religions	4
RELIG-246	Womanist Religious Thought	4
RELIG-331AF	Advanced Topics in Religion: 'African American Spiritualities of Dissent'	4
RELIG-361	The Aquatic Life of Black Devotion	4
RELIG-363	Rastafari	4
Sociology		
SOCI-214	Race in America: Inequality, Immigration, and Other Issues	4
SOCI-316RM	Special Topics in Sociology: 'Consumer Culture: Race in the Marketplace'	4