

BLACK STUDIES @ MIAMI



Program in Africana Studies Fall 2018 Courses



Africana Studies offers students opportunities to confront and critically analyze distinctive Black intellectual and social-cultural traditions, and political-economic and historical structures. Situated in Miami, Florida, we are uniquely positioned in and between the US South and the Global South. Therefore, our translocal perspective finds blackness and Black people everywhere in the world. As the university's center for Black culture and politics, the Program in Africana Studies reaches beyond undergraduate study-- inviting a wide variety of local and international graduate students, artists, scholars, and community advocates into our intellectual community.

Africana Studies' interdisciplinary structure offers students an opportunity to satisfy the increasingly rigorous expectations of graduate and professional school admissions committees and prospective employers, offering a broad liberal arts perspective that complements specialized knowledge of a field. Our curriculum and programmatic efforts uniquely help to prepare students to understand and effectively work toward social justice. We encourage all students, regardless of major, to enroll in Africana classes. Africana Studies can be taken either as a primary major, as one of two majors, or a minor.

Fall 2018 Offerings. Descriptions for These Courses Follow

CORE & REQUIRED AFRICANA CLASSES

Introduction to Africana Studies. AAS 150 (12984). Mr. Dan Castilow

African-American Literature. AAS 290 - C (9012). Dr. Anthony Barthélemy. MWF 10:10AM -

History of Africa I (to 1800). AAS 290 - T (7761). Dr. Edmund Abaka. TuTh 5:00PM - 6:15PM

Caribbean Literature. AAS 390 - P1 (12972). Dr. Patricia Saunders. TTh 11 - 12:15PM.

(Ethnographies of) Black Life. Dr. Jafari Allen. AAS 390 - S (12863). TuTh 3:30PM - 4:45PM

Modern African Literature. AAS 390 - H (11774). Dr. Brenna Munro. MW 3:35PM - 4:50PM

History of Southern Africa. AAS 390 - R (8373). Dr. Edmund Abaka. TuTh 2:00PM - 3:15PM

Advanced Colloquy in Black Feminist Theory and Praxis: Major Works of 7 Black Feminist Thinkers. AAS 490- T (12865) Dr. Jafari Allen. TuTh 5:00PM - 6:15PM

NEW FIRST YEAR SEMINAR

Aesthetics and Meaning in African Art and Cultures. Dr. Erica James. FFA190-P

Africana Electives

Sista Soul Food: Black Women, Food and Power. AAS 390 - E (11858). Dr. Rachel Panton MWF 12:20-1:10

The Black "Ghetto" in Urban Society. AAS 390 - N (12859). Dr. Felecia Theune. TuTh 8:00AM - 9:15AM

Filming gender and queer sexuality issues in Sub-Sahara Africa, the Maghreb, France, the Caribbean and Quebec. AAS 390 - J (12864). Rudolf Heyndels, Salim Ayoub.

CORE & REQUIRED AFRICANA CLASSES

- *Start Here. Whether you are beginning your Black Studies journey, and/or you intend to declare a major, this should be your first Africana class.*

AAS 150 (12984). Introduction to Africana Studies. Mr. Dan Castilow. TTH 8:00 AM-9:15

This introductory course exposes students to a comprehensive overview of the lived experiences of Black people, primarily in the United States, but also throughout the African Diaspora. A truly multidisciplinary course, we survey the complex history of Africans in the Americas, Black cultural production in the arts, and historic and contemporary forms of resistance. We examine the process of racialization in different parts of the African Diaspora, including Latin America and the Caribbean, and the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality as they relate to Black people today. We do this through a close examination of historic texts, music, film, social and political organizations, and pop culture.

- *Become well-read in US Black American literatures in this wide-ranging classic survey. Accepted for 290 level Africana Arts and Humanities Requirement. Combined with ENG 260.*

African-American Literature. AAS 290 - C (9012). Dr. Anthony Bathélemy. MWF 10:10AM - 11:00AM

Selected readings of the eighteenth century to the present.

- *The course you have been waiting for has returned! Combined with HIS 201. Accepted for 290 level Africana History Requirement*

History of Africa I (to 1800). AAS 290 - T (7761). Dr. Edmund Abaka. TuTh 5:00PM - 6:15PM

History of Africa before the Colonial period, emphasizing sources for the study of African history, African political and social institutions, the slave trade, and "legitimate" trade and markets.

- *Miami is the largest city in the Circum-Caribbean. Get to know its archive of film and literature! Accepted for 390 level Africana Literature Requirement.*

Caribbean Literature. AAS 390 - P1 (12972). Dr. Patricia Saunders. TTh 11 - 12:15PM.

The Caribbean region encompasses an array of political, social, and historical foundations inspired by colonialism in the New World. This course will offer students the opportunity to explore the political and cultural landscapes represented in the works of writers in the Caribbean region. We will engage concerns that emerged in the West Indies during colonial occupation as well as Caribbean literature written during the post-independence periods.

Through lectures, readings, films, discussions and assignments we will examine constructions of history, identity, gender and nationalism in Caribbean literatures. Though the emphasis of the course will be Caribbean Literatures in English, we will also read texts in Spanish and English simultaneously as well as texts in English translated from Spanish and French. We will also view films based on some of the novels we will read in the course.

- *Explore lives of Black folks around the world and in Miami! Black Studies social science, with Africana Studies Chair, Jafari Allen (no substitutes). Black intellectual tradition. Black joy. Combined with APY 302. Satisfies Africana Social Science & Junior Seminar Requirements.*

Ethnographies of Black Life. Dr. Jafari Allen. AAS 390 - S (12863). TuTh 3:30PM - 4:45PM

This course explores themes that have shaped Anthropology's (often fraught) engagement with Black life. In this course we will historicize and critique the relationship between Black studies and the social sciences, with a particular focus on the discipline of anthropology. Students will critically interrogate the methods and theoretical frameworks employed to empirically distill the social conditions and political formations of Black diasporic peoples; and consider the ways in which Black intellectuals have troubled the conceptual foundations of the social sciences.

- *Go beyond "Wakanda" and "Zamunda" to the actual continent of Africa in this continent-wide cultural studies course, including issues of sexuality, gender, race, migration, technology, and (neo)colonialism. Accepted for 390 level Africana Literature Requirement. Combined with ENG 396 - H (10431)*

Modern African Literature. AAS 390 - H (11774). Dr. Brenna Munro. MW 3:35PM - 4:50PM

This class offers an introduction to the amazing range of modern African literature and film, a politically engaged and stylistically varied archive. We will begin with important foundational figures, such as Senegalese film-maker and novelist Ousmane Sembene, Zimbabwean Yvonne Vera, Egyptian Naguib Mahfouz, and Nigerian Chinua Achebe. We will then focus on contemporary works, such as Abderrahmane Sissako's beautiful film *Timbuktu*, about ordinary people in Mali resisting the take-over of their city by fundamentalists, and *Stories of Our Lives*, by the Nest Collective, about queer life in Kenya. We will also read Ben Okri's magical realism, Nnedi Okorafor's Afrofuturist science fiction, Koleka Putuma's slam poetry, and I. Igoni Barret's satirical *Blackass*, in which a young man in Lagos wakes up to discover that he has become white. Finally, we will analyze how African writers are using the internet to transform access to literature, and to invent new ways of writing, such as Teju Cole's Twitter stories, and the "ICC Witness Project."

- *Dr. Abaka has returned from research leave! Join him in this interrogation of histories with which Southern Africa continues to struggle today. Accepted for 390 level Africana History Requirement. Combined with HIS 309*

History of Southern Africa. AAS 390 - R (8373). Edmund Abaka. TuTh 2:00PM - 3:15PM

The establishment of the Dutch settlements and the apartheid system, African responses to European domination, and the collapse of apartheid and the emergence of a multi-racial South Africa.

- *Ready to go beyond the 'Greatest Hits' of Feminism? Get into this. With Africana Studies Chair, Jafari Allen (no substitutes). Community discussions. Snacks. Black intellectual tradition. Black joy. Combined with APY 486, APY 696, and WGS 450 - T (11876). Satisfies Africana Senior Seminar Requirement.*

Advanced Colloquy in Black Feminist Theory and Praxis: Major Works of 7 Black Feminist Thinkers. AAS 490 - T (12865) Dr. Jafari Allen. TuTh 5:00PM - 6:15PM

Black feminist theory, produced primarily by Black women scholars, artist and activists, throughout the diaspora, constitutes a distinctive and influential body of politics and thought. While one of its central innovations-- 'intersectionality' -- is now being widely discussed, one needs specific and contextual knowledge to understand, critique, and or deploy this concept. This seminar explores some Black feminist and womanist foundations, and key emerging works. We take a Great Thinkers/ Great Works approach. After brief consideration of a few of the major streams of Black feminist and womanist work, we will concentrate on close readings of selected works of seven key thinkers-- mapping their intellectual, political, and/or aesthetic genealogies. What streams do they follow? What new or emerging work follows them? What models do they offer to the world, and for our own work?

NEW FIRST YEAR SEMINAR

Start off your University of Miami career the right way! Accepted for 190 level Africana I Arts and Humanities Requirement.

Aesthetics and Meaning in African Art and Cultures. Dr. Erica James. FFA190-P

This course offers a comprehensive introduction to the ancient, modern and contemporary art and cultural life of the African continent. From ancient carvings and paintings extending from the Tassili n'Ajjer region to Southern Africa, to the art emerging from the kingdoms of ancient Egypt, Kush, Ethiopia, Dahomey and the Yoruba, Akan and Kongo kingdoms, the course will be expanded through meaningful engagement with issues facing African art and culture today including the destruction of ancient art and manuscripts due to war and religion; the looting of archeological sites and its relationship to the global art market; questions around authorship, value, and authenticity; the exhibition of African Art in museums; environmental degradation; and the repatriation of art objects.

Africana Electives

- *Satisfy your English Composition Requirements, and/or your aspirations to become a better writer, and/or to learn more about delicious Black cultural production by Black women! Crosslisted with English Composition.*

Sista Soul Food: Black Women, Food and Power. AAS 390 - E (11858). Dr. Rachel Panton MWF 12:20-1:10

From slavery until today Black American women have not only served as herbalists and healers but have transmitted culture through food in the fields, in their homes, in their communities, in their churches and in other religious organizations. Through our 'readings and writings in this course, we will explore the historical, socio-economic and political spaces of Black American women and food, and how these contexts have helped to affect self- definition, black feminist social consciousness and personal identity

- *Critically engage the concept of the “Black ghetto” from sociological and historical perspectives. Combined with SOC 388.*

The Black “Ghetto” in Urban Society. AAS 390 - N (12859). Dr. Felecia Theune. TuTh 8:00AM - 9:15AM

The origin and development of the concept of "ghetto" and application of this concept to both past and contemporary-views of black life in America. Students are introduced to the historical and social significance of the black ghetto in the context of the larger body of literature on the ghetto phenomenon. Emphasis is placed on gaining an understanding and developing critical insight into issues and prospects for the resolution of issues related to black ghettoization.

Pre-requisite: SOC 101.

- *Register for this film course, vite fait! Screening works by African and Black francophones, en francais! M/W 3:35-4:50 P.M. Combined with FRE 345 - J (10342)*

Filming gender and queer sexuality issues in Sub-Sahara Africa, the Maghreb, France, the Caribbean and Quebec. AAS 390 - J (12864). Rudolf Heyndels, Salim Ayoub.

In this course we will analyze and question cinematographic representations of gender and queer sexuality issues in French language films from Sub-Sahara Africa, the Maghreb, “hexagonal” France, and Quebec. Films to be studied are from directors Mohamed Camara, Nouri Bouzid, Mehdi Ben Attia, Abdellah Taia, Nabil Ayouch, Raja Amari, Gael Morel, Sylvie Verheyde, Laurent Cantet / Dany Lafferiere, and Xavier Dolan. They will be critically contextualized in socio-gender-social terms and examined in queer theory perspectives.

Entirely taught in French.

Dr. Jafari Sinclair Allen, Chair (jafari.allen@miami.edu)

