Black American Studies (BAMS)

Undergraduate/Graduate Course Offerings/Descriptions

Fall 2016

BAMS 107-010—History of Rock
Hamant, A. TR 9:30am-10:45am
BAMS 107-011—History of Rock
Hamant, A. TR 11:00am-12:15pm
BAMS 107-012—History of Rock
Hamant, A. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm
The study of various styles of rock music. Introduction to folk, country, blues and jazz as predecessors to rock. Intended for the non-music major. No music reading skills required. Sections satisfy a Group B requirement. Cross-listed with MUSC 107-010, MUSC 107-011 and MUSC 107-012.

BAMS 110-010—Introduction to Black American Studies
Serrano, J. MWF 9:05am-9:55am
BAMS 110-011—Introduction to Black American Studies
Dandridge, A. TR 3:30pm-4:45pm
Assesses the status of Black America from early colonial America up to modern times through an examination of the major spheres of institutional life, including employment, education, politics, criminal justice, and the military. Sections satisfy a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.

BAMS 134-010—History of Africa
Maloba, W. MWF 11:15am-12:05pm
Introduction to African history south of the Sahara, from the earliest times to 1914. Introduces major themes in African history: pre-colonial African political, social and economic institutions; diversity in African political organizations; slave trade and colonialism. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. Cross-listed with HIST 134-010.

BAMS 205-010—Contemporary African American Issues: Addressing Social, Political, Educational and Economic Inequality
Smith, A. TR 11:00am-12:15pm
Through an interdisciplinary lens this course will explore current social, political, educational and economic inequities facing the black community and critically assess their causes, effects, and possible solutions (i.e. disenfranchisement, the school-to-prison pipeline, mass incarceration, policing, and poverty). Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

BAMS 206-010—Survey of African American Culture
Serrano, J. MWF 2:30pm-3:20pm
Historic and contemporary aspects of African American culture. A multi-faceted approach utilizing resources from history, literature, art, music, film, folklore, and anthropology. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements.

BAMS 207-010—History of Jazz
Thomas, C. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm
Chronological study of the style changes in jazz from the late 19th century to the present. Emphasis on the sociological, economic and technological influences of the period and on the principal personalities who have been primarily responsible for change. Section satisfies a Group B requirement. Cross-listed with MUSC 207-010.

BAMS 215-010—Race in Society
Johnson, M. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm
Social definitions of race, how race is incorporated into social institutions and how race structures relationships among diverse groups in society. Includes analysis of rights and privileges denied or extended to groups and how disadvantaged groups work towards racial equality. Section satisfies a Group C requirement. Cross-listed with SOCI 215-010
BAMS 220-010—The Civil Rights Movement
TBD  MWF 12:20pm-1:10pm
This course will examine the intense period of African American social and political activism from the 1940-1980s. Through readings, lectures, discussions and film, the course will address issues such as: the rise of non-direct action social protest, the struggle for voting rights, the role of women in the civil rights movement, the rise of black power, and debates over integration and nationalism. Particular attention will be paid to exploring the intersections of history and memory, as well as exploring the unfinished battles of the Civil Rights Movement in the 21st century. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. Cross-listed with HIST 220-010.

BAMS 304-010—African American History to the Civil War
BAMS 304-011—African American History to the Civil War
Armstrong Dunbar, E. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm
This course will explore the development of race, gender, work and culture from the colonial era through the Civil War. Using primary and secondary sources, we will explore the social, political, religious and economic factors that produced change and transformation in the lives of African American men and women. This course has a number of goals, including providing a broad introduction to the interdisciplinary field of African American Studies. Through history, art, religion, film, music and cultural criticism, we will discuss and explore the construction of African-American identities during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Sections satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. Section 011 satisfies the Arts & Sciences Second Writing Requirement. Cross-listed with HIST 325-010 and HIST 325-011.

BAMS 305-010—Race, Image in Media/Culture
Morris, G. TR 9:30am-10:45am
“Entertainment, Film and Racism in the United States” will focus on African Americans in several aspects of film, television and theatre and the racial implications of their work. The course will examine the introduction of African Americans to the entertainment world and the early pioneers. This course will pay attention to the correlation between art and community engagement, and also how race and racism has fueled black art in America. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. Cross-listed with HIST 305-010.

BAMS 306-010—African American History Since the Civil War
BAMS 306-011—African American History Since the Civil War
TBD  MWF 1:25pm-2:15pm
This course surveys the broad social, political, cultural and economic developments that shaped Black America from Reconstruction to the present, with special focus on women, gender and sexuality. Interdisciplinary and transnational in breadth, topics for this class include the rise of Jim Crow and segregation, urbanization, black internationalism, the black freedom movement, and the “Obama Phenomenon.” Both sections satisfy a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. Section 011 satisfies the Arts & Sciences second writing requirement. Cross-listed with HIST 326-010 and HIST 326-011.

BAMS 307-010—Black Thought and Philosophy
Richardson, J. TR 2:00pm-3:15pm
Readings and discussions of Black philosophies, ideologies and concepts as reflected in the thought of significant Black figures. This class will focus on Dr. Martin Luther King's contributions to twentieth-century philosophical thought. We will also consider what Dr. King's writing offers to philosophical dilemmas in our own historical moment. How does Dr. King speak to earlier thinkers from the Harlem Renaissance and the African Diaspora? How does he speak to today's social and political movements? Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements. Cross-listed with PHIL 307-010.
BAMS 324-010—The Art of Social Change  
Gaiter, C.  TR 12:30pm-1:45pm  
Twentieth century international liberation artists’ works are examined from interdisciplinary perspectives. Students will observe and write about art works using behavioral science methods. Interaction with contemporary social change artists and one visual project are part of the course. Section satisfies a Group C, the University multicultural and the Arts & Sciences second writing requirements. Cross-listed with ART 324-010.

BAMS 345-010—African American Literature II  
Spaulding, A. T.  MWF 10:10am-11:00am  
Literature by African American writers from the Harlem Renaissance to the present. Section satisfies a Group B, the University multicultural and the Arts & Sciences second writing requirements. Cross-listed with ENGL 345-010

BAMS 351-010—Race and Ethnicity in Latin America  
Guerron-Montero, C.  MW 8:40am-9:55am  
Explores the multiple, complex and historically changing meanings of race and ethnicity in Latin America, and the consequences of discrimination towards specific groups. Regions covered are the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America, and the Andean, Atlantic and Southern Cone regions of South America. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements. Cross-listed with ANTH 351-010.

BAMS 355-010—Inequality, Crime and Justice  
Fleury-Steiner, B.  MWF 11:15am-12:05pm  
Introduction to challenges in addressing crime in multiracial, multiethnic, class-stratified society. This context serves as backdrop for inquiry into crime causation operations of the criminal justice system, and experiences of relevant actors. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. Cross-listed with CRJU 355-010 and SOCI 356-010.

BAMS 391-010—Research Methods in Black American Studies (4 credits)  
Serrano, J.  M 5:00pm-8:00pm & F 10:10am-11:00am  
Develops methodology-based skills allowing for systematic thought and conduct of research on Black Americans in the African Diaspora. Course required for BAMS majors.

BAMS 418-010—Race, Gender and Poverty  
Johnson, M.  TR 3:30pm-4:45pm  
An examination of contemporary American poverty with attention to race and gender as fundamental dimensions of inequality. Social policy, employment and family composition are key topics. Section satisfies the Arts & Sciences Second Writing Requirement. Cross-listed with SOCI 418-010 and WOMS 418-010.

BAMS 431-010—Race and Health  
Cooper, C.  MWF 2:30pm-3:20pm  
Examines the health status of socially disadvantaged racial and ethnic groups in the US. Attention will be focused on the biology and how it interacts with socioeconomic status and behaviors. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. Cross-listed with SOCI 413-010.
BAMS 440-010—Themes in Black American Studies: Black Bodies on Display—Race in Museums  
McGee, J. R  5:00pm-8:00pm  
This course considers the complex and performative nature of museums vis-à-vis race, remembrance and reconciliation with a focus on Black American and African Diasporic history and culture. What role[s] do objects, history, and culture perform under such curatorial and museum mandates and visions? How do changing socio-political and cultural landscapes and challenges to representational politics shape museum practices? Ethno-cultural museums and lieux de mémoire (sites of memory) chronicling, exhibiting, and contextualizing African and African diasporic history and culture have been on the rise since the mid-twentieth century. Considered here are black cultural institutions, their formation and foundation as well as exhibition histories of black visual art and culture. Section satisfies a Group B, the University Multicultural and the Arts & Sciences second writing requirement. *Open to juniors & seniors. Combined section with BAMS 667-010 & MALS 667-010.*

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BAMS 667-012—Seminar in American History: Black Women in Slavery and Freedom  
Armstrong Dunbar, E. R  9:00am-12:00pm  
This graduate level seminar charts the development of Black women’s history and writings from the era of enslavement through the late nineteenth century. We will read canonical secondary sources that stand at the center of Black women’s history as well as more recent contributions to the growing field of African American women’s history. *Cross-listed with HIST 667-012.*

POSC 355-010—Urban Politics  
Davis, T.  MW 3:35pm-4:50pm  
Former Speaker of the House Tip O’Neill is well known for saying that “all politics is local.” Among the many reasons to study urban politics are: 1) more than 80% of the U.S. population lives in an urbanized area (and 50% of the world’s population lives in an urban area); 2) urban areas are the location of the most critical problems facing society (problems of poverty, unemployment, poor housing, crime, transportation, education, land use, etc.), and 3) the importance of politics in urbanized areas lies in the role it plays with respect to the broader political system. This course focuses on the evolution of urban communities, the framework for urban governance and politics, power structures and leadership, and array of contemporary challenges and problems in urban society. Special emphasis will be placed on matters of governance, politics and policy concerns as they relate to American cities, the suburbs and the metropolitan areas. *Course is approved as an elective for the BAMS major and minor elective requirement.*