Black American Studies (BAMS)

Undergraduate & Graduate Course Offerings/Descriptions for Spring 2017

**BAMS 107-010—History of Rock**
Hamant, A.  TR  9:30am-10:45am
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.  Section satisfies 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.  TR  8:00am-9:15am
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.  Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.

**BAMS 203-010—Architecture and Power in Africa**
Okoye, I.  MW  3:35pm-4:50pm
Explores architecture in Africa as a representation both of political power and social/religious complexity. Architecture’s relationship to art forms a component of course content. Always regionally focused, lecture vary by semester among these five zones: West Africa and the Maghreb, the Sahel (West Africa and East Africa), East Africa and the Nile Valley, Southern Africa, and Central Africa.  Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.  Cross-listed with ARTH 204-010.

**BAMS 205-010—Contemporary African American Issues:  Environmental Justice**
Richardson, J.  MW  3:35pm-4:50pm
This course will examine environmental justice efforts that are being driven by African Americans and other people of color as a response to polluting companies and racial and economic disparities in the application of environmental protections. The course will address some of the major struggles that have and are reshaping how we define the “environmental movement”, who we see as environmentalists and why it matters now more than ever.  Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

**BAMS 205-011—Contemporary African American Issues:  Prisons in American History**
Suddler, C.  MWF  2:30pm-3:20pm
Over the past thirty years, the United States has become a world leader in the use of incarceration. Almost two decades into the twenty-first century, incarceration is affecting more people, their families, and communities than at any other point in the nation’s history. As the prison population continues to grow, questions are being raised about the methods employed to control crime and to address social problems, such as economic and racial inequalities. But are these questions new? This course explores racial, political, economic, and gendered dimensions of prison spaces in American history to determine how the United States has become a world leader in the use of incarceration.  Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.
**BAMS 205-012—Contemporary African American Issues: Issues in Black Photography**  
McGee, J.  TR 3:30pm-4:45pm  
An introduction to the critical race history of blacks as subjects, producers, and theorists of photography. Includes examination of issues, ideas, and creativity with respect to African American and black diasporic photography from the late nineteenth century to the present day. Topics range from portraiture and documentary photography to considerations of race and representation, black consciousness, strategies of resistance and identity formation, class, sex, and gender. Comparative studies with artists of African descent provide essential course content as well. Also examined: the complex relationship of African photography to colonialism, European art and its discourse, and the influence of globalization and popular culture. Section satisfies a Group C and the University multicultural requirements.

**BAMS 206-010—Survey of African American Culture**  
Serrano, J.  TR 2:00pm-3:15pm  
Historic and contemporary aspects of Black 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 305-010—Race, Image in Media/Culture**  
Morris, G.  MWF 9:05am-9:55am  
“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**  
Suddler, C.  MWF 11:15am-12:05pm  
This course surveys African American history from 1865 to the present. Students will examine the social, cultural, economic, and political forces that have shaped and reshaped the lives of African Americans in the United States since the end of the Civil War. Course topics include (but are not limited to): Reconstruction, the age of Jim Crow, the Great Migration(s), Black freedom movements, the Civil Rights Movement, Black Power, mass incarceration, and contemporary “race relations.” 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**  
Smith, A.  MWF 10:10am-11:00am  
This course will be a critical analysis of twenty-two Black thinkers and how they answer the following question: What is freedom? We will examine the lives and thought of Maria Stewart, Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, Bayard Rustin, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, Angela Davis, Steve Biko, Audre Lorde, Howard Thurman, Maya Angelou and others. Section satisfies a Group A and the University multicultural requirements.  
*Cross-listed with PHIL 307-010.*
**BAMS 322-010—Politics and the African American Experience**  
Davis, T.   TR  9:30am-10:45am  
This course is for anyone interested in racial minorities’ struggle for inclusion into the social, political, and economic arenas of America and the politics of race. The first objective is to provide students with an insight and understanding of the complex role that race plays in the political process. The second objective is to discuss politics and racial minorities’ pursuit of equality in America from a socio-political perspective. The final goal is to explore the legal challenges and responses of racial minorities’ to their social, political, and economic plight. The role of race in U.S. politics will be examined primarily through the political experiences of black Americans.  
The events surrounding the shooting death of several Blacks at the hand of law enforcement and rise of the Black Lives Matters Movement will serve as the basis for discussion:  1) political activity/behavior (i.e., representation, apathy, mobilization, unequal justice, issue framing by the media and political operatives, etc.) and 2) differences in standards of living (i.e., employment, housing, health, poverty, life expectancy, etc.) as a result of race and politics. Class activities will include lectures, discussions, and a research project. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement.  *Cross-listed with POSC 322-010.*

**BAMS 334-010—African American Women’s History**  
Suddler, C.   MWF 12:20pm-1:10pm  
This course explores the diversity of African American women’s lives and development of women, work, and culture from the colonial era through the late 20th century. Course topics examine the social, political, religious and economic factors affecting change and transformation in the lives of African American women. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.  *Cross-listed with HIST 334-010.*

**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 392-010—Brazil in the Modern World**  
Buckley, E.   TR 3:30pm-4:45pm  
Examines the history of Brazil over five hundred years, from first indigenous contact with Europeans through independence, urban industrialization and Brazil’s current place on the global stage. The course highlights parallels between Brazil’s national history and that of other Latin American and developing countries worldwide. Comparisons to U.S. history and culture are also emphasized. Topics include colonial economies and society; gender & class dynamics; slavery, abolition and racial ideologies; poverty & social fracture; and revolutionary political movements of the 20th century. Section satisfies a Group B and the University multicultural requirements.  *Cross-listed with HIST 392-010.*

**BAMS 418-010—Race, Gender and Poverty**  
Payne, Y.   TR 9:30am-10:45am  
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.  *Cross-listed with SOCI 418-010 and WOMS 418-010.*
BAMS 440-011—Themes in Black American Studies: Black Bodies on Display—Race in Museums
McGee, J. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm
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 667-011.

BAMS 467-010—Seminar: Psychology of Diversity
Jones, J. T 3:30pm-6:30pm
The idea of full participation enable all people, to thrive, be successful, engage in institutional life, and contribute to the flourishing of others summarizes objectives of diversity in many contexts. This course explores how this objective is achieved, and the psychological processes involved. Open to juniors & seniors. Combined section with PSYC 467-010.

BAMS 490-010—Senior Project
Serrano, J. TR 11:00am-12:15pm
A required research/methodological component to the BAMS major. Students will integrate the knowledge they have developed throughout their undergraduate academic careers into a final research project. Juniors and Seniors only.

BAMS 649-010—Civil Rights Law and Policy
Ware, L. W 12:20pm-3:20pm
Examines the origin and evolution of the laws and policies that govern the rights of African-Americans and other people of color in the United States. Examines emerging approaches to civil rights scholarship and considers the implications of the Supreme Court’s recent embrace of a conservative posture in civil rights issues. Cross-listed with UAPP 649-010.

BAMS 650-010—Black Community Studies: Street Ethnography
Payne, Y. W 12:20pm-3:20pm
This course will explore the dominant theories, methodologies and empirical approaches used to study low-income Black and Brown urban communities particularly within the field of urban or street ethnography. Specifically, historical and contemporary forms of analysis, with an emphasis on crime, will be used to ethnographically examine street identified Black and Brown populations (i.e., Black youth and school violence, street life oriented Black men and women; prison re-entry; Latino youth in the streets, etc.) across the following three physical sites and/or institutions: (1) local communities, (2) schools; (3) and the criminal justice system. Further, students will be challenged to organize complex arguments with respect to internal characteristics, (i.e., attitudes, temperament), individual behavior (i.e., physical violence) and social structural systems (i.e., economic or criminal justice system). Also, the course will be grounded in a phenomenological orientation—in that the course will move from the perspective of those being studied (i.e., Black and Brown populations involved with/affected by the criminal justice system)—their assumptions; their ideas; their perspectives will be privileged and presented as the course’s core frame of reference. Cross-listed with EDUC 610-010 and UAPP 610-010.
BAMS 667-010—Seminar: Black Material Culture in the 20th Century
Ford, T.  W 2:30pm-5:30pm
This course will introduce students to African American material culture. During the first half of the course we will read recent works by historians, ethnographers, and novelists, which outline the key questions, theories and methodologies of this burgeoning field. During the second half of the course we will put theory into practice, visiting local and regional museums to learn more about how practitioners collect, preserve, and display black cultural artifacts and ephemera. Students will have the choice of either submitting a traditional historiographical essay or a multimedia project as their final assignment. Combined section with HIST 667-010.

BAMS 667-011—Themes in Black American Studies: Black Bodies on Display—Race in Museums
McGee, J. TR 12:30pm-1:45pm
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. Combined section with BAMS 440-011.

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ENGL 382-010—Studies in Multicultural Literature in English: Modern African Lit/Film/Pop Culture
McKee, A. TR 2:00pm-3:15pm
Consideration of multiculturalism as it pertains to American culture or literature in English from Africa and other non-European societies. Variable in historical range, geography, and genre. Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. Section also satisfies the Arts & Sciences second writing requirement. Course is approved as an elective for the BAMS major and minor elective requirement.

HIST 439-010—Women and Revolution in Africa
Maloba, W. W 3:35pm-6:35pm
Discusses the critical roles played by women in African revolutionary movements. Why did women join these revolutionary movements? What is the relationship between feminism and revolution? Section satisfies the University multicultural requirement. Section also satisfies the Arts & Sciences second writing requirement. Course is approved as an elective for the BAMS major and minor elective requirement. Cross-listed with WOMS 439-010.

POSC 433-010—African Politics
Balogun, E. MW 3:35pm-4:50pm
Overview of politics and society in sub-Saharan Africa including: colonialism, the rise of nationalism, decolonization, single-party and military rule, the role of social movements and religious, class, gender and ethnic identities and the move toward economic and political liberalization. Course is approved as an elective for the BAMS major and minor elective requirement.