

Winter 2017 African American Studies Courses and their Descriptions

***(Gen Ed sections are marked with an asterisk.)**

**Department of Africology and African American Studies
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***AFC 101 Introduction to African American Studies (03 hrs) (CRNs 23179, 23181, 23185, 23186, 23188, 23574, 23575, 24492, 26186, 27593, 27595)**

This is an introductory examination of the African American experience. It acquaints students with the trends, issues and forces that have shaped that experience; it considers the concepts of cultural adaptation, institutional development, and group self-definition; and it surveys the contemporary status and condition of African Americans.

(Gen Ed, US Diversity)

***AFC 102 Introduction to African Civilization (03 hrs) (CRNs 23189, 23190, 27594 & 27596)**

This course is designed to provide the student with an introductory knowledge of centers of African civilization from antiquity to the 1960s. Those centers include ancient Egypt, Songhai, Kilwa, and Monomotapa.

(Gen Ed, Global Awareness)

*** AFC 232 Politics in the African American Experience (CRN 23182)**

3 hrs

This course is designed to provide the student with knowledge of Black political behavior in the United States in its evolution from protest to contemporary institutional politics.

AFC 244 Dimensions of Racism (03 hrs) (CRN 24491 & 27805) The course (1) examines various theoretical approaches to the concepts of race, ethnicity, and diversity; (2) discusses the economic, ideological, and political foundations of social stratification based on systems of power, oppression and prejudice from the perspective of the African American experience; (3) explains the relationship between the African American experience, African American scholarship and Pan-African paradigms; (4) addresses issues of racial diversity, and common and particular implications of living in a multiracial, pluralistic, and diverse social environment; (5) critically explores the historical foundations and the impact of racist ideologies and practices in the creation of the American nation and in world conflicts and alliances; and (6) explains how the African American experience has become a disciplinary paradigm to study and understand multiracial, multiethnic, and multicultural factors towards a politics of tolerance and to a diverse, pluralistic, equal, and democratic society.

AFC 272 - Hip Hop Lyricism in African American Culture (03 hrs)(CRN 25292) This course is an examination of the cultural continuity exemplified by the socially conscious hip hop lyricism to the African American poetic and musical forms that preceded it.

AFC 279 Caribbean Cultural Production in Context (03 hrs) (CRN 26160)

This interdisciplinary course will provide an overview of the Caribbean region through the lenses of history and cultural production. Before the European invasion, the Caribbean islands were inhabited by indigenous populations who had deep connections to the land, the spirit world, and to each other. Europeans forever altered the human, ecological, spiritual, and cultural landscape that existed prior to their arrival.

Through their readings, reflections on, writings about, and discussions of the course material in relation to their own experience students will gain insight into this complex history, appreciate its cultural production and begin to recognize the role that the Caribbean plays in larger global systems.

Topics to be addressed are: the history of the indigenous populations, the forced importation of African peoples, and their myriad forms of resistance

to enslavement. Students will also explore contemporary issues of neoliberalism and ecological pressures in relation to inhabitants' spiritual practices as well as their musical, literary, and visual production.

AFC 279: Slavery in the American Imagination (03 hrs)(CRN: 27079)

This course will explore both the reality of slavery and the way that it is depicted in film and literature contemporarily. In recent years, there has been a resurgence of literature, film, and other visual representations of slavery in a U.S. context. We can think about the spaghetti western *Django Unchained* (2012), the historical novel, *Someone Knows My Name* (2007) and the tv mini-series based on it, *The Book of Negroes* (2015), the reimagining of the underground railroad in the highly acclaimed novel by Colson Whitehead (2016), to name a few. Students will explore the how, the what and the why of this contemporary phenomenon.

AFC 301 African American Studies Research Seminar (03 hrs)(CRN 23195)

This course provides intensive exposure to research methods in African American studies and offers an opportunity for primary research in the field.

*** AFC 302W Writing for African American Studies (CRN 23194)
3 hrs**

This course will help students produce research papers, construct analytical reviews, and perform documentary research needed to better explore the literature, culture, and institutional and social processes that define the field of African American Studies. Prereq: ENGL121

AFC 311 The African Diaspora (3 hrs) (CRN 26975)

This course examines the African diaspora - the dispersion of persons of African descent throughout the world. It studies the process of dispersion, examines select diasporic communities, and considers the impact of the African presence on world development.

AFC 312 African Civilization (3 hrs) (CRN 23191)

This course is designed to provide the student with an interdisciplinary knowledge of centers of African civilization from antiquity to the 1960s. Those centers include ancient Egypt, Songhai, Kilwa and Monomotapa.

***AFC 313 Contemporary Africa: The Struggle and Prospects (03 hrs)(Wholly Online)(CRN 26187)**

This course serves as a survey of Africa's contemporary political economy. In examining postcolonial developments, the course focuses on regional and national strategies for social transformation. (Gen Ed, Global Awareness)

***AFC 351 Social Context of African American Health (3 hrs) (CRN 23183)**

AFC 351 examines the health status of African Americans. Explores the interplay between environment, biology and culture; folk and popular health practices; and the organization and delivery of health care. AFC 351 is a social science option for satisfying EMU's General Education Knowledge of the Disciplines requirement. Prerequisite: None (Gen Ed, Knowledge of the Disciplines, SS)

AFC 362 Black Women: Politics & Sexism (03 hrs)(CRN 23192)

This is an introduction to the study of the African American religion in America and the role of Black women in religion. Particular attention will be paid to how African American religion has limited Black women and how they have dealt with the restrictions placed upon them. Additionally, the course will examine the historical evolution of the various major Black denominations in America and their political and social roles in African American Communities.

AFC 370 Films of the African American Experience (03 hrs)(CRN 23187)

This course examines African American literature that has been adapted to film. Film history about African American involvement in the industry, including filmmakers is studied. The course involves developing techniques of analyzing fiction and drama as well as film adaptations of the African American experience.

***AFC 402L4 African American Studies Internship Seminar (03 hrs)(Wholly Online)(CRN 26188)**

AFC 402L4 African American Studies Internship Seminar (03 hrs) is designed as an online practicum during which majors and minors in African American Studies can acquire a practical experience of an African American organization or any organization that serves a diverse clientele. Through placement in an approved organization, a major or minor is expected to accomplish two main goals: (1) achieve a hands-on understanding of the internal and external dynamics faced by the organization, and (2) apply his/her theoretical knowledge of African American Studies to duties and services performed as part of the internship. (AFC 402L4 also serves as an option for satisfying General Education's Learning Beyond the Classroom requirement through Group 4, LB4=Career and Professional Development).

AFC 441 Law in the Afri Amer Experience (03 hrs)(CRN 23180) This course examines the African American legal experience from the Atlantic slave trade to the present. It reviews the formation of the Constitution, the law of slavery, Reconstruction-era developments, Jim Crow segregation, and recent legal trends in areas such as education, voting and employment. It emphasizes law as a social process.

AFC 479 Special Topic: Black Men in America-A Survey (03 hrs)(CRN 26883)

This special topic course, which is open to both undergraduate and graduate students, is meant to serve as a seminar on the impact of institutional and social forces, such as race and cultural hegemony, on the prevailing conditions of men of African descent in the United States. Although the course will emphasize contemporary demographics and social conditions, historically-contextualized research and analyses related to black men, will be provided.

AFC 505 The African Political Economy (03 hrs)(Wholly Online)(CRN 26189)

This course serves as an advanced and critical survey of Africa's contemporary political economy. In examining post-colonial developments, the course focuses on regional and national strategies for social transformation.

AFC 541 Law, Race and Community (03 hrs)(CRN 23316)

This course examines the legal history of African Americans and the related search for a concept of community within the United States. The course ranges from European movement into the Western Hemisphere in the 1400s to the challenges of race and structural inequalities of the 21st century.

AFC 542 Race, Crime & African Amer Exp (03 hrs)(CRN 23184)

This course will provide a comparative analysis of the experience of African Americans and other groups with the criminal justice system in the United States. Students will critically examine historical patterns, theories of race and crime and the effects of race and class on social attitudes and criminal justice practices.

AFC 602 Researching Black Communities (03 hrs)(CRN 23245)

Through the application of qualitative and ethnographic techniques, students will study groups, institutions and other social phenomena that affect African American communities and culture. Social research will be linked to intellectual and theoretical traditions in the field of African American studies.