

Department of Africology and African American Studies

List of Fall 2020 Undergraduate Courses and their Descriptions

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

*** AFC 101 Introduction to Africology and African American Studies (CRN #s 11915, 12033, 12661 (wholly online), 14399, & 14549)**

(03 hrs) 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.

(AFC 101 counts towards the US Diversity area of the General Education Program. It also counts towards the Major and Minor in Africology and African American Studies.)

*** AFC 102 Introduction to African Civilization (CRNs 11916 & 11917) (03 hrs)**

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.

(AFC 102 counts towards the Global Awareness area of the General Education Program. It also counts towards the Major and Minor in Africology and African American Studies.)

AFC 201 Foundations of Knowledge in Africology and African American Studies (CRN 11918)(03 hrs)

This course examines the empirical and theoretical foundations of African American studies, the evolution of the field, and the role of key scholars in its development.

AFC 211 – Black Caribbean World (CRN 15290)(wholly online)

This interdisciplinary course provides an overview of the Caribbean region within a global context focusing on history and cultural production. The course meets the Perspectives on a Diverse World - Global Awareness requirement of the General Education Program by providing an overview of the Caribbean region within a global context focusing on its history, contemporary reality, and cultural production. Through lectures, readings, writings, and discussions, students will gain insight into the Caribbean regions' complex history, appreciate its cultural production and begin to recognize the role that the Caribbean plays in larger global systems.

Students will come away from the course more aware of the important role that the Caribbean region has played in the world historically. Topics to be addressed are: the history of the indigenous populations as well as the forced importation of African peoples and their experience. 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.

The course is not meant to cover every Caribbean island in one semester, which means that the course can be kept fresh and dynamic in its ability to include different countries each semester depending on what new publications come out about the region, what artists emerge, what socio-political and economic issues the professor wants to focus on, different forms of art are to be emphasized, etc. (AFC 211 counts towards the Global Awareness area of the General Education Program. It also counts towards the Major and Minor in Africology and African American Studies.)

AFC 231 Race, Urbanization & Policy Mindset (CRN 15676)(03 hrs)

This course examines African American urbanization, and the insight that process provides into patterns of thought, policy formulation and organizational growth among African Americans. It offers perspective on the *corpus* of knowledge regarding the African American experience, on the disciplinary tools furthering that inquiry and on policy choices in post-industrial society.

AFC 243 Black Women: Politics & Racism (CRN 14302)(03 hrs)

This course is an introduction to the study and analysis of American politics related to African American women. The course will explore the ways in which political issues affect Black women differently than African American men, White men, and White women.

*** AFC 244 - Dimensions of Racism (03 hrs)(CRN #s 13257, 13382, 13822, & 13823)**

This course examines various theoretical approaches to the concepts of race, ethnicity, and diversity. This course offers the opportunity to acquire an understanding of the interrelated dynamics that diversity of people, culture, religious beliefs, and ideologies play in the creation of new nations; how they can determine political and/or economic alliances; how they can shape or reshape the global order; how they can influence systems of exclusion and produce practices of intolerance.

Using the Afrocentric paradigm, a privileged critical theoretical framework and methodology to address relations of power and privilege, domination and oppression, concepts of superior and inferior civilizations, cultures, and societies that are difficult to deconstruct within traditional western perspectives, Dimensions of Racism prepares students to examine various theoretical approaches to the concepts of race, ethnicity, and diversity. The goal is to help students understand their culture and cultural practices and the interrelated dynamics that the diversity of peoples, cultures, and religious beliefs on the one hand; and ideological and political foundations of social stratification based on systems of power, oppression, and prejudice, on the other, play in the creation of new nations; how they can determine political and/or economic alliances; how they can shape or reshape the global order; how they can influence systems of exclusion and produce practices of intolerance. **As such, in discussing these issues both at a national, international, and global level, this course meets the outcomes for Gen Ed, Global Awareness. It also counts towards the Major and Minor in Africology and African American Studies.**

Students will develop knowledge of ethnographic methods and techniques in social scientific research and Africology & African American Studies. In addition students learn how to develop research questions that reflect an understanding of the discipline in which they are asked; how to conduct cross-cultural analysis of data; and understand how knowledge is developed and disseminated from the perspective of the ontology and epistemology of race and the impact of its regulatory powers within society at national and international level. Students learn how to use social science methods of describing, exploring, explaining, and comparing to engage in the systematic study and understanding of societies and cultures and relations of power that govern and shape them. This course explores a broad range of topics and methods in the Social Sciences approach under the discipline of Africology both at national, international, and global level. **As such, this course meets the outcomes for Gen Ed, Knowledge of the Disciplines-Social Sciences. It also counts towards the Major and Minor in Africology and African American Studies.**

AFC 279 Black Masculinity 3 hrs (CRN 15680)

Black masculinity is a term that most people assume they know the meaning of. The fact is that most of what we “know” about the expression is based on toxic societal norms and stereotypes. This course seeks to critically examine the term and rethink its meaning in the face of social justice movements like Black Lives Matter, hip hop cultures, “the rise of the feminine,” the imperative to “keep it real,” and challenges to heteronormative behaviors and labels.

AFC 312 African Civilization 3 hrs (CRN 11919) (wholly online)

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 Online Contemporary Africa: The Struggle and Prospects (CRN 12662)(wholly online)**

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. (AFC 313 counts towards the Global Awareness area of the General Education Program. It also counts towards the Major and Minor in Africology and African American Studies.)

AFC 363 - Race and the Zombie (CRN 15678)

This course explores the figure of the zombie that originates in Haiti but made its way into the American imagination in the 1930s and continues to resonate in the American imagination contemporarily, commenting and reflecting on the global north's relationship with the global south.

***AFC 402L4 Internship Seminar in Africology and African American Studies (03 hrs)(CRN 12663)(wholly online)**

AFC 402 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. (Note that 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. It also counts towards the Major in Africology and African American Studies).

AFC 445 Themes in African & African Diasporic Philosophies (03 hrs)(crn 14975)

This course will introduce students to a sampling of the major thinkers and threads in the tradition of African and African diasporic

philosophies from the early twentieth century to the contemporary moment. By the end of the course, students will be able to identify and discuss some of the major fields of black philosophy both on their own terms and in relation to western philosophy. Students will rigorously engage with not only the principles of some of the major fields of black philosophy, but they will "read" various forms of black cultural production to see how these philosophies are applied and worked