

African American History: From Emancipation to the Present

African American Studies 162b, History 187b & American Studies 162b

Spring 2010

M, W 10:30-11:20 and 1 HTBA

Jonathan Holloway

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Office Hours

M, 1:30-3:30pm @ xx Wall, xxx; and by appointment @ CC Master's Office

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to examine the African American experience in the United States from 1863 to the present. Prominent themes include the end of the Civil War and the beginning of Reconstruction; African Americans' urbanization experiences; the development of the modern civil rights movement and its aftermath; and the thought and leadership of Booker T.

Washington, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, W.E.B. Du Bois, Marcus Garvey, Martin Luther King Jr., and Malcolm X.

Required Reading

The following texts are available at Labyrinth Books and on reserve at the Bass Library:

Manning Marable and Leith Mullings, *Let Nobody Turn Us Around*, 2nd edition

Tera Hunter, *To 'Joy My Freedom*

William Tuttle, *Race Riot*

Shane Vogel, *The Scene of Harlem Cabaret*

Beth Bates, *Pullman Porters and the Rise of Black Protest Politics*

James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*

Malcolm X and George Breitman, *Malcolm X Speaks*

Eldridge Cleaver, *Soul on Ice*

Ntozake Shange, *For Colored Girls Who Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Was Enuf*

Richard Ford, *The Race Card*

Classes*v2

There is a small collection of articles that will be made available for you on the classes*v2 server during the course of the term. These items are noted by a “∞” on the syllabus.

Required Screenings

“Ethnic Notions” will be screened during week #3. It will be shown in the evening twice that week. Attendance is mandatory.

“Four Little Girls” will be screened during week #8. It will be shown in the evening twice that week. Attendance is mandatory.

Course Requirements

Please note that this course has a writing intensive component to it. There are, therefore, two sets of course requirements: one for the general student body and one for those students in the writing intensive sections.

Requirements for Regular Sections

Section attendance and participation	20%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam, Parts One & Two	50%

Requirements for Writing Intensive Sections

Section attendance and participation	20%
Midterm Essay (and draft)—8 pages	30%
Term Paper (and draft)—12 pages	50%

Weekly Assignments

Week One—Dawn of Freedom—January 11 & 13

Reading

Hunter, *To 'Joy My Freedom*, 1-43
Marable & Mullings (M&M), 70-113

Week Two—Reconstruction—January 15 & 20

Reading

Hunter, *To 'Joy My Freedom*, 44-186, skim 187-218
M&M, 122-135

Week Three—Uplift, Accommodation, and Assimilation—January 25 & 27

Screening: “Ethnic Notions”

Reading

M&M, 150-216
∞ Elsa Barkley Brown “Womanist Consciousness”

Week Four—Migration and Urbanization—February 1 & 3

Reading

Tuttle, *Race Riot*
M&M, 224-233, 241-250

Week Five—The New Negroes—February 8 & 10

Reading

Vogel, *The Scene of Harlem Cabaret*
M&M, 253-273

Week Six—Depression and the Double V—February 15 & 17

Reading

Bates, *Pullman Porters*
M&M, 279-281, 308-314

Week Seven—The Road to *Brown* and Little Rock—February 22 & 24

Reading

- ∞ Robin D.G. Kelley, ““We are not what we seem””
- ∞ Timothy Tyson, “Robert F. Williams, ‘Black Power,’ and the Roots of the African American Freedom Struggle”
- ∞ Danielle McGuire, ““It was like all of us had been raped””
- ∞ Barbara Ransby, “Behind-the-Scenes View of a Behind-the-Scenes Organizer”

*****MIDTERM—February 22*****

*****MIDTERM ESSAY Due—February 22*****

Week Eight—From Sit-ins to Civil Rights—March 1 & 3

Screening: “Four Little Girls”

Reading

Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*

- ∞ King, “Letter from a Birmingham Jail”

M&M, 371-385, 395-401

Week Nine—From Voting Rights to Watts—March 22 & 24

Reading

X, *Malcolm X Speaks*, 3-60, 72-77, 105-177

M&M, 401-403, 418-435

Week Ten—Black Power—March 29 & March 31

Reading

Cleaver, *Soul on Ice*, parts 1, 2, and 4

- ∞ Kathleen Cleaver, “Women, Power, and Revolution”

M&M, 438-463

Week Eleven—The Politics of Gender and Culture—April 5 & 7

Reading

Shange, *For Colored Girls*

M&M, 459-463, 501-512, 515-528

- ∞ Premilla Nadasen “Expanding the Boundaries of the Women's Movement”
- ∞ Patricia Hill Collins, “The Social Construction of Black Feminist Thought”
- ∞ Angela Davis, “Racism, Birth Control and Reproductive Rights”

Week Twelve—Public Policy and Presidential Politics—April 12 & 14

Reading

M&M, 469-486, 513-515, 529-591

- ∞ Anita Hill, “The Smear This Time”

Week Thirteen—Who Speaks for the Race—April 19 & 21

Reading

Ford, *The Race Card*

M&M, 621-640

- ∞ Dwight A. McBride, “Can the Queen Speak? Racial Essentialism, Sexuality, and the Problem of Authority”
- ∞ Barbara Ransby “Fear of a Black Feminist Planet”

*****TERM PAPER DUE—April 30*****

*****FINAL EXAM (Part One) DUE: Take Home Essays—April 30*****

*****FINAL EXAM (Part Two): In-Class Exam—May 7*****