

# AFRICAN & AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

Fall 2015 COURSE OUTLINES

Updated 8/17/2015

## **AAAS 105 Intro to African History MW 12:30 – 1:45 ROB 252**

**Omwodo**

This course introduces the history of the peoples and states of Africa. It begins with African civilizations in ancient times and runs through the present. It concentrates on people and civilizations indigenous to Africa. The origins of Islam, the Atlantic slave trade, and European explorers, missionaries, and colonialism receive attention mainly in their African aspects. The emphasis on Africa in this course provides a valuable alternative perspective on these, and other, seemingly familiar events. During the course we will also discuss historical links between Africa and the Americas, as well as contemporary American attitudes towards Africa, including perceptions and misperceptions in the West. You will leave the course knowing much more about Africa's history than what you get in newspapers, blogs, and television. This knowledge will be valuable to understand modern Africa and the world where we live. (Same as HIST 104)

## **AAAS 106 The Black Experience in the Americas TR 9:30-10:45 Mal 2001**

**Alexander**

An interdisciplinary study of the history of the African peoples of the New World, relating their cultures and institutions to the African background and to their peculiar New World experiences up to and including the nineteenth century. While the main emphasis will be on the USA, attention will also be paid to the Caribbean and Latin America. Approaches will include demography, economics, social and political developments, literature, and music. LEC

## **AAAS 200 Directed Studies:**

This course is designed for the study of special topics related to Africana at the freshman/sophomore level. It prepares students for continued practice in cultural reading and writing and for the academic rigor that awaits them at the upper levels. **Prerequisite: Consent of Department. IND**

## **AAAS 301 Portrait of a Third World Nation: Haiti MW 11:00 – 12:15 WES 4008**

**Accilien**

Case study of Third-World problems and aspirations through the first Black nation to win independence from colonialism. Topics include: profile of the Third World; Caribbean diversity; the Columbian exchange; piracy; slavery and plantocracy; Revolution and the burden of freedom; U.S. occupation; Papa Doc, Baby Doc, and the Tontons Macoute; Liberation theology; peasant life; government and corruption; poverty and hunger; morality of foreign aid; Voodoo; folk medicine. No knowledge of Haitian or French required. Students may not receive credit for both HAIT 200 and AAAS 301. **SATISFIES NON-WESTERN CULTURE REQUIREMENT**

## **AAAS 305 Modern African History**

**TR 11:00 – 12:15**

**ROB 202**

**Omwodo**

A Survey of social, political, and economic developments during the colonial era and independence struggles, followed by a closer examination of the contemporary experience in a selected country or region. **SATISFIES NON-WESTERN CULTURE REQUIREMENT (Same as HIST 300)**

**AAAS 320, 323, 520, 523 may be repeated for credit toward the major & minor.**

## **AAAS 316 Mnistr&Mgcns:Blck Rel Slav Prs TR 11:00 -12:15 PM BL 108**

**Dorman**

This course examines the history and diversity of African American religious expression from slavery until the present, emphasizing both mainstream and alternative faiths. It covers the religious world views of enslaved Africans, and examines faiths inside and outside of Christianity. Topics may include: independent black churches, magical practices, the Holiness and Pentecostal movements, black Islam, religious freemasonry, and

esoteric faiths. The class emphasizes the influence of gender, class, race, migration, and urbanization on black religion. (Same as AMS 316 and HIST 316.)

Satisfies: H Humanities (H)

**AAAS 320/520 Popular Culture in East Africa MW 12:30-1:45 MS 104 Mburu**

The course is designed to introduce students to popular culture in East Africa. The ultimate aim is to immensely enhance students understanding of East African popular culture and its contributions to the global world. The course fully examines the richness and diversity of East African popular culture. Through the use of selected readings and audio-visual materials the class will explore a wide range of components of East African popular culture: music, dance, film, art, clothing, foods, emerging urban language(s) among others. Class and group discussions will draw on the selected readings, films, and experiences of students from their various popular culture(s). **SATISFIES NON-WESTERN CULTURE REQUIREMENT**

**AAAS 323 Women and Islam MW 11:00 – 12:15 BL 212 Mack**

Addresses the widely held stereotype of Muslim women as pawns in a patriarchal socio-religious context. Investigating the Muslim cultures of certain regions, both within and outside the United States. The course will examine the manner in which indigenous culture was influenced by the introduction of Islam and the historical impact of Islam on women's social roles. Focusing principally on contemporary social change, the course will consider how socio-political change affects religious roles where religion is integrally involved in daily life. To what extent is individualism valued, and how are the pressures of late 20th-century and early 21st-century life mediated? Attention to African-American Muslim communities is included in this course. The course will draw on texts from history, sociology, and literature. Additional advanced-level course work is required for students in this course beyond lower-level courses of the same name and/or description. **SATISFIES NON-WESTERN CULTURE REQUIREMENT**

**AAAS 323 Black Men TR 9:30 – 10:45 WES 4040 Jelks**  
(Same as AMS 344 and WGSS 396)

**AAAS 325 Popular Black Music TR 6:00-7:15 BA 202 Leslie-Canty**

This is a comparative study of popular music produced in Africa, and the African Diaspora. The praxis, theories, histories, forms, artists and audiences are discussed.  
Satisfies: H Humanities (H)

**AAAS 327 African-American Culture TR 9:30-10:45 FR 207 Pennington**

This course defines African American culture and identifies ways in which it is distinct. It traces the roots of African American culture and describes the transformations occurring over time. The course describes the dialectic between cultural essentialism and multi-identity structures by addressing the question of whether there is a common narrative for African American culture, or a common "root metaphor," and if so, what is its epistemology, axiology, and ontology? The course explores culture through a multimedia approach to pedagogy. **Prerequisite:** AAAS 106 or consent of instructor

**AAAS 349 Islam MW 12:30-1:45 SMI 107 Brinton**

Islam's Origins, the prophet Muhammed, the Holy Koran, religious symbols and moral mandates, and historical developments. (Same as REL 350.) **SATISFIES NON-WESTERN CULTURE REQUIREMENT**

**AAAS 351 Africa's Human Geographies TR 01:00 -02:15 PM LIN 226 Chikanda**

An introduction to historical, cultural, social, political, and economic issues in Africa from a geographic perspective. The course begins with the historical geography of humanity in Africa, from ancient times through to the present. Other topics include cultural dynamics, demography, health, rural development, urbanization, gender issues, and political geography. Case studies from Eastern and Southern Africa will be used to illustrate major themes. (Same as GEOG 351.)

**AAAS 400 Readings in \_\_\_\_\_**

Investigation of a subject selected by a student in consultation with a departmental adviser and conducted under supervision. Individual reports and conferences. Open only to junior and senior majors who have completed

two required courses plus one elective course in the major concentration. Cannot be repeated for credit.

**Prerequisite:** Consent of instructor. **IND**

**AAAS 415 Women and Islam**

**MW 11:00-12:15 BL 212**

**Mack**

Addresses the widely held stereotype of Muslim women as pawns in a patriarchal socio-religious context. Investigating the Muslim cultures of certain regions, the course will examine the manner in which indigenous culture was influenced by the introduction of Islam and the historical impact of Islam on women's social roles. Focusing principally on contemporary social change, the course will consider how socio-political change affects religious roles where religion is integrally involved in daily life. To what extent is individualism valued, and how are the pressures of late 20th-century and early 21st-century life mediated? The course will draw on texts from history, sociology, and literature. Additional advanced-level course work is required for students in this course beyond lower-level courses of the same name and/or description. **SATISFIES NON-WESTERN CULTURE REQUIREMENT**

**AAAS 420/720 Intercultural Communications: Afro-American TR 1:00-2:15 BA105**

**Pennington**

An examination of the barriers to effective communication between black Americans and non-black Americans.

**Prerequisite:** Skills in basic composition essential. (Same as COMS 447)

**AAAS 460 Topics and Problems in African & African American Studies**

Individual investigation of special topics in African & African-American studies

**Prerequisite:** 6 hours in African & African-American Studies or consent of instructor. **IND**

**AAAS 470 Language and Society in Africa**

**MW 12:30 – 1:45 BL 206**

**Ojiambo**

Examines issues and problems associated with language use in sub-Saharan Africa from a sociological perspective. Topics covered include an overview of the types of languages spoken on the continent: indigenous languages, colonial languages, pidgins and creoles, and Arabic as a religious language; problems associated with the politics of literacy and language planning, writing and standardization of indigenous languages; and the cultural and ideological dilemmas of language choice. (Same as LING 470.) Prerequisite: AAAS 103, AAAS 305, or LING 106; or consent of instructor. LEC.

**AAAS 496 Field Experience**

A supervised placement in practical situations where students actively participate in organized work with the community, to be completed with an acceptable paper. Prior consultation with the Chair absolutely essential. No enrollment permitted after Week 1. **Open only to junior and senior majors or by consent of the department.** **IND**

**AAAS 502 Directed Language Study**

**Varies**

Study of an African language at Elementary I and Elementary II levels under individual supervision and with the aid of self-instructional material. Open to juniors and seniors in good standing and graduate students only and with permission of the department. May be repeated for up to 10 credit hours. Cannot be used to fulfill B.A. foreign language requirement

**AAAS 503 Directed Language Study**

**Varies**

Study of an African language at Intermediate I and Intermediate II levels under individual supervision and with the aid of self-instructional material. Open to juniors and seniors in good standing and graduate students only and with permission of the department. May be repeated for up to 6 credit hours. Cannot be used to fulfill B.A. foreign language requirement.

**AAAS 504 Directed Language Study**

**Varies**

Study of African language at Advanced I and Advanced II levels under individual supervision and with the aid of self-instructional material. Open to juniors and seniors in good standing and graduate students only and with permission of the department. May be repeated for up to 6 credit hours. Cannot be used to fulfill BA foreign

language requirement. IND

**AAAS 505 Directed Language Study**

**Varies**

Designed for native and near-native speakers, this course involves reading of materials published in an African language intended for native speakers; conversation, oral presentation, and writing. Prerequisite: Native or near-native speaker proficiency or consent of instructor. May be repeated for up to 6 credit hours. IND

**AAAS 520/320 Popular Culture in East Africa**

**MW 12:30-1:45 BL 212**

**Mburu**

The course is designed to introduce students to popular culture in East Africa. The ultimate aim is to immensely enhance students understanding of East African popular culture and its contributions to the global world. The course fully examines the richness and diversity of East African popular culture. Through the use of selected readings and audio-visual materials the class will explore a wide range of components of East African popular culture: music, dance, film, art, clothing, foods, emerging urban language(s) among others. Class and group discussions will draw on the selected readings, films, and experiences of students from their various popular culture(s). **SATISFIES NON-WESTERN CULTURE REQUIREMENT**

**AAAS 553 Geography of African Development TR 09:30 -10:45 AM LIN 226**

**Chikanda**

Acquaints students with the values and social parameters of African agricultural and pastoral practice. Topics include customary land rights, African perspectives on the natural world, gender issues in African agriculture, and the urbanization of African cultures. The course also contrasts African views with those of Western development practitioners and donor agencies. Case studies from different countries are used to highlight the continent's regional differences. (Same as GEOG 553.)

**AAAS 555 African Film**

**M 06:30 -10:00 PM MAL 2049**

**Lacy**

A critical study of Africa and its peoples as depicted in films. The aesthetic, cultural, economic, political, historical, and ideological aspects of African films are examined. (Same as FMS 544.)

Satisfies: H Humanities (H) , NW Non-Western Culture (NW)

**AAAS 565 Gender, Culture, and Migration**

**TR 2:30 – 3:45**

This course brings a human face to the 21st century manifestation of globalization by focusing on the issues of culture, gender and migration. How do these three aspects create the "global village" amongst both the host and donor peoples? When people move from one place to another, what do they leave behind, what do they take with them? What is gained, or lost by the host community? What is the impact of migration on a specific group's and individual's sense of identity? How has migration affected the people's construction, understanding, and practice of gender? Given their primary roles in the home and within the culture, these questions and more are posed with particular attention to women. Migration theories, interviews and personal testimonies as well as literary and dramatic works are critical to our analyses of the issues raised and enable us to hold conversations with, and listen to the stories of the ordinary people who make globalization happen and sustain it. (Same as AMS 565 and WGSS 565.) LEC.

**AAAS 611 History of the Black Power Movement**

**T 1:00 – 3:30 SRL 350**

**Alexander**

This course will examine the Black Power Movement in its many manifestations, beginning with a discussion of its political and cultural background: the transition from Civil Rights to Black Power in the Afro-American freedom movement of 1960's; the impact on African Americans of African decolonization and the spread of anti-colonial and anti-imperialist movements throughout other parts of the globe. There will also be some examination of the Black Arts Movement and its influence on the Black Power Movement and vice versa. Therefore, some attention will also be paid to the music, literature, theater, and the graphic arts of the period, and the aesthetic and political critiques of these artistic forms. Same as AMS 696 and AAAS 812.

**AAAS 690 Investigation and Conference**

Individual and supervised readings in selected areas of African and African-American studies which will be an investigation of a subject selected by the student with the advice and direction of an instructor. Individual reports and conferences. Prior consultation with the Chair absolutely essential. No enrollment permitted after Week 2. **Prerequisite:** Seniors and consent of department. IND

**AAAS 695 Honors Project in:**

An individual research project in African-American or African studies under the direction of a specialist in the area of the student's interest, the results of the project to be presented in written form and to be defended before a committee of three faculty members as provided for under the requirements for Honors. Majors only and permission of instructor. **IND**





pedagogy. Prerequisite: AAAS 106 or consent of instructor.

**AAAS 760 Topics and Problems in African and African-American Studies**

Individual investigation of special topics in African and African-American studies. May not be repeated for credit. Additional advanced-level course work is required for students in this course beyond lower-level courses of the same name and/or description.

**AAAS 770 Language and Society in Africa MW 12:30 – 1:45 BL 206 Ojiambo**

Examines issues and problems associated with language use in sub-Saharan Africa from a sociological perspective. Topics covered include an overview of the types of languages spoken on the continent: indigenous languages, colonial languages, pidgins and creoles, and Arabic as a religious language; problems associated with the politics of literacy and language planning, writing and standardization of indigenous languages; and the cultural and ideological dilemmas of language choice. (Same as LING 470.) Prerequisite: AAAS 103, AAAS 305, or LING 106; or consent of instructor. LEC.

**AAAS 801 Intro Africana Stds:Afrcn-Amrcn R 1:00-3:30 BA 109 Lang**

An introduction to, and overview of, the historical, intellectual, and professional foundations of African-American Studies; a multidisciplinary examination of the key texts and issues in the field. Additional advanced-level coursework is required for students in this course beyond lower-level courses of the same name and/or description.

**AAAS 803 Research Methods Africana Studies M 9:00-11:30 BA 109 Hamer**

A multidisciplinary introduction to the range of research methods employed to examine African and African-American history, cultures, and societies. Additional advanced-level course work is required for students in this course beyond lower-level courses of the same name and/or description.

**AAAS 812 The Black Power Movement T 1:00 – 3:30 SRL 350 Alexander**

This course will examine the Black Power Movement in its many manifestations, beginning with a discussion of its political and cultural background: the transition from Civil Rights to Black Power in the Afro-American freedom movement of 1960's; the impact on African Americans of African decolonization and the spread of anti-colonial and anti-imperialist movements throughout other parts of the globe. There will also be some examination of the Black Arts Movement and its influence on the Black Power Movement and vice versa. Therefore, some attention will also be paid to the music, literature, theater, and the graphic arts of the period, and the aesthetic and political critiques of these artistic forms. Additional advanced-level coursework is required for students in this course beyond lower-level courses of the same name and/or description.

**AAAS 899 Thesis**

Investigation and research of a topic for a master's thesis. A maximum of 6 thesis hours may be counted toward the 33 hours required for the degree. THE