# AFRICAN & BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES Course Descriptions

### ABD 100

#### INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN AND THE BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES

DR. JULIE MOODY-FREEMAN | LPC | TU/TH II:20 AM - I2:50 PM



This introductory course to the field of African and Black Diaspora Studies investigates the many ways in which African and Black peoples across the globe have created robust lives for themselves and contributed to the creation of the modern world. Our investigation will pay special attention to how social, economic, and political institutions, geographical factors, and the cultural forces of modernity have influenced African and Black contributions to the modern world. The course begins with an examination of the diaspora (pre-modern and modern) and Pan-Africanism to engage questions of geography, history, identity, migration, pedagogy, politics, gender, and power.

## ABD 211

#### AFRICA TO 1800: AGE OF EMPIRES

DR. OGENGA OTUNNU | LPC | TU 5:45 PM - 9:00 PM



This class will focus on continental Africa with particular emphasis on the Age of Conquest, the origins of Afro-European relations, and the political, economic, and military causes of the European partition and occupation of the continent.

**Crosslisted with HST 131.** 

# AFRICAN & BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES Course Descriptions

## ABD 229

#### RACE, SCIENCE, AND WHITE SUPREMACY

DR. LORI PIERCE | LPC | MO/WE II:20 AM - 12:50 PM



This class explores the ways in which scientific thinking has shaped race and how racial thinking has shaped science. We will discuss how Black bodies in particular have been scrutinized by scientists and the ethical implications of, for example, using African Americans as medical test subjects. Topics include the scientific origins of the concept of race, the historical application of that concept in various "pseudo-sciences" such as Phrenology and Eugenics, and contemporary examples of these ideas in, for example, commercial DNA testing.

Crosslisted with AMS 297 and PAX 290.

## ABD 236

#### **BLACK FREEDOM MOVEMENTS**

DR. MARTIN BOSTON | LPC | TU/TH 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM



This course examines the movement for freedom by Black people in the US and throughout the African diaspora. Students will analyze the struggle for liberation in cultural, historical, and political contexts through the study of anti-slavery and abolition movements, the Civil Rights movement, anti-colonial struggles, the Black Power movement, Black Lives Matter/Movement for Black Lives and the work of activists and scholars throughout the diaspora.

Crosslisted with AMS 297, PAX 290.

# AFRICAN & BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES

## Course Descriptions

## ABD 240

#### **BLACK MUSIC IN AMERICAN CULTURE**

#### DR. AMOR KOHLI | ONLINE-ASYNCHRONOUS |



This course will focus on the historical development, cultural significance, political commentary, and social effects of Black music in the U.S. from the 1960s to the 1980s. Beginning with the rise of R&B and Soul in the 1960s, the course will continue on to examine innovations such as funk, disco, and the emergence of hip hop. It considers the aesthetics and themes of black music and how they reflect the Black experience in the U.S. during the latter half of the 20th century, as well as the ways that the music, the themes, and the people evolve over that period.

Crosslisted with AMS 297.

## ABD 251

#### WORLD REFUGEE CRISIS

#### DR. OGENGA OTUNNU | LPC | 5:45 PM - 9:00 PM



Human history has been punctuated by violent and systematic violations of human rights and massive displacements of populations in all regions of the world. These crises--which reflect persistent and profound moral and political legitimation deficit--have fragmented and consumed millions of innocent lives, destroyed socio-economic and political infrastructures, provoked widespread xenophobia, and destabilized national, regional, and international communities and institutions. This course will raise questions and highlight debates about forced migration and the challenges of contemporary displacements. It will also analyze the causes and consequences of forced migration since 1500.

Crosslisted with HST 241 and PAX 271.

# AFRICAN & BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES

## Course Descriptions

## ABD 256





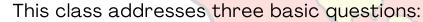


This course focuses primarily on the colonial era with an emphasis on topics such as the construction of race and gender, the Black Atlantic, the emergence of African diasporic cultures in the Americas, slavery, black political thought, resistance, and the Revolutionary War. Crosslisted with HST 246.

### ABD 290

#### SPECIAL TOPICS: SLAVERY, RACE, AND RELIGION

DR. CHERNOH SESAY JR. | LPC | TU/TH II:20 AM - 12:50 PM





- 1) How do we understand and explain the shift from defining slavery as a natural, but oppressive, condition to defining slavery as unnatural and evil?
  - 2) How has religion been used both to legitimate and to criticize slavery?
- 3) What is the significance of the changing relationship between Christianity and slavery for thinking about various modes of contemporary oppression?

  While the class will briefly introduce students to the long historical relationship between slavery and religion, the class will focus on the historical relationship between racial slavery, evangelical religion, and Christian abolitionism in the Atlantic world. Students will examine religious arguments for and against slavery. Students will also gain an introduction to and think about the relationship between slavery, evangelicalism, capitalism, and Enlightenment moral philosophy.

Crosslisted with REL 219 and AMS 295.

#### AUTUMN 2021

## AFRICAN & BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES

## Course Descriptions

## ABD 290



#### SPECIAL TOPICS: AFRICAN AMERICAN ART

JODY BERMAN | ONLINE-HYBRID | WE 6:00 PM - 9:15 PM

This course surveys the work of African American artists, from the nineteenth century to the present. Lectures will cover a wide range of visual media, including painting, sculpture, photography, art criticism and performances.

Crosslisted with HAA 210.

## ABD 300



#### AFRICAN ISLAM: ISLAMIC ART AND ARCHITECTURE

DR. MARK DELANCEY | LPC | TU/TH 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Focused study of the impact of Islam on the artistic traditions of sub-Saharan Africa. Rather than necessarily replacing previous art forms, this course investigates in what circumstances preexisting visual culture might be integrated with the requirements and needs of Islam. This approach necessitates an understanding that neither Islam nor African art are monolithic entities, but rather their interactions represent a wide variety of negotiations across the continent. Likewise, this course will consider specific historical circumstances to which Islamic art in sub-Saharan Africa has responded in terms of form and

content. Crosslisted with HAA 302 and IWS 302.

#### AUTUMN 2021

## AFRICAN & BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES

## Course Descriptions

## ABD 336



#### AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

DR. CHRISTINA RIVERS | LPC | MO/WE II:20 AM - I2:50 PM

The overall goal of this course is to follow the development of black political thought since the 1830s in order to better understand contemporary expressions of it. Contrary to conventional assumptions, black politics did not originate with the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, or even with the Reconstruction Era a century before. African-Americans have been politically engaged at least since the late 1700s, despite being excluded from formal political processes and institutions. Following their lead, this course will challenge conventional notions of politics and democracy in America.

Crosslisted with PSC 336.

## ABD 382



#### **CULTURE AND POWER: AFRO-FEMINISM**

DR. SHIERA MALIK | LPC | WE 6:00-9:15PM

This course focuses on Black and Afro-Feminist interventions in questions of how to understand what is at stake in and how to challenge the imperial legacies of colonial dynamics of power. The course will engage the conceptual complexity of the notions of gender and the political relations they frame. Bringing together authors like Joy James, Sylvia Tamales, Yolande Bouka, bell hooks, and others in the context of a single course will allow seminar participants to broadly investigate feminist inquiry while remaining grounded in the lived experiences that bell hooks describes in Belonging: A culture of the place. **Crosslisted with**