

## **Africana 177: Twentieth Century African American History**

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Office Hours: Mon, 1:30-2:30, Africana Studies, 3401 Walnut St., Suite 328-A (and appointment)

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Spring '14, TR 12:00-1:30P, Moore Building 212

This course is a survey of African American History from the dawn of the twentieth century to the early period of the twentieth-first century. The course will have considerable emphasis on the roles of politics and culture during the modern period of the long black freedom struggle. It will explore major themes in African American history beginning with: the emergence of black organizing, lynching, and the emergence of the NAACP during the height of white supremacy in the dawn of the twentieth century, the implications of World War I, migration, and Garveyism on Black Nationalism during the 1920s, the economic necessity and political realignment of blacks during the Great Depression and the barrier of racial inequality during the New Deal, the implications of World War II and contested concepts of democracy and freedom, African Americans and the dilemma of American democracy during the Cold War era, black religion and the fight for desegregation, the reemergence of Black Nationalism and the demand for racial reform during the post-WWII era, the retreat from the Second Reconstruction, the global implications of racial inequality, to the rise of Obama and the question of post-racialism.

Class time will be devoted in most cases to some lectures but mostly discussions of the readings and films. In some cases primary source materials will be used. In such instances students will also be scholars as each will learn how to critically engage historical documents.

In order to pass this course, students must be committed to attending class, doing the readings, participation in class discussions, and submitting assignments on time. Attendance is vitally important; if you miss lectures and discussions, you will not be able to pass this course.

Course requirements are one 6-8 page paper, eight 2-3 page response papers, and a final 8-10 page paper. Your grade for this class is determined by the following: response papers, 20%, in-class participation/discussion, 20%, one 6-8 page paper, 25%, and final paper, 35%. The 6-8 page paper will be due on April 8th; four of the eight response papers must be submitted before spring break and four after spring break. All response papers must be submitted via email. The final paper will be due during the exam period.

Books for the course will be available at Penn Book Center, 34<sup>th</sup> and Sansom Street. All assigned books and supplemental readings will also be on reserve in the Rosengarten Room.

### Required Books:

Manning Marable, *Race, Reform, and Rebellion*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

Melba Beals, *Warriors Don't Cry*

Alex Haley, *Autobiography of Malcolm X*

Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*

## Class Schedule

**January 16:** Overview, Class Expectations

**January 21 and 23:** The History Of African American History

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Discussion-The MLK Holiday: The Image of Black Leadership

King's Speech: "I Have Been To the Mountaintop."

Clayborne Carson, "Martin Luther King, Jr.: Charismatic Leadership in Mass Struggle," *74 Journal of American History* (September 1987), 448-54. JSTOR

Nathan Huggins, "Martin Luther King, Jr.: Charisma and Leadership," *74 Journal of American History* 477-481. JSTOR

Vincent Harding, "Beyond Amnesia: Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Future of America," *74 Journal of American History* 468-476. JSTOR

**Thursday:** Lecture/Discussion-The History of African American History

Joe W. Trotter, "African American History: Origins, Development, and Current State of the Field," *OAH Magazine of History*, Vol. 7, No. 4, African American History (Summer, 1993), pp. 12-18.

Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham "Beyond the Silence: Afro-American Women in History," *Black Women's History: Theory and Practice*, ed. Darlene Clark Hine (1990), Vol. 9, pp. 175-192.

Julianne Malveaux, "Why Is Economic Content Missing from African America Studies?" *Journal of Black Studies*, Vol. 38, No. 5 Incorporating Black Political Economy into Black Studies (May, 2008), pp. 783-794.

Darlene Clark Hine, "John Hope Franklin and Black History in Transition," *The Journal of African American History*, Vol. 94, No. 3, Special Issue, "The Legacy of Dr. John Hope Franklin" (Summer, 2009), pp. 354-361.

**January 28 and 30:** From the Failure of Reconstruction to the Triumph of White Supremacy: Examining the Color Line and Black Political Organizing During the Dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Discussion-Black Disfranchisement

W.E.B. Du Bois, "Back Toward Slavery," in *Black Reconstruction*, chapter IVX, pp. 670-709.

Eric Foner, "Redemption and After," chapter 12 in *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution*, New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1988, pp. 564-601.

John Hope Franklin, "Legal Disfranchisement of the Negro," *The Journal of Negro Education*, Vol. 26, No. 3, The Negro Voter in the South (Summer, 1957), pp. 241-248.

Harry E. Groves, "Separate But Equal-The Doctrine of Plessy v. Ferguson," *Phylon* (1940-1956), Vol. 12, No. 1 (1<sup>st</sup> Qtr., 1951), pp. 66-72.

### Supplement Readings

Eric Foner, "The Politics of Depression," chapter 11 in *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution*, New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1988.

**Thursday:** Lecture/Discussion-Urban Problems, the Pattern of Violence, and Progressive Responses

Michael J. Pfeifer, "The Origins of Post-bellum Lynching: Collective Violence in Reconstruction Louisiana," *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association*, Vol. 50, No. 2 (Spring, 2009), pp. 189-201.

Jacqueline Jones Royster, ed., *Southern Horrors and Other Writings: The Anti-Lynching Campaign of Ida B. Wells, 1892-1900* (1997), pp. 1-4 and 11-42.

Christopher Robert Reed, "Organized Racial Reform in Chicago During the Progressive Era: The Chicago NAACP, 1910-1920," *Michigan Historical Review*, Vol. 14, No. 1 (Spring, 1988), pp. 75-99.

Visit "Without Sanctuary" website before class meets [<http://www.withoutsanctuary.org/>]  
See the short film on lynching postcards, narrated by Collector James Allen.

### **Supplemental Readings**

Patricia Schechter, *Ida B. Wells-Barnett and American Reform, 1880-1930* (2001)

Randall M. Miller, "Lynching In America: Some Context and A Few Comments," *Pennsylvania History*, Vol. 72., No. 3 (Summer 2005), pp. 275-291.

Brook Thomas, *Plessy V. Ferguson: A Brief History with Documents* (1997)

### **February 4 and 6: Uplifting the Race and the Color Line**

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Black Leadership in the Age of Booker T. Washington: Debates about the Economic Sphere, Education, and Politics

Booker T. Washington, "The Atlanta Exposition Address," chapter 14, pp. 127-139 in *Up From Slavery* (1995).

W.E.B. Du Bois, "Of Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others" and "Of the Training of Black Men" chapter 3, pp. 62-72 and "Of the Training of Black Men," chapter 6 in *The Souls of Black Folk* (1997), pp. 90-102.

David Levering Lewis, ed., "The Niagara Movement: Address to the Country," pp. 367-369 in *W.E.B. Du Bois: A Reader* (1995).

William A. Creditt, "Denounced Lynch Law: Criticism of Booker T. Washington at Mass Meeting by Leaders," *The Philadelphia Tribune*, February 24, 1912, p. 1.

William Sinclair, "Dr. Sinclair Answers Criticism of Drs. Wm. A. Creditt and E.W. Moore," *The Philadelphia Tribune*, March 2, 1912, p. 1.

### **Supplemental Readings**

Harris, "The Political Gateway of Hope and the Paradox of Urban Progressivism," chapter 2 in Dissertation "Race, Leadership, and the Local Machine," University of Pennsylvania Diss. 2013

Vincent P. Franklin, *The Education of Black Philadelphia*, (1976) chapters 1-3

**Thursday:** Lecture/Discussion-Black Women, Religion, and Religious Institutions

Evelyn Higginbotham, *Righteous Discontent: The Women's Movement in the Black Baptist Church, 1880-1920*, (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1993), chapter 2, "Female Talented Tenth," pp. 19-46 and chapter 3 "Separatist Leanings," pp. 47-88.

### **Supplemental Readings**

Milton Sernett, *Bound For The Promised Land: African American Religion And The Great Migration* (Durham: Duke University Press, 1997), pp. 9-179.

### **February 11 and 13: World War I Era: Black Urban Migration, Unrest on the Home-Front, and the Politics of Black Print Culture**

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Discussion-WWI and Migration

Kimberley L. Phillips, *Alabama North: African American Migrants, Community, and Working Class Activism in Cleveland, 1915-1945*, chapter 1, pp. 15-56.

Darlene Clark Hine, "Black Migration to the Urban Midwest: The Gender Dimension, 1915-1945," *The Great Migration in Historical Perspective: New Dimensions of Race, Class, and Gender*, in Kenneth W. Goings and Raymond A. Muhl, eds., *The New African American Urban History* (1996), pp. 240-265.

Robert Asher, "Documents of the Race Riot at East St. Louis," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* (1908-1984), Vol. 65, No. 3 (Autumn, 1972), pp. 327-336.

See YouTube Documentary KETC Living St. Louis "East St. Louis Race Riots" Duration 8:04

### **Supplemental Readings**

Joe William Trotter, Jr., *Black Milwaukee: The Making of an Industrial Proletariat, 1915-1945*, (1988), chapters 1-3.

Allen B. Ballard, *One More Day's Journey: A Story of a Family and a People*, Lincoln, NE: IUniverse Inc., 2004

**Thursday:** Lecture/Discussion-The Harlem Renaissance and Black Print Culture

Alain Locke, "The New Negro," in *The New Negro*, ed. Alain Locke (1925), pp. 3-16.

Langston Hughes, "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain," *The Nation*, June 25, 1926

See YouTube Documentary "The Black Press: Soldiers Without Swords" Duration 10:04

### **Supplemental Readings**

Nathan I. Huggins, *Harlem Renaissance* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1971)

Thomas Watson, *The Harlem Renaissance: Hub of African American Culture, 1920-1930* (1995)

### **February 18 and 20: Black Nationalism During the Interwar Period**

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Discussion-Black Nationalism and Garvey

Chad L. Williams, "Vanguards of the New Negro: African American Veterans and Post-WWI Racial Militancy," *The Journal of African American History*, Vol. 92, No. 3 (Summer, 2007), pp. 347-370.

Marcus Garvey, selected essays/speeches in *Negro Social and Political Thought 1850-1920: Representative Texts*, ed., Howard Brotz (New York: Basic Books, 1996), pp. 553-576.

Steven Hahn, *The Political Worlds of Slavery and Freedom* (2009), chapter 3, pp. 115-162.

**Thursday:** Lecture/Discussion-Race Politics and the UNIA Movement

Ula Taylor, *The Veiled Garvey*, pp. 41-90.

Beryl Satter, "Marcus Garvey, Father Divine, and the Gender Politics of Race Difference and Race Neutrality," *American Quarterly* 48 (March 1996): 43-76

See short YouTube Documentary "The Influence of Marcus Garvey," Pts. 1, 3, 4, and 5

### **Supplemental Readings**

Robert A. Hill, *The Marcus Garvey and Universal Negro Improvement Association Papers, Vol. I, & Vol. II*, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1983).

Moses Wilson, ed. *Classical Black Nationalism: From the American Revolution to Marcus Garvey* (1996)

### **February 25 and 28: The 1930s: The Depression, the New Deal, and the State**

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Discussion-FDR and Economic Relief: A New Deal or the Same Old Deal?

Raymond Wolters, *Negroes and the Great Depression: the Problem of Economic Recovery*, (1970) chapters 6, pp. 98-168.

Robin D.G. Kelley, *Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communist During the Great Depression*, (1990) chapter 3, pp. 34-56 and chapter 4, pp. 57-77.

**Thursday:** Film-The Scottsboro Boys

**March 4 and 6:** World War II Era: the Illusion of Democracy and the Emergence of Black Protest Politics

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Discussion-Mobilizing for Freedom: Discrimination, the Federal Government, and the Politics of Racial Equality

Barbara Savage, *Broadcasting Freedom: Radio, War, and the Politics of Race, 1938-1948* (1999), chapter 2 "Freedom's People," pp. 63-105.

James Wolfinger, "We Are in the Battle for Democracy: Carolyn Moore and Black Activism in World War II," *Pennsylvania History*, Vol. 72, No. 1, African Americans in Pennsylvania History (Winter, 2005), pp. 1-23.

**Thursday:** Lecture/Discussion- Beth Thompson-Bates, *Pullman Porters and the Rise of Protest Politics in Black America, 1925-1945* (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2001), chapter 7, pp. 148-174.

Film-The Tuskegee Airmen

Mid-term papers due

### Supplemental Readings

Ralph J. Bunche, *The Political Status of the Negro in the Age of FDR* (1973)

**March 8-16** spring break

**March 18 and 20:** Black America in the Cold War Era: A Prelude to the Second Reconstruction and the Modern Civil Rights Movement

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Discussion-The Cold War and the Dilemma of American Democracy  
Manning Marable, *Race, Reform, and Rebellion*, chapter 2 "The Cold War in Black America, 1945-1954," pp. 12-37.

Robin Kelley, "Contested Terrain: Resistance on Public Transportation" from *Race Rebels: Culture, Politics, and the Black Working Class*, pp. 55-75.

**Thursday:** Discussion/Film: The Murder of Emmett Till

Ruth Feldstein, "I Wanted the Whole World to See": Race, Gender, and Constructions of Motherhood in the Death of Emmett Till, chapter 12, pp. 263-303.

Film-The Murder of Emmett Till

### Supplemental Readings

Mary L. Dudziak, *Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy* (2000)

Paul Moreno, Paul. *Black Americans and Organized Labor: A New History* (2006)

**March 25 and 27:** Public School Desegregation and the Modern Civil Rights Movement

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Film

Film on Charles Hamilton Houston:

"The Road to Brown"

### **Supplemental Readings**

Genna Rae McNeil, *Groundwork: Charles Hamilton Houston and the Struggle for Civil Rights* (1983)

**Thursday:** Film/Discussion

**\*\*Melba Beals, *Warriors Don't Cry*-required response paper**

Film excerpt from "Eyes on the Prize-Little Rock and Ole Miss."

### **Supplemental Readings**

James T. Patterson, *Brown v. Board of Education: A Civil Rights Milestone and its Troubled Legacy* (2001)

### **April 1 and 3: Organizing the Modern Civil Rights Movement**

**Tuesday:** Lecture/Discussion-Organizing for Change

Charles Payne, *I've Got the Light of Freedom: the Organizing Tradition and the Mississippi Freedom Struggle* (1995), chapter 2 "Testing the Limits," pp. 29-66 and chapter 3 "Give Light and the People Will Find the Way," pp. 67-102

### **Supplemental Readings**

Aldon Morris, *The Origins of the Civil Rights Movement: Black Communities Organizing for Change* (1984).

**Thursday:** Lecture/Discussion The Call for Reform

Manning Marable, *Race, Reform, and Rebellion* (2007), chapter 3 "The Demand for Reform," pp. 39-58.

Robin Kelley, "Birmingham's Untouchables: The Black Poor in the Age of Civil Rights," in *Race Rebels: Culture, Politics, and the Black Working Class*, pp. 77-100.

Matthew J. Countryman, *Up South: Civil Rights and Black Power in Philadelphia* (2006), chapter 3 "Don't Buy Where You Can't Work," pp. 83-119.

### **Supplemental Readings**

Taylor Branch, *Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-1963* (1988)

### **April 8 and 10: Malcolm X and Emergence of the Black Power Movement**

**Tuesday:** Book Discussion on Malcolm X

Alex Haley, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, **6-8 page paper due\*\***

**Thursday:** the Ideology and Practice of Black Power

Stokely Carmichael, "Black Power," speech, November 16, 1996 in Joanne Grant, *Black Protest: History, Documents, and Analysis 1619 to Present* (1968), pp. 459-466.

Peniel E. Joseph, *Waiting 'Til The Midnight Hour: A Narrative History of Black Power in America* (2006), chapter 6 "Black is a Country," pp. 118-131, chapter 7 "What We Gonna Start Sayin' Now Is Black Power," pp. 132-173, and chapter 8 "Storm Warnings," pp. 174-204.

Film: "Eyes on the Prize-Malcolm X, Black Power

### **Supplemental Readings**

Timothy Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie: Robert F. Williams & the Roots of Black Power* (1999)

Komozi Woodard, *A Nation within a Nation: Amiri Baraka (Leroi Jones) and Black Power Politics* (1999)

**April 15 and 17:** The Aftermath of Rebellion: Racial Politics and American Conservatism

**Tuesday:** Discussion-Understanding the Shift to Electoral Politics

Marable, *Race, Reform, and Rebellion*, chapters 6 “Black Rebellion: Zenith and Decline, 1970-1976,” pp. 112-145 and chapter 7 “From Protest to Politics: The Retreat of the Second Reconstruction, 1976-1982,” pp. 146-181.

**Thursday:** Discussion-Black America and the Reagan Revolution

Marable, *Race, Reform, and Rebellion*, chapters 8 “Reaction: Black Society and Politics during Regan Conservatism, 1982-1990,” pp. 182-215 and chapter “Into the Wilderness: the Twilight of the Second Reconstruction, 1990-2001,” pp. 216-237.

**Supplemental Readings**

Jeffrey R. Dudas, “In the Name of Equal Rights: Special Rights and the Politics of Resentment in Post-Civil Rights America,” *Law and Society Review*, Vol. 39, No. 4 (Dec., 2005), pp. 723-757.

**April 22 and 24-**the New Jim Crow: Race and the Carceral State

**Tuesday and Thursday:** discussion on Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*.

**Supplemental Readings**

Khalil Gibran Muhammad, *The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America* (2011)

David F. Musto, *The American Disease: Origins of Narcotic Control* (1999)

**April 29:** Are We Really in a Post-Civil Rights Era?: Racial Inequality and its Global Implications, Obama and Post-Racialism, and Wrap Up

**Tuesday:** Discussion-Race in 21<sup>st</sup> Century America

Manning Marable, *Race, Reform, and Rebellion*, chapter 10 “The New Racial Domain: The Politics of Racial Inequality, 2001-2006,” pp. 238-256.

Thomas J. Sugrue, *Not Even Past: Barack Obama and the Burden of Race* (2010), chapter 2 “Obama and the Truly Disadvantaged: the Politics of Race and Class.”

**Supplemental Readings**

Michael C. Dawson, *Not In Our Lifetimes: The Future of Black Politics* (2011), chapters 1-3

Clarence Taylor, “Hurricane Katrina and the Myth of the Post-Civil Rights Era,” *Journal of Urban History*, Volume 35, No. 5, (July, 2009), pp. 640-655.