Africana Studies
Fall 2017 Courses

Major Requirement Changes Effective Fall 2017

TWO CORE COURSES:

Category I: One Introductory course, drawn from the following circulating courses: Introduction to Africana Studies; WEB DuBois and the Foundations of Africana; A World View of Race; Black World Literature.
- AFR 0092-01 Introduction to Africana Studies ~ H. Adlai Murdoch

Category II (Methodology and Concentration): a course drawn from the following courses: Race and US Africa Policy; Black Feminist Theories; African Politics; Youth of Color; Critical Race Theory; African History; African-American Music History; Histiography, Theory & Methods in African History.
- AFR 0047-07 (HIST 0091-01) Histiography, Theory & Methods in African History ~ Jeanne Penvenne
- AFR 0129-01 (PS0129-01) African Politics ~ Pearl Robinson
- AFR 0047-08 (MUS 0039-01) African-American Music History ~ Stephan Pennington

Category III (ELECTIVE COURSES): Distribution/Electives): at least five of these courses should come from the student's main area of concentration (drawn from the designated areas Africa, African America, and Other Diasporas). The other three should be selected from the other two areas, at least one from each.
- AFR 0011-01 (SOC 0011-01) Racial and Ethnic Minorities ~ Orly Clerge
- AFR 0014-01 (HIST 0014) Historical Perspectives on Contemporary Crises in Africa Since 1850 ~ Jeanne Penvenne
- AFR 0047-01 (AMER 0010-01) Racial Politics and Urban Space in the US ~ Tom Abowd
- AFR 0047-02 (REL 0010-01) Africana Sacred Matters ~ Elana Jefferson-Tatum
- AFR 0047-03 (FAH 0004-01) Arts of Africa ~ Peter Probst
- AFR 0047-04 (ENG 0074-01) Literature of the Jazz Age ~ Ichiro Takayoshi
- AFR 0047-05 (AMER 0012-01) Race in America ~ Jean Wu
- AFR 0047-06 (MUS 0042-01) History of the Blues ~ Michael Ullman
- AFR 0070-01 (SOC 0070-01) Immigration, Race & American Society ~ Michelle Holliday-Stocking
- AFR 0091-01 (MUS 0091-01) African Music Ensemble, Kiniwe ~ Emmanuel Attah Poku
- AFR 0092-01 Introduction to Africana Studies ~ H. Adlai Murdoch
- AFR 0113-01 (SOC 0113-01) Urban Sociology ~ Orly Clerge
- AFR 0147-03 (ENG 0191-02) Queer Diasporas ~ Christina Sharpe
- AFR 0147-04 (WL 0122-01) South African Writers ~ Joel Rosenberg
- AFR 0147-06 (MUS 0185-01) Studies in Women in Music: Black Divas ~ Stephan Pennington
- AFR 0147-07 (HIST 0128-01) The Civil Rights Movement ~ Kerri Greenidge
- AFR 0147-08 (ED 0191-01) School-Prison Nexus ~ Sabina Vaught
- AFR 0147-09 (PS 0188-04) Race, Ethnicity, and US-African Foreign Policy ~ Pearl Robinson
STANDARD COURSES:

- AFR 0198 Senior Honors Thesis A ~ Staff
- AFR 0199-01 Independent Study ~ Staff
Course Descriptions

AFR 0011-01 (SOC 0011-01) Racial and Ethnic Minorities ~ Orly Clerge
MW | 01:30PM-02:45PM
This course provides an introduction to theoretical, historical and contemporary sociological perspectives on race, racism and ethnicity. The course will help you think critically about issues related to race and ethnicity in American society and globally. These issues include racial and ethnic inequality, discrimination, racial stereotyping, racial identity, assimilation, multiculturalism and postracialism. There is a special focus on the history and current situation of white-black relations, social movements such as the Civil Rights Movement and #BlackLivesMatter, and recent public policy debates. No prerequisites.

AFR 0014-01 (HIST 0014) Historical Perspectives on Contemporary Crises in Africa Since 1850 ~ Jeanne Penvenne
MW | 1:30-2:45 pm
African history and culture from the nineteenth century to the present, relating environmental, technical, and social innovations and constraints to change through time. Themes include intensified contact between Africans and Europeans, conquest, colonial experiences, African strategies to reclaim authority and the developing role of women and youth in shaping production, investment, and social choices in contemporary Africa.

AFR 0047-01 (AMER 0010-01) Racial Politics and Urban Space in the United States ~ Thomas Abowd
MW | 01:30PM-02:45PM
This course will highlight the radical changes that US urban centers have undergone historically and the role that race, racism, and racial politics have played in these transformations. As global and national economic trends and capitalist modernity began to make city life the majority experience in the US in the late 19th Century, a range of formidable forces intersected in the construction of these expanding places. Participants will examine these shifting and fluid racial and racialized realms not simply as cartographic places frozen on maps but also as ideas and myths that have helped construct US nationalism. How can the history of racism in this country be understood through both the actions of urban-based social movements as well as policing technologies and governing assumptions that have made racial segregation and racial violence possible? This course will feature examinations of Boston, New York, Detroit, Chicago, and Los Angeles, to name but a few.

AFR 0047-02 (REL 0010-01) Africana Sacred Matters ~ Elana Jefferson-Tatum
TR | 3:00-4:15 PM
This course offers an introduction to African religions in Africa and the African Atlantic world with a focus on art and material culture. We will specifically explore West and Central African indigenous religions and material cultures with an attention to foundational elements of African religious thought, practice, and ethics. Additionally, in our examination of African Atlantic traditions, we will study the transformation and indigenization of these African religions in the Caribbean and the Americas. To this end, we will interrogate: How and why does matter matter in Africana religious worlds? How do Africana ritual objects, landscapes, art forms, and embodied practices convey moral systems, philosophies, and theologies? Moreover, how do Africana sacred and material expressions challenge the concept and construction of religion? In studying Africana religious and material cultures, we will, therefore, also interrogate relationships between religion and matter, the spiritual and the material, and
the natural and the supernatural. This course counts toward the Humanities distribution requirement, the World Civilization requirement, and the African and African-American Culture and Region of Origin options.

**AFR 0047-03 (FAH 0004-01) Introduction to Arts of Africa ~ Peter Probst**

*MW | 3:00-4:15M*

Survey of the diverse arts of Africa from antiquity to the present. Each class is devoted to a single civilization, emphasizing the ways the visual arts function with respect to larger cultural issues. Within this context, students consider the relationship of art to religion, cosmology, gender, identity, and political power, as well as the representation of the “other”.

**AFR 0047-04 (0074-01) Literature of the Jazz Age ~ Ichiro Takayoshi**

*MW | 10:30-11:45AM (Post 1860)*

This course surveys the works of U.S. literati responding to the technological, economic, and social conditions of modernity. By radically renovating traditional literary forms, many key writers of the time searched for a matching representation for the novelties and complexities of modernity—most notably, total war, urbanization, the arrival of new immigrants, the crisis of public trust in the objectivity of news media, cinema, the jazz age, Fordism, the discovery of the anthropological notion of “culture,” and the popularization of Freudianism. Our main object is to understand the origins, purposes, and effects of the wild spirit of experimentalism that suffused their work. For representative poetry, we will consider the works of T. S. Eliot, Ezra Pound, Hart Crane, Dorothy Parker, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Langston Hughes and others; for drama, the plays of Elmer Rice and Eugene O’Neill; for narratives, the novels and short stories of Faulkner, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Toomer and Cather. This course fulfills the post-1860 requirement.

**AFR 0047-05 (AMER 0012-01) Race in America ~ Jean Wu**

*R | 4:30-7:15PM*

"In 1903, the famous African American scholar and activist W.E.B. DuBois said, "The problem of the 20th century is the problem of the color line." Many people today believe that race will continue to be "the" issue of the 21st century. In this course, we will examine the meanings of race in modern America, analyze the root causes and consequences of racist ideologies, and discuss current and future activist approaches to the issues raised by racist theories and practices. Our study will be multicultural in focus, with attention being given to Asian American, Native American, African American, European American, and Latino/a perspectives. Questions we will ask will include: How is race defined in the USA? Who defines it? How is it experienced? Who experiences it? What is its role in our lives as individuals, members of groups and of society at large? The course will be interdisciplinary, emphasizing in particular social science and arts/humanities approaches; and active student participation will be an important component. **Note:** This course is high-demand AMER majors have priority; please contact Professor Wu at Jean.Wu@tufts.edu to be added to the roster.

**AFR 0047-06 (MUS 0042-01) History of the Blues ~ Michael Ullman**

*MW | 1:30-2:45PM*

Origins, development, and regional styles; downhome blues, classic blues, and urban blues; vocal and instrumental traditions and innovations. Emphasis on such major figures as Bessie Smith, Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, and B.B. King.
AFR 0047-07 (HIST 0091-01) Seeking Gendered Perspectives: Historiography, Theory & Methods in African History ~ Jeanne Penvenne
M | 8:30AM-11:30AM
This course explores history as a gendered phenomenon, a process, a construction and an interpretation of past experience. It begins with the confirmation that people create, experience, and assign meaning to history as agents and interpreters of change. Individual and group experience is partially shaped by perspectives of social location, including age, gender, class, nationality, ethnicity, ability and race. This course will wrestle with the overall problematic of experiencing and interpreting history, but will pay special attention to gender in twentieth and twenty-first century Southern Africa. The course features small group discussions, lectures, films, scholarly readings, performance, literature, primary sources, and historians’ use of “new media.”

AFR 0047-08 (MUS 0039-01) African-American Music History ~ Stephan Pennington
MW | 3:00-4:15PM
The development of black music and aesthetics in the United States from the antebellum period to the present. Materials include the music and appropriate literature representing the composed, folk, and popular traditions.

AFR 0070-01 (SOC 0070-01) Immigration, Race & American Society ~ Michelle Holliday-Stocking
TR | 1030AM-1145AM
The United States in this course is used as a lens for understanding the movement of people across nation-state boundaries and their settlement in various receiving societies. Why people migrate across international borders; the ability of the nation-state to control migration flows; assimilation and incorporation of foreign “outsiders” into American social life; ways that migrants build and sustain lives across international borders; and challenges to two traditional types of membership: race and ethnicity, and citizenship and national belonging, will be explored.

AFR 0091-01 African Music Ensemble, Kiniwe ~ Emmanuel Attah Poku
(see SIS for days/times)
Repetory of traditional singing, instrumental ensemble music, and dance. May be repeated for credit. One-half course credit. Recommendations: MUS 91-01 (Fall) is the prerequisite for MUS 91-02 (Spring).

AFR 0092-01 Intro to Africana Studies ~ H. Adlai Murdoch
MW | 01:30PM-02:45PM
This course offers an introduction to key aspects of the African Diaspora. As such, it seeks to provide an understanding of the African Diaspora as a lived social formation through which peoples of African descent have strived to forge black cultural identities in a variety of locations through the politics and poetics of transnational imagination and action. Rather than a sweeping treatment of varying expressions of the black diasporic condition, this course centers on the Black Atlantic as a sociohistorical and sociocultural region. As a result, the course is broken down into thematic subgroups organized generally in chronological order, tracing various social, political, and cultural events and movements that deal with diasporic formations, the slave trade, religions, revolutionary movements, pan-Africanism, postcolonialism, feminist movements, and diasporic musics. Countries and cultures covered will include the African continent, Haiti, Jamaica, Brazil, and the USA; historical figures will include Toussaint L'Ouverture, W.E.B. Du Bois, Aimé Césaire, Frantz Fanon, Marcus Garvey and Bob Marley. A combination of key historical movements, individuals, themes, and cultural practices will be explored that have influenced and continue to shape the African diaspora as a constantly evolving space of black social making and movement.
AFR 0113-01 (SOC 0113-01) Urban Sociology ~ Orly Clerge
MW | 3:00PM-4:15PM
Recent patterns in economic restructuring, the concentration of poverty and crime, and ethnoracial conflict in cities highlights the growth of individual and structural divisions in urban America. The recent social protests stemming from the police killings of young black men in Ferguson, Missouri, Cleveland, Ohio and Staten Island, New York have shed light, once again, on the racial and economic tensions present in American cities and suburbs. This course will focus on these historical and contemporary social problems in cities. By social problems, we are referring to the unequal spatial distribution of people across urban neighborhoods, segregation and ethnoracial conflict, the impact of economic crisis on communities, hyper-policing of poor and minority neighborhoods and how city residents create, negotiate, undermine or support these processes. As we make sense of these inter-related research and policy issues together, this course will provide students with important sociological perspectives on the past, present and future of urban America. HBO’s acclaimed show The Wire will be used as a key sociological text for the course. **Recommendations:** SOC 1 or 10 or consent of instructor.

AFR 0129-01 (PS0129-01) African Politics ~ Pearl Robinson
MW | 1:30PM-2:45PM
Analysis of political developments in contemporary Africa, with emphasis on interactions between politics and culture. Theories of political legitimacy, citizenship, and democratization are used to examine modes of political interest representation, the role of women in politics, and the challenges of nation-building. Always, the focus is on political agency.

AMER 0147-03 (ENG 0191-02) Queer Diasporas ~ Christina Sharpe
M | 1:30-4:00PM (Post 1860)
In 2000 David Eng published an article on Deann Borshay Liem’s First Person Plural (2000) her documentary on her transracial, transnational adoption. Eng argued that it might be useful to think through diasporas “not in conventional terms of ethnic dispersion, filiation, and biological traceability, but rather in terms of queerness, affiliation, and social contingency.” In this course we will do both: we will trace out new forms of contingent kinships and we will think through racial diasporas and the ways that some racialized groups have been positioned as always already queer in the spaces—through diasporic dispersal—that they have come to occupy. We may read and view work by Lorraine Hansberry, David Eng, Monique Truong, Piri Thomas, Cherrie Moraga, James Baldwin, Isaac Julien, W. E. B. DuBois, Dionne Brand, Jose Munoz, Cathy Cohen, Lisa Lowe, Jacqueline Goldsby, Robert Reid-Pharr, Gertrude Stein, Toni Morrison, Shane Vogel, Nella Larsen, Fae Myenne Ng, Omise’eke Natasha Tinsley, Claude McKay, & James Weldon Johnson. This course fulfills the post-1860 requirement.

AFR 0147-04 (WL 0122-01) South African Writers ~ Joel Rosenberg
TR | 4:30PM-5:45PM
This course deals with the literature of modern South Africa, with emphasis on the effects of Apartheid—legally sanctioned racial segregation and discrimination that had prevailed in South Africa for most of the twentieth century--on the life of the imagination in that troubled land. Our aim is not literary criticism for its own sake, but rather to bring alive the realities of life in South Africa and to weigh thoughtfully the philosophical and practical challenges those realities dictate.

AFR 0147-06 (MUS 0185-01) Studies in Women in Music: Black Divas ~ Stephan Pennington
W | 9:00-11:30AM
The Diva, stemming from the word divine, has long served as a powerful figure of adoration and identification for a number of disenfranchised groups, especially women and sexual and racial/ethnic
minorities. In the emerging field of Diva/Star Studies, however, African American Divas have received little focus. This course examines the figure of the American Black Diva in culture and scholarship from Opera to Hip Hop using a variety of theoretical lenses from queer theory to black feminist thought. There are a number of issues this course will focus on: an exploration of the use of the Diva for the articulation of individual and communal identity, the function of the Star/Diva in society, the complexities of presentation and representation in personal and professional Diva narratives, the possibilities and limits of fame as a means of personal empowerment and political change, the way race inflects these issues differently, and finally the way in which detailed engagement with the musical performances of Black Divas across time and place can deepen our understanding of what it means to be or to love any given sort of Diva.

AFR 0147-07 (HIST 0128-01) The Civil Rights Movement ~ Kerri Greenidge
TR | 12:00-1:15PM
Examines the modern Civil Rights Movement in the United States and its impact on race relations, politics, society, and culture. Topics discussed during the semester include debates over non-violence vs. self-defense; integration vs. separatism; protest vs. politics; Martin Luther King vs. Malcolm X. The movement’s geographic, racial, and ideological diversity will also be explored, as will the evolution from civil rights to Black Power.

AFR 0147-08 (ED 0191-01) School-Prison Nexus ~ Sabina Vaught
M | 1:20-4:20PM
In this course we will consider the contemporary constellation of institutional, legal, and cultural systems that form the school-prison nexus in the U.S. Specifically, we will engage an interdisciplinary body of literature that examines the ways in which systems of race and gender power organize this nexus. We will examine the influences of state schooling policy and practice on the Outside on this nexus. We will ask how compulsory state schooling on Inside and Outside mimics, mirrors, and/ or co-produces. And, we will explore knowledge-producing systems behind the Wall, particularly in adult prison contexts.

AFR 0147-09 (PS 0188-04) Race, Ethnicity, and US-African Foreign Policy ~ Pearl Robinson
TR | 1:30-2:45PM
Scholars debate whether foreign attachments of US ethnic lobbies foster policy advocacy that runs counter to the national interest. This course traces the shift in emphasis of African-American internationalists from the defense of Black nationality to broader human rights advocacy around norms of racial equality, the rule of law, and economic justice. Case studies address the role of race, ethnicity and religion in the making of US Africa policy from 1850 to the present.

AFR 0198 Senior Honors Thesis A ~ Staff
Students wishing to do a Senior Thesis should contact Professor H. Adlai Murdoch, Director of Africana Studies at H.Murdoch@tufts.edu

AFR 0199-01 Independent Study ~ Staff
Students wishing to do an independent study should contact Professor H. Adlai Murdoch, Director of Africana Studies at H.Murdoch@tufts.edu