

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA
Department of Ethnic Studies
Spring 2009

ES 306: The African American Experience II

Instructor: Dr. Elisa Joy White
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Office Hours: Wednesday 11-12 and by appointment
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Class Location: KUY 305
Class Time: TR 12-1:15

Course Description:

The African American experience is diasporic, reflective of the intersection of a multitude of diasporas and the social, cultural, historical and political circumstances that define them. This course examines key events and movements that have had an impact on the lives of individuals of the African Diaspora in the Americas beginning with the post-Civil War period of Reconstruction and the Reign of Terror through the United States Civil Rights and Black Power movements. The course concludes with the late twentieth century to early twenty-first century discourse around the Black middle-class, affirmative action and the Reparations movement, as well as an engagement with the socio-political significance of what is often described as the "hip hop movement." Particular emphasis will be placed on the diversity of African American experiences emerging from various historically situated conditions in relation to "race", class, gender and region; including an examination of African Americans in the context of Hawai'i.

Students are expected to complete all readings and to fully participate in class discussions. Attendance is mandatory. Two unexcused absences are permitted. Additional class materials (e.g. films, articles, and other related media) will be provided during class meetings. Periodically, students will be assigned readings to present to the class in small groups, as a means of enhancing class discussions and inspiring further critical examination of the texts.

Each student is required to complete four 3-5 page reflection essays that discuss the student's experience, personally and critically, with specific course subject matter related to media screenings and hand-outs, text readings and lectures.

Additionally, students must prepare one short research project to be orally presented to the class during the course of the semester. The purpose of the short research presentation is to offer students the opportunity to closely examine an area of interest cultivated from course material and to begin the research process on what will eventually become a final research paper. Each student will have the opportunity to present her or his short research

project to the class during the course of the semester on a topic approved by the professor.

The final research paper is to be 10 – 12 pages (typed and double-spaced). All topics for the research paper must be approved in advance by the professor. Each student is required to meet with the professor to discuss the progress of her or his research paper and to receive additional help, if needed, with the research process. Further guidelines for reflection essays, the short research presentation and the final exam paper will be given by the instructor.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation – 10%
 Reflection Papers – 40% (10% each)
 Short In-Class Research Presentation – 20%
 Final Exam Paper – 30%

Required Texts:

Franklin, John Hope and Alfred A. Moss (2000) *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans*. New York: McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 0070219079

Jackson, Miles M. (Ed) (2005) *They Followed the Trade Winds: African Americans in Hawai'i* (Social Process in Hawai'i, Vol.43). Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

Locke, Alain (1999) *The New Negro*. New York: Touchstone. ISBN: 0684838311

Ogbar, Jeffrey O.G. (2007) *Hip-Hop Revolution: The Culture and Politics of Rap*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas.

Tuesday January 13, 2009

Introduction to Class

Thursday January 15, 2009

Franklin and Moss Chapter 15

Tuesday January 20, 2009

Franklin and Moss Chapter 16

Thursday January 22, 2009

Franklin and Moss Chapter 17

Tuesday January 27, 2009

Franklin and Moss Chapter 18

Due: Reflection Essay #1

Thursday January 29, 2009
Franklin and Moss 18

Tuesday February 3, 2009
Locke pp. 3-56

Thursday February 5, 2009
Locke pp. 301-322

Tuesday February 10, 2009
Locke pp. 353-368

Thursday February 12, 2009
Locke pp. 369-414

Tuesday February 17, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 19
Due: Reflection Essay #2

Thursday February 19, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 20

Tuesday February 24, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 20

Thursday February 26, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 21

Tuesday March 3, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 22

Thursday March 5, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 22

Tuesday March 10, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 23
Due: Reflection Essay #3

Thursday March 12, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 23

Tuesday March 17, 2009
Franklin and Moss Chapter 24

Thursday March 19, 2009

Franklin and Moss Chapter 25

Jackson pp 53 - 69

--SPRING BREAK--**Tuesday March 31, 2009**

Jackson pp 70-88, 123-147, 162-188

Thursday April 2, 2009

Jackson pp 95-122, 189-208, 209-231

Tuesday April 7, 2009

Short Research Presentations

Thursday April 9, 2009

Short Research Presentations

Tuesday April 14, 2009

Short Research Presentations

Thursday April 16, 2009

Ogbar Introduction and Chapter 1

Tuesday April 21, 2009

Ogbar Chapter 2

Thursday April 23, 2009

Ogbar Chapter 3

Tuesday April 28, 2009

Ogbar Chapter 4

Thursday April 30, 2009

Ogbar Chapter 5 and Epilogue

Due: Reflection Essay #4 - Hip Hop Culture and the Black Experience in Hawai'i**Tuesday May 5, 2009****Last Class – Final discussions****Final Papers must be received by Tuesday May 12, 2009 *no later than 2PM.*****No late papers will be accepted.**

