

Dr. Elizabeth Bryant
Room: 420
Day and Time: Wednesday 18- 20:15

African American History Since the Civil War

Course Description:

This course will examine the history of African Americans and race relations from the Civil War and Emancipation to the present. We will explore a wide variety of issues including migration, labor, socio-economic class, gender, cultural expression, the shaping of political ideologies, activism, and changing notions of citizenship. Topics include social, cultural, and political changes, Reconstruction, the Harlem Renaissance, civil rights, black power, affirmative action, and the election of the first African-American president, Barack Obama. We will explore both the relationship of blacks to larger society as well as the inner dynamics of the African-American community.

Course Objectives:

To increase student awareness of the role that African-Americans played in shaping American history.

To increase student awareness of the richness of black culture.

To make students aware of the contributions of African-Americans to the United States.

To enhance the respect for and understanding of racial and cultural differences

To develop writing and critical thinking skills.

To take what you have learned in this course and see the continuing implications and relevance.

Assessment:

Exams: There will be one midterm and one final which can include multiple choice, fill in the blank, true/false, short answer and/or essay questions. The material covered on the test will come from class lectures and the assigned articles. Please note: the final exam is not cumulative, but several questions will test you on important themes that have been repeated throughout the semester. Each exam is worth 35% of your grade.

Attendance and Participation: This includes but is not limited to pop quizzes and participation in class discussions. You will not be successful in this course without regular class attendance. This is worth 10% of your grade.

Paper: Each student will complete 2 short papers on the assigned readings of their choice. The criteria will be posted on the Scholar's Panel. These will be worth 10% each for a total of 20% of your grade.

** A note on re-sits. If a student fails the second test, they are eligible for a re-sit. However, it should be noted that an average between the first exam and the re-sit will be calculated as the final grade for the final exam.

** A note on missed exams. Should students miss an exam, they must contact me immediately to arrange a make-up. Make-ups will be in essay format, and students are not eligible for re-sits for missed exams.

Reading Materials:

All articles assigned for this course will be available on AGH's Scholar's Panel

Schedule:

**** Please note that this schedule is tentative and schedule to change at the instructor's discretion**

March 5: Introduction, background; Reconstruction; clip from *Birth of a Nation*

March 12: End of Reconstruction; Rise of Disfranchisement and Jim Crow; Black Leadership: Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. Du Bois

March 19: Anti-lynching crusades; Niagara Movement; Rise of the NAACP

March 26: World War I; the Great Migration; Rising Disillusionment; Marcus Garvey and the UNIA; The Harlem Renaissance; African-Americans during the "Jazz Age"

April 2: Test 1

April 9: The Great Depression; African-Americans Under Roosevelt's New Deal
World War II

April 16: Emergence of the Modern Civil Rights Movement

April 23- NO CLASS.

April 30: NO CLASS

May 7: The Black Power Movement; *Malcolm X*.

NOTE: Class will run tonight until 22:00

May 14: Impact of the Civil Rights/Black Power Movements; The 70s and 80s: Cultural Acceptance?

Note: Class will run tonight until 20:45