

**African American History II  
History 251  
Spring 07  
Tues /Thurs 2:00-3:20  
4.0 Credits  
Chapman 207**

**Prof. Shannon King  
[King@uoregon.edu](mailto:King@uoregon.edu)  
Phone: 346-4824  
Office: 313 McKenzie  
Office Hours: Tues 3:30-5,  
Thurs 12:20-1:50, or by  
appointment**

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**Graduate Teaching Fellows (GTFs):  
Jurgen Ruckaberle  
340 R McKenzie Hall  
[Jruckabe@uoregon.edu](mailto:Jruckabe@uoregon.edu)  
346-3937**

**Polly Good  
340F McKenzie Hall  
[Pgood@uoregon.edu](mailto:Pgood@uoregon.edu)  
346-2160**

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**Course Description:**

**African American History II** is an introduction to modern African American history. It begins during the Civil War and concludes in the post-Civil Rights era. The objective of the course is to assess watershed periods: the Great Migration and World War I; the Great Depression; World War II; the Cold War and Civil Rights movement; and the Black Power movement; as well as to engage central themes in modern African American history, such as Black nationalism, African American nationalism, and Black internationalism.

**Format:** Attendance and participation during class meetings and discussion section are mandatory (25%). Each student will write two essays of 3-5 pages worth 25% each (50% total of the final grade). The essay topics will be provided by the professor. The final paper (25%) will be 5-7 pages; this final essay will be based primarily on material covered in lecture, the text book, the articles, and the primary sources. The final exam will be a comprehensive take home exam at the end of the course. All essays must be double spaced, 1" margins, and in 12 point font (Times New Roman). Students with four or more unexcused absences in discussion section will fail the course. Students are asked to direct all communications regarding absences to the GTFs of their respective discussion sections. Neither I nor the GTFs will share our lecture notes with you. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain lecture notes from your class mates.

**Late Papers:**

\*Late papers will be lowered one letter grade for every day that they are beyond the deadline unless there is a documented medical reason that warrants an extension. Both the GTFs and I reserve the right to refuse to grade papers that are handed in well past the deadline.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

\*If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please bring a notification letter from Disability Services outlining your approved accommodations.

### **Required texts:**

Darlene Clark Hine, *The African-American Odyssey*

Ida B. Wells, *Crusade for Justice: The Autobiography of Ida B. Wells*

Anne Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*

### **Autobiographies:**

\*I would suggest that you begin reading the autobiographies immediately. *Crusade for Justice* is a lengthy read but the narrative moves fast, as does Moody's. In both, the prose is clean, and while the lives of these women are embedded in the significant historical events of the time, they are also embedded in the very familiar experiences we all encounter, so do not worry about unfamiliarity with the historical period. All will make sense in time.

### **Documents and Articles:**

The majority of the documents are available on the CD-ROM attached to the back cover of the text book, *The African American Odyssey*. The other documents as well as the articles will be on Electronic Reserve or Blackboard.

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### **Schedule of Readings and Assignments:**

#### **Week One, 4/3&5: The Civil War and Reconstruction:**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapters 12&13

Documents on CD-ROM: 12-5- Frederick Douglass, Speech to the American Antislavery Society, 1865; 12-1-Charlotte Forten, Life on the Sea Islands; 12-6-Address of the Colored State Convention to the People of the State of South Carolina, 1865; all documents for chapter 13.

#### **Week Two, 4/10&12: The Nadir and the Politics of Accommodation and**

#### **Respectability:**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapters 14&15

Documents: 14-1, 14-3.-7, 15-2, and 15-5

Thurs. in Class: 15-1: Booker T. Washington, The Atlanta Exposition Address & Du Bois, Of Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others, from *The Souls of Black Folk*

#### **Week Three, 4/17& 19: The Great Migration and the New Negro:**

**Thurs. April 19<sup>th</sup> during discussion section receive questions for first short paper**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapters 16&17

Documents: 16-1, 17-2, 17-3, 17-5, 17-7, 17-8

Thurs. in Class: Langston Hughes "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain"

**Week four 4/24&26: The Great Depression and the Black Left:**

**\*Crusade For Justice due Thursday April 26<sup>th</sup> in discussion section**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapter 18

Documents: W.E.B. Du Bois, Fighting For Segregation or Integration?

Article: Robin D.G. Kelley, "A New War In Dixie: Communists and the Unemployed in Birmingham, Alabama, 1930-1933" Labor History

**Week five, 5/1&3: Cold War and Civil Rights:**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapters 19&20

Documents: 19-1, 20-1.-4

Article: Mary Dudziak, "Brown as a Cold War Case"

**Week Six, 5/8&10: The Civil Rights Movement:**

**Thurs. May 10<sup>th</sup> during discussion section receive questions for second short paper**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapter 21

Documents: 21-1.-7.

Thurs. in Class: John R. Lewis, "The Revolution Is at Hand," 1963

**Week Seven, 5/15&17: Or Does It Explode? The Black Power Movement:**

**\*Coming of Age in Mississippi Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup> in Discussion Section**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapter 22

Documents: 22-2, 22.-3, 22-5.-8

Tues. in Class: 22-1: Stokely Carmichael and "Black Power," 1966

**Week Eight, 5/22&24: The Black Poverty and Prosperity:**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapter 23

Documents: 23-1; 23-5, and Audre Lorde, The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle The Master's House.; Amiri Baraka, "Black People & Jesse Jackson II"; The National Black Political Convention, Gary Indiana, March 1972; and Black Radical Congress, 1998

Thurs. in Class: Moynihan Report, excerpt

**Week Nine, 5/29 & 31: Contemporary Issues:**

*African American Odyssey*, Chapter 24

Documents: Barack Obama's Presidential Candidacy Official Announcement and his Bloody Sunday speech

**Week Ten, 6/5 & 7: Review Week**

**\*June 5, Tues: Distribute Questions for Final Essay**

**\*Final Exam due June 14<sup>th</sup> by 5:00**