



BLACK STUDIES PROGRAM

SPRING 2018 COURSE OFFERINGS

BLS 101 001

Introduction to Black Studies

M/R 2:30pm – 3:45pm

Z. Edwards

This course familiarizes the student with the foundations of Black Studies as a scholarly inquiry, introducing the diverse field's most important theoretical approaches, preparing the student for further courses in Black Studies while building analytical skills and fostering an understanding of Black life and culture in the Americas.

BLS 107 001

African American Artist

T 4:00pm – 6:30pm

T. Woods

An introduction to African-American achievements in the visual arts, especially painting, from Colonial times to the present.

BLS 225 001

The African World View

M 4:00pm – 6:30pm

D. Kyei-Poakwa

This course introduces African history and culture as an independent aspect of world civilization. Students consider diverse perspectives including, for example, Afrocentrism, post colonialism, world systems analysis, dependency theory, colonial-ism, imperialism, state formation, and cultural ex-change. The course helps students understand how distinctive African contributions have shaped and—continue to shape—the world's cultures, even as Africa itself and the African Diaspora are in turn influenced by contact and conflict with non-African cultures.

BLS 227 001

History of Jazz

T/R 1:00pm – 2:15pm

E. Melley

A study of the history of jazz from African music to contemporary trends and more popular forms. Emphasis will be placed on styles and performers. Analytical listening will be required.

BLS 303 001

Urban Politics in the U.S.

T/R 1:00pm – 2:15pm

A. Affigne

A survey of city politics in the United States from a variety of theoretical perspectives, using analytical concepts such as social class, pluralism, political economy, and urban regimes. Includes urban elections and party machines, metropolitan development and suburbanization, and racial and ethnic political mobilization.

BLS 313 001
The Power of Whiteness

T/R 1:00pm – 2:15pm

C. O’Kelly

Historical development of “whitenesses” within the context of colonialism, slavery, imperialism and globalization, and their aftermaths as a way of understanding the cultural environments and processes of ethno-racial and gender-sexual identity formation today. Hegemonic whiteness is deconstructed and challenged. Whiteness is examined as an unnamed, unmarked category, “whites are just normal,” that carries powers and privileges.

BLS 376 001
Toni Morrison

M 4:00pm – 6:30pm

T. Valkeakari

Examines a selection of novels by the 1993 Nobel laureate Toni Morrison. Analyzes her dialogue with African American and American history, with an emphasis on individual and communal trauma, memory, and healing. Selected, accessible Morrison scholarship will be studied as well, with a focus on race, class, and gender, and on Morrison’s strategies as a creative writer.

BLS 416 001
Race and Politics in Americas

T/R 11:30am – 12:45pm

A. Affigne

Advanced, in-depth survey of racial politics in North America, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. Considers analytical perspectives such as post colonialism, pan-Africanism, negritude, indigenismo, critical race theory, racial patriarchy, and the “racial contract.” Examines the politics of Indigenous, African-descent, Latino, and Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

BLS 470 001
ST: From Selma to Ferguson

T 2:30pm – 5:00pm

J. Jordan-Zachery

This course explores the Black Diasporic responses to state violence. It pays particular attention to the politics of Blackness, writing, theorizing and representation, and its relationship to historical and contemporary movements for autonomy, equality, freedom, justice, and self-determination. The course grapples with the multiple manifestations of “violence”, for example, physical, structural and symbolic forms, it also addresses the meaning of rage and its manifestations, including its physical, structural and symbolic forms.

BLS 490 001
Independent Reading in Black Studies

By Arrangement

STAFF

The student is provided the opportunity to explore advanced topics in the field outside of the regular departmental offerings. *Prerequisite: Permission of the sponsoring faculty member and the program director.*

BLS 490 002
Independent Reading in Black Studies

By Arrangement

J. Jordan-Zachery

See BLS 490 Section 001 above.

BLS 491 001
Directed Research Project

By Arrangement

J. Jordan-Zachery

Gives students the opportunity to design and carry out a significant research project in some aspect of black studies. The final result of the project may be a long research paper, video documentary, dramatic script or presentation, computer program, or other major work which demonstrates mastery of theory, technique, or subject matter. *Prerequisite: Written permission of the program director and sponsoring faculty member.*