



C-ID Descriptor

African American History of the U.S. since Reconstruction

Descriptor Details

- **Descriptor Title:** African American History of the U.S. since Reconstruction
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General Description

This course is a survey of African diasporan experiences in United States History since Reconstruction to the present with emphasis upon the centrality of African American experiences and contributions. Course content focuses on African diasporan influences upon the political, social, economic, and cultural development of the United States that includes an analysis of systemic White supremacy, structural racism, and the struggle for freedom, racial and social justice and full equality in the United States.

Prerequisites

N/A

Corequisites

N/A

Advisories

N/A

Content

1. Overview of Black Reconstruction, presidential election of 1876, the Compromise of 1877
2. Origins of the “Jim Crow” system (U.S. Apartheid); revival and triumph of racialization, racism, and white supremacy; overthrow of Reconstruction governments in the South; movement for disfranchisement; state and federal legalization of racism and various social cultural legal barriers to limit Black Freedom; economic exploitation of Africans and peonage; terror and violence to enforce systemic white supremacy
3. African American struggles and challenges during the early Jim Crow era that include political, educational and economic initiatives; African American leaders, organization building, cultural, social and intellectual accomplishments during the Jim Crow era
4. African American mass migrations to northern and western states; development of resistance to segregation (Jim Crow Era); development and increase of African American leadership and institutions; rise of civil rights organizations and Black Women’s club movement; African Americans in the U.S. labor movement including the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Maids; the rise of the Black middle class.
5. Origins and development of New European Imperialism, internationalizing the color line; African Americans in the Spanish American war and Philippine Islands; racialized immigration policies, U.S. Imperialism and the Jim Crow system and African American struggles against U.S. Imperialism including Pan-Africanism and decolonization.
6. Origins of the Progressive Movement and African Americans; Progressive Movement’s impact on local, state, national politics and issues of race.
7. World War I - economic, political causes; U.S. involvement and struggles for African Americans with enlistment, racism, racial oppression and segregation in the military and on the home front.
8. Social, economic, and political causes and consequences of African American mass migrations; racial riots, lynching, terror, and violence against Africans Americans; the Red Summer of 1919; African American protest and struggle for equality and justice; African leaders and Black Nationalism; the New Negro Movement including the Harlem Renaissance and nationalization of African American culture.
9. Post World War I developments and impact on African Americans; massive European immigration, competition for jobs and resurgence of racism; rebirth of the Ku Klux Klan; segregation in urban cities, ghetto building, restrictive covenants; Black Self-Help Movement, structural shifts in Black America; expansion of the Black intelligentsia and Black businesses enterprise.

10. Great Depression causes and consequences, African American experiences and responses; New Deal programs and impact upon the African American community; African American political realignment-from Republican to Democrat
11. World War II and the African American Fight for the "Double V" and the "Four Freedoms"; Black soldiers in a segregated armed forces; urban rebellions; African American influences in the development and leadership of the United Nations; creation of the 5th Pan-African Congress; and the establishment of mass movement organization building to end discrimination and segregation in the United States.
12. McCarthyism and persecution of prominent Black leadership during the Cold War;; African American writers, artists and legal campaigns and progress in the courts to eradicate Jim Crow, the significance of Brown v. Board of Education.
13. The Black Freedom Movement of the 20th century; African American organizations, leadership and continuing political, economic and legal campaigns against segregation; congressional legislation to protect civil rights; violent resistance to the Black Freedom Movement and its impact on social change in the U.S. and anti-Vietnam war and anti-poverty protests.
14. The Black Power phase of the Black Freedom Movement and the return to Black Nationalism; The Nation of Islam and Black economic and religious nationalism; El Hajj Malik El Shabazz and the struggle for Human Rights; Black Power Movement and its influence and development of the Black Student Movement and Black Studies; African American artists, the Black Arts Movement, urban rebellions and expressions of Black Nationalism.
15. The political developments at the end of the 20th century (1970s to 1990s); an assessment of the achievements and unfinished agenda of the Black Freedom Movement; African American gains in electoral politics; and continued struggles of African Americans, including issues of education, ending poverty, employment, housing, healthcare, economic enterprise and security against police violence.
16. The development of an increased political voice of African Americans from the local to the national level, including those who ran for president; the effects of No Child Left Behind, the Welfare Reform Act, and affirmative action on African American lives; continuing obstacles to African American economic equity and equality in a racial capitalist system; police brutality and mass incarceration as a new form of Jim Crow as major issues confronting the African-American community and the nation at large as a quest for a just and good society.
17. The economics and politics of U.S. involvement in war in the 21st century and its effect upon the African American community and its struggles; the economic crisis of 2008 and its impacts upon U.S. society and the African American community, especially affecting the transfer of generational wealth

18. The political developments of African Americans in the 21st century; controversial presidential elections; post-election developments, national social, cultural and economic change and impacts upon the African American community; the historical meaning and impact of the Obama presidency upon the African American community and the nation; challenges and divisions of the 2016 election; the Trump era and varied forms of resistance by the African American community including Black Lives Matter and other social forces in the nation.
19. California: people, government and the constitution; Spanish and Mexican heritage of California; contemporary California-demography, economics and the role in national politics; California's first constitution and its relationship to the U.S. constitution; the Progressive Era in California and its impact on local governmental politics and political structures and the nature of politics; branches of California government; California constitutional revisions; the Black Freedom Movement in California, its Civil Rights phase (1955-1965) and its Black Power phase (1965-1975); African Americans in California politics and their resistance to exclusion from full participation
20. The California Constitution and local government; county government; city governments; special districts; regional governance; African Americans in local and state government

Lab Activities

No information provided

Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Analyze and discuss the politics of the Black Reconstruction, the presidential election of 1876, the Compromise of 1877 period and the Republican Party's abandonment of African Americans.
2. Identify the origins of the "Jim Crow" system (U.S. Apartheid) and define racialization, racism and white supremacy; its social, political, economic, legal and systemic violence components, and discuss the system's impact upon African Americans.
3. Discuss the cultural, economic, social, educational and political struggles and accomplishments of African Americans during the Jim Crow era, and identify ideas, programs and strategies utilized by key African American leaders to achieve freedom, justice and equality.

4. Discuss the mass migrations, increase of African American leadership and institutions, the rise of various forms of resistance to racism in the areas of labor, civil rights and education. Explain how racism influenced the economics and politics of the Labor Movement.
5. Analyze factors that account for the rise of the "New Imperialism" and the world wide subjugation of peoples of color, and its implications for African Americans and overall race relations in the United States; Explain the rise and goals of Pan-Africanism and decolonization.
6. Identify the origins of the Progressive movement, its local, state, national, and racial agenda, and analyze its effect on American life.
7. Analyze the causes of World War I, examine the U.S. role in the war and discuss its treatment of African Americans at home and abroad.
8. Identify the causes of large scale African American migrations from the South to Northern cities, assess the impact of the migration, and describe the culture and political movements that emerged within the African American community.
9. Discuss the political, social, and economic developments between World War I and the Great Depression, and explain how these developments affected U.S. foreign policy and contributed to social and racial conflict.
10. Analyze the causes and consequences of the Great Depression and its social, political and economic effect upon African Americans and American society, and explain how the New Deal transformed U.S. politics and African American political pursuits.
11. Analyze the causes of World War II, examine the U.S. role, discuss its treatment of African Americans, and explain how the war shaped the nature of the African American, continental African, and diasporan African struggles for freedom.
12. Discuss the origins of the Cold War and the rise of McCarthyism, and analyze their impact on American domestic and foreign policy; and African American political and education struggles to end segregation and achieve freedom, justice and equality.
13. Discuss the Black Freedom Movement and its Civil Rights and Black Power phases from the 1950s through the early 1970s; Identify key leaders and organizations involved, and explain the movement's effect on other social, economic and political reforms of the era.
14. Summarize the struggles and accomplishments of African Americans during the Black Power Movement and assess the social, political and economic issues that were left unresolved.
15. Define and discuss the major social, political, and economic issues and struggles confronting the African American community during the 1980s and 1990s, and analyze key concepts and practices involved i.e., racial capitalism, police brutality, affirmative action.

16. Discuss the major events of war and economic crisis in the early 21st century and their impact on the African American community and U.S. society.
17. Analyze the political developments of the 21st century around presidential elections including the historical meaning and impact of the Obama presidency, Trump era and various forms of resistance by the African American community and others.
18. Describe the nature of California government focusing on the principles and processes of the California Constitution, explain the relationship between state and local government, and analyze how social, political, legal, and economic developments have affected African Americans.

Evaluation Methods

A student's grade will be based on multiple measures of performance unless the course requires no grade. Multiple measures may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- I. Quizzes and exams
- II. Written assignments
- III. Research reports
- IV. Field reports
- V. Class discussions, group participation
- VI. Project and presentations

Textbooks

1. Asante, Molefi, *The African American People: A Global History*, (classic)
2. Bennett, Lerone. *Before the Mayflower: History of Black America*, (classic)
3. Clark Hine, Darlene, et al., *African American Odyssey*, Volume 2, 7th Ed., (2021)
4. Clark Hine, Darlene, et al., *African American Odyssey*, Combined Volume, 7th Ed., (2018)
5. Clarke, John Henrik, *African People in World History*, (classic)
6. Clayborn Carson, et. al., *The Struggle for Freedom: A History of African Americans, Vol 1 to 1877, Ed. 3*, (2021)
7. Clayborn Carson, et. al., *The Struggle for Freedom: A History of African Americans, Combined*, Ed. 3, (2021)
8. Franklin, John Hope. *From Slavery to Freedom*, (2020)
9. Hannah-Jones, Nikole, *The 1619 Project*, (2021)
10. Jordan, Terry L., *The U.S. Constitution: And Fascinating Facts About It*, (classic)

11. Nell Painter, *Creating Black Americans: African American History and Its Meanings, 1619-Present*, (classic)
12. White, Debora, ed. al., *Freedom on My Mind - A history of African Americans with Documents*, (classic)
13. Harding, Vincent, *There is a River* (classic)