

AFRICANA STUDIES (AS) {AFRC}

Undergraduate Courses

001. (HIST007, SOCI027) Introduction to Africana Studies. (D) Humanities & Social Science Sector. Class of 2010 & beyond. Beavers, Charles, Savage, Shaw, Zuberi.

The aim of this course is to provide an interdisciplinary examination of the complex array of African American and other African Diaspora social practices and experiences. This class will focus on both classic texts and modern works that provide an introduction to the dynamics of African American and African Diaspora thought and practice. Topics include: What is Africana Studies?; The History Before 1492; Creating the African Diaspora After 1500; The Challenge of Freedom; Race, Gender and Class in the 20th Century; From Black Studies to Africana Studies: The Future of Africana Studies.

L/R 002. (SOCI001) Introduction to Sociology. (C) Society Sector. All classes. Zuberi.

Sociology provides a unique way to look at human behavior and the world. Sociology is the systematic study of the groups and societies in which people live. In this introductory course, we examine and analyze how social structures and cultures are created, maintained, and most importantly, how they affect behavior. The course deconstructs our taken for granted world of social interactions and behaviors and examines what theory and research can tell about human social behavior.

L/R 006. (ASAM006, SOCI006, URBS160) Race and Ethnic Relations. (C) May be counted as a General Requirement Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Charles, Kao, Zuberi. Also offered through the College of General Studies - See CGS Course Guide.

The course will examine how social networks, neighborhood context, culture, and notions of race affect inequality and ethnic relations. The course reviews the studies of ethnic entrepreneurship, urban segregation, labor force participation, and assimilation processes. The course emphasizes how inequality affects ethnic relations as well as the economic and social integration of different groups in society.

SM 011. (SOCI011, URBS112) Urban Sociology. (M) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff.

A comprehensive introduction to the sociological study of cities. Topics will include theories of urbanism, methods of research, migration, history of cities, gentrification, poverty, urban politics, suburbanization and globalization. Philadelphia will be used as a recurring example, though the course will devote attention to cities around the U.S. and the world.

SM 018. (AFST018, ANTH018) Popular Culture in Africa. (C) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Barnes. Freshman Seminar.

This course concentrates on popular culture in sub-Saharan Africa. It examines the way people reflect on and represent various aspects and issues in their daily lives, in public media, and through a diverse range of performative and creative outlets. It explores the way cultural traditions are created, promulgated, and perpetuated. It looks at the way popular culture deals with pleasure and pain; identity, difference, and diversity; wealth and power; modernity and history; gender relations; suppression, resistance, and violence; and local versus global processes. In short, popular culture will serve as a window through which to observe contemporary life.

SM 041. (SOCI041, URBS010) Topics in Sociology: Homelessness & Urban Crisis. (C) Culhane. This course is cross-listed with SOCI 041 (Topics in Sociology) when the subject matter is related to African American or other African Diaspora issues.

Freshman Seminars. Topics vary from semester to semester. Past offerings include Society and History, the 1960's: Preludes and Postludes; Mistakes, Errors, Accidents & Disasters; Urban Analysis with Computers; Race and Public Policy; Perspectives on Inequality, Homelessness and the Urban Crisis.

063. (ENGL063) 20th-Century American Literature. (M) Beavers.

This course surveys American literature across the twentieth-century, considering its formal innovations in the wake of modernism, the two World Wars, the Cold War, and postmodernity. Authors treated might include: James, Wharton, Eliot Pound, Faulkner, Hemingway, Rhys, Galdwin, Ginsberg, Plath, Pynchon, Walcott, and Morrison.

See the Africana Studies website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current course offerings.

071. (AFST071, ENGL071) Literatures of Africa and the African Diaspora. (M) Staff.

This course will serve as an introduction to a particularly rich arena of literature in English. It will also help students to begin to understand many of the racial subtexts underlying the culture wars in America, where too often in the full glare of cameras, an anguished voice informs the audience that "as an African, I cannot expect justice in this America." One of the things at work here is the assumption of a common African diasporic identity -- understood as an excluded, marginalized subtext of identity in the new world. But why is Africa being involved here? What does "Africa" mean in this new world context? What is the larger global context of these assumptions about "Africa" and what is its history? Does the term "Africa" itself have a history? What is "African literature?" This course, therefore, will also help students not only to ask fundamental questions about identity but also to understand identity as a moving and dynamic construct. How, for example, does "Africa" travel to South America, to the Caribbean Archipelago, and to Europe?

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

L/R 075. (AFST075, HIST075) Africa Before 1800. (B) History & Tradition Sector. All classes. Cassanelli.

Survey of major themes and issues in African history before 1800. Topics include: early civilizations, African kingdoms and empires, population movements, the spread of Islam, the slave trade era. Also, emphasis on how historians use archaeology, linguistics, and oral traditions to reconstruct Africa's early history.

L/R 076. (AFST076, HIST076) Africa Since 1800. (A) History & Tradition Sector. All classes. Staff.

Survey of major themes, events, and personalities in African history from the early nineteenth century through the 1960s. Topics include abolition of the slave trade, European imperialism, impact of colonial rule, African resistance, religious and cultural movements, rise of naturalism and pan-Africanism, issues of ethnicity, and "tribalism" in modern Africa.

077. (FOLK075, MUSC075) Jazz: Style and History. (M) Distribution Course in Arts & Letters. Class of 2009 & prior only. Parberry, Ramsey.

Exploration of the family of musical idioms called jazz. Attention will be given to issues of style, to selected musicians, and to the social, cultural, and scholarly issues raised by its study.

SM 078. (URBS178) Urban University-Community Relations: Faculty-Student Collaborative Action Seminar. (D) Harkavy. Prerequisite(s): Benjamin Franklin Seminar.

One of the seminar's aims is to help students develop their capacity to solve strategic, real world problems by working collaboratively in the classroom and in the West Philadelphia community. Students work as members of research teams to help solve universal problems (e.g., poverty, poor schooling, inadequate health care, etc.) as they are manifested in Penn's local geographic community of West Philadelphia. The seminar currently focuses on improving education, specifically college and career readiness and pathways. Specifically, students focus their problem-solving research at Sayre High School, West Philadelphia, which functions as the real-world site for the seminar's activities. Students typically are engaged in academically based service-learning at the Sayre School, with the primary learning activities occurring on Mondays from 3-5. Other arrangements can be made at the school if needed. Another goal of the seminar is to help students develop proposals as to how a Penn undergraduate education might better empower students to produce, not simply "consume," societally-useful knowledge, as well as function as life-long societally-useful citizens.

079. (ENGL080) Literatures of Jazz. (M) Distribution Course in Arts & Letters. Class of 2009 & prior only. Beavers.

That modernism is steeped as much in the rituals of race as of innovation is most evident in the emergence of the music we have come to know as jazz, which results from collaborations and confrontations taking place both across and within the color line. In this course we will look at jazz and the literary representations it engendered in order to understand modern American culture. We will explore a dizzying variety of forms, including autobiography and album liner notes, biography, poetry, fiction, and cinema. We'll examine how race, gender, and class influenced the development of jazz music, and then will use jazz music to develop critical approaches to literary form. Students are not required to have a critical understanding of music. Class will involve visits from musicians and critics, as well as field trips to some of Philadelphia's most vibrant jazz venues.

081. (ENGL081) African-American Literature. (M) Distribution Course in Arts & Letters. Class of 2009 & prior only. Beavers, Davis, Tillet.

An introduction to African-American literature, typically ranging across a wide spectrum of moments, genres, and ideological postures, from Reconstruction and the Harlem Renaissance to the Civil Rights Movement. Most versions of this course will begin in the 19th century; some versions of the course will concentrate only on the modern period. Topics vary.

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083. (ENGL083, JWST083) 20th-Century Literatures in Dialogue. (M) Staff. This course is cross-listed with ENGL 083 (20th Century Literatures in Dialogue) when the course content includes African, African American, or other African Diaspora literatures.

What dialogues have defined and constituted American and other literatures? This course examines critical intersections between different literatures, addressing questions of race, ethnicity, and culture. Previous versions of this course have included such titles as "African-American and Jewish American Literature." Our readings will consider a range of literary interactions, and will take a self-consciously comparative and intertextual approach.

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084. (ENGL084) Theories of Race and Ethnicity. (M) Staff.

The idea of "race" -- broadly defined as the signification of biological and socio-cultural differences as an index of human superiority or inferiority -- has played a crucial role in the literary imagination and is fundamental to studying most literatures in English. This course will examine representations of race in literary practices, and in particular the centrality of such representations to the historical unfolding of communities and nations. How do ideas of race inform and engage with literary forms and genres in a given historical moment, and how does literature in turn address the histories and legacies of racist practices? We will also analyze the connections between questions of race and questions of "ethnicity": what, for instance, is the history of this concept, and what does it mean to designate a body of imaginative writing as an "ethnic literature?"

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L/R 101. (CINE115, ENGL101, GSOC101) Study of an Author. (C) Davis.

This is an introduction to literary study through the works of a single author. We will read several works and approach them--both in discussion and in writing--from a range of critical perspectives. The author's relation to his or her time, to literary history generally, and to the problems of performance, are likely to be emphasized.

See the Africana Studies Program's website www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

SM 103. (HIST104) Freshman Seminar: America after 1800. (C) Staff.

This course is cross-listed with HIST 104 (Freshman Seminar: America after 1800) when the subject matter is related to Africa, African American or African diaspora issues.

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

106. (COML104, ENGL104) Study of a Literary Period. (C) Davis.

This is an introduction to literary study through a survey of works from a specific historical period. Some versions will begin with traditional stories or poems, including a sampling of works in translation. Others will focus exclusively on modern and contemporary American short fiction or poetry.

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SM 114. (ENGL113) Poetry Writing Workshop. (A) Beavers. This course is not open to freshmen. Students wishing to take this course must submit a writing sample as part of the selection process.

This workshop is intended to help students with prior experience writing poetry develop techniques to generate poems along with the critical tools necessary to revise and complete them. Through in-class exercises, weekly writing assignments, readings of established poets, and class critique, students will acquire an assortment of resources that will help them develop a more concrete sense of voice, rhythm, metaphor, and the image as well as a deeper understanding of how these things come together to make a successful poem. In addition to weekly writings, students will be asked to keep a journal, and to produce a final portfolio of poems.

117. (RELS117) African American Religion. (C) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff.

This course is intended as an introduction to movements and figures of African American religion from slavery to the present. Lectures, readings, and discussions will focus on themes related to content and methodology in the study of African American religious history. Guiding themes include the relationship between race and gender; the tension between piety and activity; the ambivalence between mainstream respectability and racial pride; and the interaction between Christianity, lived religions, and alternative traditions

L/R 120. (SOCI120) Social Statistics. (C) May be counted as a General Requirement Course in Formal Reasoning & Analysis. Class of 2009 & prior only. Charles.

This course offers a basic introduction to the application/interpretation of statistical analysis in sociology. Upon completion, you should be familiar with a variety of basic statistical techniques that allow examination of interesting social questions. We begin by learning to describe the characteristics of groups, followed by a discussion of how to examine and generalize about relationships between the characteristics of groups. Emphasis is placed on the understanding/interpretation of statistics used to describe and make generalizations about group characteristics. In addition to hand calculations, you will also become familiar with using PCs to run statistical tests.

135. (AFST135, SOCI135) Law and Society. (C) Fetni.

After introducing students to the major theoretical concepts concerning law and society, significant controversial societal issues that deal with law and the legal systems both domestically and internationally will be examined. Class discussions will focus on issues involving civil liberties, the organization of courts, legislatures, the legal profession and administrative agencies. Although the focus will be on law in the United States, law and society in other countries of Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America will be covered in a comparative context. Readings include research, reports, statutes and cases.

SM 146. (ANTH146, GSOC146) Writing Multiculturalism. (M) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Sanday.

Diversity is a fact of life, characteristic not only of the US national culture, but of the global culture as well. This course introduces anthropological theories of culture and multiculturalism and the method of ethnography. Students will read and report on selected classic readings. After learning the basic concepts, students will be introduced to the method of ethnography. The core of the course will revolve around "doing ethnography" by writing ethnographic field notes on participant-observation of multiculturalism. Students can use their life experience, home communities, or Penn as their field of observation. The goal of the course is to introduce beginning students to public interest anthropology. No background in anthropology is required.

147. (FOLK106, MUSC146) Studies in African American Music. (M) Ramsey.

Formerly Music 106. This course explores aspects of the origins, style development, aesthetic philosophies, historiography, and contemporary conventions of African-American musical tradition. Topics covered include: the music of West and Central Africa, the music of colonial America, 19th century church and dance music, minstrelsy, music of the Harlem Renaissance, jazz, blues, gospel, hip-hop, and film music. Specific attention is given to the ways in which black music generates "meaning" and to how the social energy circulating within black music articulates myriad issues about American identity at specific historical moments.

160. (LING160) Introduction to Afro-American and Latino English. (A) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Labov.

An introduction to the use and structure of dialects of English used by the African American and Latino communities in the United States. It is an academically based service learning course. The field work component involves the study of the language and culture of everyday life and the application of this knowledge to programs for raising the reading levels of elementary school children.

SM 161. (LING161) The Sociolinguistics of Reading: A Service Learning Seminar. (B) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Labov. Prerequisite(s): AFRC/LING 160 or permission of instructor.

This course will be concerned with the application of current knowledge of dialect differences to reduce the minority differential in reading achievement. Members will conduct projects and design computer programs to reduce cultural distance between teachers and students in local schools and to develop knowledge of word and sound structure.

168. (HIST168) History of American Law to 1877. (D) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Berry.

This course surveys the development of law in the U.S. to 1877, including such subjects as: the evolution of the legal profession, the transformation of English law during the American Revolution, the making and implementation of the Constitution, and issues concerning business and economic development, the law of slavery, the status of women, and civil rights.

169. (HIST169) History of American Law Since 1877. (D) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Berry.

This course covers the development of legal rules and principles concerning individual and group conduct in the United States since 1877. Such subjects as regulation and deregulation, legal education and the legal profession, and the legal status of women and minorities will be discussed.

L/R 172. (HIST170) The American South. (D) History & Tradition Sector. All classes. McCurry.

Southern culture and history from 1607-1860, from Jamestown to secession. Traces the rise of slavery and plantation society, the growth of Southern sectionalism and its explosion into Civil War. Midterm, short paper (5-7 pages) and final.

176. (HIST176) Afro-American History 1550-1876. (D) History & Tradition Sector. All classes. Staff. Also offered through the College of General Studies - See the CGS Course Guide.

This course will study the history of African-Americans from their first encounter with Europeans in the 16th century to their emancipation during the Civil War in the U.S. The course focuses on the variety of black responses to enslavement and forced acculturation in the New World. The differences in the slave experiences of various New World countries, and the methods of black resistance and rebellion to the slave system will be investigated. The nature and role of free black communities in antebellum America will be studied.

177. (HIST177) Afro-American History 1876-Present. (D) History & Tradition Sector. All classes. Savage.

A study of the major events, issues, and personalities in Afro-American history from Reconstruction to the present. The course will also examine the different slave experiences and the methods of black resistance and rebellion in the various slave systems.

190. (AFST190, ANTH190, HIST190) Introduction to Africa. (A) Society Sector. All classes. Barnes.

During the semester we will focus on the people and communities of sub-Saharan Africa and on the ways people represent, reflect on, and react to various aspects and issues in their lives and the institutions which dominate their communities. We will focus particularly on the history, contemporary expression, and inter-relationships among politics, religion and aesthetic practice. Members of Penn's African Studies community will share their expertise with the class and introduce the University's Africa resources. Texts consist of weekly readings, films, and recordings; and class members will be expected to attend several lectures outside of class.

SM 205. (HIST204, LALS204) Major Seminar in History: America After 1800. (M) Staff. Department Permission - Permit Required.

This course is cross-listed with HIST 204 (Major Seminar in History: America After 1800) when the subject matter is related to African, African American, or other African Diaspora issues.

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SM 206. (HIST206) Major Seminar of the World after 1800. (C) Babou. Department Permission - Permit Required.

This course is cross-listed with HIST 206 (Major Seminar of the World after 1800) when the subject matter is related to African, African American, or other African Diaspora issues. A frequent topic is "African Intellectual History." See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

209. (AFST209, ARTH209) African Art. (M) Staff.

This selective survey will examine a variety of the circumstances of sub-Saharan African art, ranging from imperial to nomadic cultures and from ancient times to contemporary participation in the international market. Iconography, themes and style will be concered, as will questions of modernity, religious impact, tradition and colonialism.

218. (LGST218) Race, Racism, and American Law. (C) Anderson.

The goal of this course is to study the role the law has played, and continues to play, in addressing the problems of racial discrimination in the United States. Contemporary issues such as racial profiling, affirmative action, and diversity will all be covered in their social and legal context. The basis for discussion will be assigned texts, articles, editorials and cases. In addition, interactive videos will also be used to aid class discussion. Course requirements will include examinations and class discussions.

225. (AFST225) African Languages and Culture. (C) Mbeje. Prerequisite(s): AFRC 126 or permission of the instructor. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

The aim of the course is to provide an overall perspective on African languages and linguistics. No background in linguistics is necessary. Students will be introduced to theoretical linguistics-its concepts, theories, ways of argumentation, data collection, data analysis, and data interpretation. The focus will be on the languages and linguistics of Africa to provide you with the knowledge and skills required to handle the language and language-related issues typical of African conditions. We will cover topics related to formal linguistics (phonology/phonetics, morphology, syntax, and semantics), aspects of pragmatics as well as the general socio-linguistic character of African countries. We will also cover language in context, language and culture, borrowing, multilingualism, and cross-cultural communication in Africa.

SM 230. (AFRC533, SOCI230) Special Topics in Sociology. (C) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Charles, Zuberi. This course is cross-listed with SOCI 430 (Special Topics in Sociology) when the subject matter related to African, African American, or other African Diaspora issues. Topics vary. Recent courses offered include "African Urbanization," "Race Relations in American Cities," and "Sociology of the Black Community."

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SM 231. (AFST231, FREN231) Cinema Francophone. (M) Moudileno.

This course will introduce students to recent films by major directors from Francophone Africa. While attention will be given to aesthetic aspects and individual creativity, the viewing and discussions will be mostly organized around a variety of (overlapping) themes: History; Tradition/Modernity; Urban Life; Gender and Sexuality; Politics. Class conducted in French.

235. (SOCI235) Law and Social Change. (C) Fetni.

Beginning with discussion of various perspectives on social change and law, this course then examines in detail the interdependent relationship between changes in legal and societal institutions. Emphasis will be placed on (1) how and when law can be an instrument for social change, and (2) how and when social change can cause legal change. In the assessment of this relationship, the laws of the United States and other countries as well as international law, will be studied. Throughout the course, discussions will include real controversies relevant to social change such as civil liberties, gender and the law, and issues of nation-building. A comparative framework will be used in the analysis of this interdependent relationship between law and social change.

253. (AFST253, ANTH253, FOLK253, MUSC253, GSOC253) Music and Performance of Africa. (M) Muller.

This class provides an overview of the most popular music styles and discussion of the cultural and political contexts in which they emerged in contemporary Africa. Learning to perform a limited range of African music/dance will be a part of this course. No prior performance experience required, though completion of Music 50 is recommended.

257. (AFST257, PSCI210) Contemporary African Politics. (C) Callaghy, Markovits.

The course will consist of an analytic survey of contemporary politics in the states of sub-Saharan Africa. It will focus on the complex relationships between state, society, economy, and external groups in Africa and will offer a conceptual framework which takes into account an African politics that is highly fluid and personalized and frequently very authoritarian in character. The course will endeavor to provide a synthesis of political, social, and economic analyses, which relate the prevailing tendency toward authoritarianism to the fragmented and rooted yet changing characteristics of African society and economy and to high levels of economic and political dependence on external actors. Particular attention will be paid to Africa's interrelated debt, economic, and development crises.

258. (ANTH227, FOLK259, LALS258, MUSC258) Caribbean Music and Diaspora. (M) Rommen.

This survey course considers Caribbean musics within a broad historical framework. Caribbean musical practices are explored by illustrating the many ways that aesthetics, ritual, communication, religion, and social structure are embodied in and contested through performance. These initial inquiries open onto an investigation of a range of theoretical concepts that become particularly pertinent in Caribbean contexts--concepts such as post-colonialism, migrations, ethnicity, hybridity, syncretism, and globalization. Each of these concepts, moreover, will be explored with a view toward understanding its connections to the central analytical paradigm of the course--diaspora. Throughout the course, we will listen to many different styles and repertoires of music, ranging from calypso to jankanoo, from rumba to merengue, and from dancehall to zouk. We will then work to understand them not only in relation to the readings that frame our discussions, but also in relation to our own North-American contexts of music consumption and production.

SM 281. (COML325, ENGL281, GSOC281) Topics in African American Literature. (M) Distribution Course in Arts & Letters. Class of 2009 & prior only. Beavers, Davis, Tillet. Spaces will be reserved for English Majors.

In this advanced seminar, students will be introduced to a variety of approaches to African American literatures, and to a wide spectrum of methodologies and ideological postures (for example, The Black Arts Movement). The course will present an assortment of emphases, some of them focused on geography (for example, the Harlem Renaissance), others focused on genre (autobiography, poetry or drama), the politics of gender and class, or a particular grouping of authors. Previous versions of this course have included "African American Autobiography," "Backgrounds of African American Literature," "The Black Narrative" (beginning with eighteenth century slave narratives and working toward contemporary literature), as well as seminars on urban spaces, jazz, migration, oral narratives, black Christianity, and African-American music.

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

SM 283. (AFST283, ENGL271) Topics In the Literature of Africa and the African Diaspora. (M)

Distribution Course in Arts & Letters. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff. Spaces will be reserved for English Majors.

This course explores an aspect of the literature of Africa and the African Diaspora intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year.

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294. (ARTH294) African American Art. (M) Shaw.

This course examines over two hundred years of artistic production by and about people of African descent living in the United States from the colonial period through WWII. While focusing primarily on the fine arts, a variety of media and artistic movements will be examined from eighteenth-century colonial portraits and the material culture of slavery to the transatlantic modernism of the early Harlem Renaissance.

SM 301. (AFST301) Africa and the African Diaspora. (M) Distribution Course in Arts & Letters. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff.

This course will take the form of an introductory seminar designed to provide undergraduate students an overview of significant themes and issues focusing on the historical, political, and cultural relationships between Africans and their descendants abroad. It will encompass: a review of different historical periods and geographical locations, from Ancient Egypt to modern American, Caribbean and African states; a critical evaluation of social movements and theories that have developed in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries among scholars of different origins in their attempt to reconstruct Africa as a center and the Diaspora as a specific cultural space; and, an exploration of representation of Africa and the Diaspora in canonical literary works and other forms of fiction like the visual arts.

SM 303. (ARTH301, CINE300, ENGL294) Undergraduate Seminar. (M) Massiah, Shaw. Undergraduate Major Preference.

Topic varies. This course is cross-listed with ARTH 301 (Undergraduate Seminar) when the subject matter is related to African, African American, or other African diaspora issues.

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

SM 308. (FOLK310, RELS310, URBS310) Religious Diversity in America. (M) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff. This course is cross-listed with RELS 310 (Religious Diversity in America) when the title is "Religious and Social Change in West Philadelphia."

In the 1950's America seemed to be a land of Protestant, Catholic, and Jew. Now it is clearly also a land of Muslims and Hindus, Buddhists and Taoists, Rastafarians and Neo-pagans and many more religious groups. This course will focus upon a variety of topics: religious diversity in West Philadelphia, Philadelphia and beyond; the politics of religious diversity; religion in American schools and cities; and conflicts and cooperation among diverse religious groups.

SM 324. (URBS324) Seminar on Strategies to Reduce Intergroup Tension in Multi-Cultural Settings: West Philadelphia and Penn as a Test Case. (B) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only.

Romer, Pouncy.

This action-research seminar explores several social science approaches to reducing intergroup tension, especially in multi-ethnic urban settings. Tools for analyzing tension are reviewed so that students can conduct their own studies of the ethnic and cultural tensions that exist in various local sites (e.g., public schools, nearby neighborhoods, and Penn itself). Students are encouraged not only to increase their understanding of the tensions in their chosen sites but also to suggest policies and interventions that can increase intergroup cooperation.

SM 355. (AFST355, GSOC355) Women and Ritual in Africa. (M) Distribution Course in Society. Class of 2009 & prior only. Blakely.

This course will focus on ritual events of Bahemba of eastern Zaire using written, audio, and film texts from the instructor's archive (developed over several years of field research in the region) and ritual events documented by other researchers in west, central, southern, and east Africa. Topics to be considered include how gender roles are constituted and experienced through African ritual, the significance of spirit possession and spirit mediumship to folk practitioners, the aesthetics of African ritual, dimensions of women's ritual power in Africa, and women's ritual leadership through different life cycle stages.

L/R 363. (HIST363) The Civil War and Reconstruction. (B) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff. Also offered through the College of General Studies - See CGS Course Guide.

This course investigates the major ingredients - political, social, and economic - leading to the sectional crisis and war, analyzes war and leadership on both sides, and explores the major issues of Reconstruction.

SM 371. (ENGL371) Topics in the Literature of Africa and the African Diaspora. (M) Staff. Benjamin Franklin Seminar.

This course explores an aspect of the literature of Africa and the African Diaspora intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year.

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SM 381. (ENGL381) Topics in African American Literature. (M) Distribution Course in Arts & Letters. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff. Benjamin Franklin Seminar.

In this advanced seminar, students will be introduced to a variety of approaches to African American literatures, and to a wide spectrum of methodologies and ideological postures (for example, The Black Arts Movement). The course will present an assortment of emphases, some of them focused on geography (for example, The Harlem Renaissance), others focused on genre (autobiography, poetry or drama), the politics of gender and class, or a particular grouping of authors. Previous versions of this course have included "African American Autobiography," "Backgrounds of African American Literatures," "The Black Narrative" (beginning with eighteenth century slave narratives and working toward contemporary literature), as well as seminars on urban spaces, jazz, migration, oral narratives, black Christianity, and African-American music.

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390. (AFST390) Debates in African Studies. (B) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff.

An advanced course which examines current debates about African societies and debates about the study of Africa from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. This course is sponsored by the cooperative Africa Consortium between Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr, Haverford and the University of Pennsylvania and will include students from all four campuses.

SM 391. (AFST390, FREN390) Survey Francophone Literature. (M) Moudileno.

This class will explore the African city as a site of colonial and postcolonial exchanges by way of twentieth-century European and African representations. We will examine, on the one hand, the status of the urban located in Africa in European works from the colonial period (fiction and non-fiction including Gide, Leiris, Londres). On the other hand, we study Africans, focusing on the dreams and transformations involved in the passage from the village to the city to the metropole. Essays from history, sociology, urban studies and postcolonial theory will supplement the study of primary texts. All readings, class discussions and written assignments in French.

399. Independent Study. (C) Consult the Africana Studies Program for instructions. Suite 331A, 3401 Walnut.

A study, under faculty supervision, of a problem, area or topic not included in the formal curriculum.

SM 400. (CINE370) Seminar in Afro-American Studies. (C) Staff.

Consult the Africana Studies Program for detailed descriptions. More than one seminar may be taken in a given semester. Also offered through the College of General Studies. See CGS Course Guide. Seminars offered in the past have included "Black/Jewish Relations," "The Black Experience in the American Political Economy," "Blacks in American Film and Television," "Black Intellectual Thought," "The Black Family," and "W.E.B. DuBois: Theorizing Race."

SM 405. (HIST405, RELS439, URBS405) Church and the Urban Challenge. (B) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Lamas.

Urban development has been influenced by religious conceptions of social justice. Progressive traditions within Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism have yielded: (1) powerful critiques of oppression and hierarchy as well as (2) alternative economic frameworks for ownership, governance, production, labor, and community. Historical and contemporary case studies from the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East will be considered, as we examine the ways in which religious responses to poverty, inequality, and ecological destruction have generated new forms of urban development.

SM 431. (AFRC531, AFRC630, SOCI430, SOCI530) Advanced Special Topics in Sociology. (M) Charles, Zuberi.

This course is cross-listed with SOCI 430 (Advanced Topics in Sociology) when the subject matter is related to African, African American, or other African Diaspora issues. Recent courses offered include "Race, Colonialism and Methods" and "Residential Segregation."

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

SM 472. (URBS472) Race and the City: The Origins and Prospects of the Black Underclass. (A)

Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Hershberg.

A minority of African Americans is outside the nation's economic and cultural mainstream and is in real danger of being left behind by whites and the large majority of the black population. Debate persists over how this group can be measured and even if underclass is an appropriate descriptive term. The course will explore the historic origins of this group and determine the degree to which the underlying causes of its problems are rooted in structural or cultural explanations. These questions are critical for contemporary public policy -- both what needs to be done to produce meaningful changes and the length of time required to bring these about.

SM 480. (URBS480) Liberation and Ownership. (A) Lamas.

Who is going to own what we all have a part of creating? The history of the Americas, and of all peoples everywhere, is an evolving answer to the question of ownership. Ownership is about: the ties that bind and those that separate; the creation of community and the imposition of hierarchies; the dream of home ownership and ecological despoliation; dependency and the slave yearning to breathe free. Of all the issues relevant to democracy, oppression, and economic injustice, ownership is arguably the most important and least understood. Utilizing a variety of disciplinary perspectives, and by focusing on particular global sites, students will assess and refine their views regarding ownership in light of their own social, political, religious, and/or ethnical commitments.

SM 485. (HIST485) Topics in African-American History. (C) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff.

Topics vary.

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

SM 488. (AFST489, HIST489) Africans Abroad: Emigrants, Refugees, and Citizens in the New African Diaspora. (M) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Cassanelli.

This seminar will examine the experiences of recent emigrants and refugees from Africa, including many now living in the city of Philadelphia and the surrounding region. In addition to reading some of the historical and comparative literature on migration, ethnic diasporas, and transnationalism, students will have the opportunity to conduct research on specific African communities in Philadelphia or elsewhere in North America, Europe, or the Middle East. African emigres' relations with both their home and host societies will be explored and compared with the experience of other immigrant groups over the past century. Topics include reasons for leaving Africa, patterns of economic and educational adaptation abroad, changes in gender and generational roles, issues of cultural and political identity, and the impact of national immigration policies.

Graduate Courses

522. (EDUC522) Psychology of the African-American. (B) Stevenson.

Using the Afro-centric philosophical understanding of the world, this course will focus on psychological issues related to African Americans, including the history of African American psychology, its application across the life span, and contemporary community issues.

SM 529. (HIST529) Readings in African American History to 1900. (C) Distribution Course in Hist & Tradition. Class of 2009 & prior only. Staff.

This reading and discussion seminar will review the issues and resulting historical literature on the major transitions in the African American experience from the 16th thru the 19th century. Emphasis will be on such topics as the Transatlantic Slave Trade; the creation of the African Americans in new world colonies, especially the future US; the apartial emancipation of the revolutionary era; antebellum slavery and the rise of cotton agriculture, internal slave migration, and slave resistance; the "Great American Slave Rebellion" and the failure of emancipation; the rise of sharecropping, debt peonage and Jim Crow. There will be a weekly common reading with reports from three sources; 1) a classic study which defined the approach to the subject of the week; 2) modern re-interpretive study or series of articles; 3) a survey of primary resources on the subject. Along with periodic oral reports with written synopses,

students will prepare a proposal at the end of the seminar for a major research paper on some aspect of the subject matter covered by the seminar. The proposal will include a literature review, statement of thesis and its significance, research design, and annotated bibliography.

SM 530. (HIST530) 20th Century Afro-American Historiography. (A) Staff.

This course will study major historical works on African American history for the post-1890 period. Emphasis on intellectual, political, and cultural history, and special attention to current debates about the relevance of this history and race generally to studies and students of United States history.

SM 531. (AFRC431, SOCI430, SOCI530) Advanced Selected Topics. (C) Charles, Zuberi. This course is cross-listed with SOCI 531 (Advanced Selected Topics) when the subject matter is related to African, African American, or other African Diaspora issues.

Topics vary. Recent topics include "Race, Colonialism and Methods," "Residential Segregation," and "The Demography of Race."

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

SM 533. (AFRC230, LALS530, SOCI230, SOCI530) Advanced Selected Topics in Sociology. (M) Charles, Zuberi.

This course is cross-listed with SOCI 530 (Advanced Selected Topics in Sociology) when the subject matter is related to African, African American, or other African Diaspora issues. Recent courses offered include "African Urbanization" and "Critical Race Theory."

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

SM 545. (EDUC543) Historically Black Colleges and Universities. (A) Gasman.

Students taking this course will learn about the historical context of HBCUs in educating African Americans, and how their role has changed since the late 1800's. Students will also be expected to connect financial, societal, and/or economic connections between the role of HBCUs past and present. Specific contemporary challenges and success related to HBCUs that will be covered relate to control, enrollment, accreditation, funding, degree completion, and outreach/retention programming. Students will become familiar with HBCUs in their own right, as well as in comparison to other postsecondary institutions.

SM 570. (AFST570, COML573, ENGL570) Topics in Afro-American Literature. (M) Staff.

This course treats some important aspect of African American literature and culture. Topics vary. Consult the Center for Africana Studies for detailed course descriptions. Recent topics of the course have included: "Afro-American Women Writers," "Three Afro-American Writers: Ellison, Gaines and McPherson," "Afro-American Autobiography," and "Afro-American Literature: Black Music Among the Discourses."

SM 593. (AFST593, FREN593) Studies in Francophone Literature. (M) Moudileno.

Topics will vary. Seminar will focus on one area, author, or "problematique" in Francophone studies. Examples of an area-focused seminar: The African Contemporary Novel or Francophone Caribbean Writers. Example of a single-author seminar: The Poetry and Drama of Aime Cesaire. Examples of a thematic approach: writing and national identity, postcolonial conditions, autobiography.

SM 610. (HIST610) Colloquium in American History. (A) Staff.

This course is cross-listed with HIST 610 when the subject matter is related to African, African American, or other African Diaspora issues.

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

SM 624. (SOCI624) Race Relations in American Cities. (M) Staff.

The ethnographic study of race relations in the United States. The social life and culture of urban race relations in the United States will be emphasized, stressing conceptual and methodological issues. Selected ethnographic literature will be read and discussed. Students will be expected to carry out an ethnographic site study.

SM 640. (ENGL600) Proseminar in Africana Studies. (E) Beavers, Charles, Jackson, Thomas, Zuberi.

This course focuses on the historical and cultural relationship between Africans and their descendants abroad.

SM 701. (AFST701, ANTH701, ENGL775, HIST701) African Aesthetics. (B) Ben-Amos, Hardin.

Interdisciplinary seminar for discussion of issues of special interest to graduate students and faculty in African Studies. Topics vary according to the interests and expertise of instructors.

SM 705. (AFST705, ANTH705, FOLK715, MUSC705) Seminar in Ethnomusicology. (A) Muller.

In the contemporary jazz canon women rarely feature as significant players in the production of jazz history: jazz is a field of artistic and popular production largely determined by male performers, critics and scholars. Combining close reading and close listening, this seminar will consider ways in which women might begin to be written into the larger jazz narrative, both within the United States and abroad, by expanding the criteria by which "jazz" is defined, and examining the archive out of which jazz narratives are constructed. A portion of the seminar will focus on jazz performers of the twentieth century African Diaspora.

SM 706. Introduction to Africa and African Diaspora Thought. (C) Staff.

This course examines the processes by which African peoples have established epistemological, cosmological, and religious systems both prior to and after the institution of Western slavery.

SM 708. Cultural and Literary Theory of Africa and the African Diaspora. (C) Staff.

This course introduces students to the theoretical strategies underlying the construction of coherent communities and systems of representation and how those strategies influence the uses of expressive culture over time.

SM 710. Political Economy and Social History of Africa and the African Diaspora. (E) Zuberi.

This course provides the opportunity for students to investigate the relationship between the emergence of African peoples as historical subjects and their location within specific geopolitical and economic circumstances.

SM 770. (COML773, ENGL770) Afro-American American Literature. (M) Staff.

An advanced seminar in African-American literature and culture.

SM 771. (FOLK770, MUSC770) Seminar in Afro-American Music. (M) Ramsey.

This seminar treats selected aspects of the history, aesthetics, criticism and historiography of African-American music. Topics will vary each time this course is offered.

SM 798. (SWRK799) Advanced Topics. (M) Staff.

This course is cross-listed with SWRK 799 (Advanced Topics) when the subject matter is related to African, African American, or other African Diaspora issues. A recent topic is "Critical Race Theory."

See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.

African Language Courses

170. (AFST170, AFST517) Elementary Yoruba I. (A) Staff. Offered through Penn Language Center.

This is an introductory course in Yoruba whose goals are to introduce students to the history, geographical location of the people who speak Yoruba, their culture, customs, and traditions; and to enable students to develop communicative skills through listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

171. (AFST171, AFST518) Elementary Yoruba II. (B) Staff. Prerequisite(s): AFAM 170 or permission of the instructor. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

This course continues to introduce basic grammar, vocabulary, and the reading and writing of Yoruba to new speakers.

180. (AFST180, AFST580) Elementary Swahili I. (A) Staff. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

Beginning level of Swahili which provides training and practice in speaking, reading and writing with initial emphasis on speaking and listening. Basic grammar, vocabulary, and cultural skills learned gradually with priority on the spoken language. Especially during the second term folktales, other texts, and films will be used to help introduce important aspects of Swahili culture.

181. (AFST181, AFST581) Elementary Swahili II. (B) Staff. Prerequisite(s): AFAM 180 or permission of the instructor. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

This course continues to introduce basic grammar, vocabulary, and the reading and writing of Swahili to new speakers. During this term, folktales, other texts, and film selections are used to help introduce important aspects of Swahili culture and the use of the language in wide areas of Africa.

185. (AFST185, AFST585) Elementary Swahili: Accelerated. (C) Staff. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

An intensive beginning level course covering materials in AFRC 180 & 181 emphasizing spoken language and conversational skills. It provides training and practice in speaking, reading, and writing with initial emphasis on speaking and listening. Basic grammar, vocabulary, and cultural skills are learned gradually through practice in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, with priority on the spoken language. Folktales, other texts, and film selections will be used to help introduce important aspects of Swahili culture and the use of the language in wide areas of Africa.

240. (AFRC540, AFST240, AFST540, NELC481) Elementary Amharic I. (A) Staff. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

The Elementary Amharic I course can be taken to fulfill a language requirement, or for linguistic preparation to do research on Ethiopia/Africa-related topics. The course emphasizes communicative competence to enable the students to acquire linguistic and extra-linguistic skills in Amharic. The content of the course is selected from various everydaylife situations to enable the students to communicate in predictable commom daily settings. Culture, as it relates to language use, is also part of the course content.

241. (AFRC541, AFST241, AFST541, NELC482) Elementary Amharic II. (B) Staff. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

This course continues to introduce basic grammar, vocabulary and the reading and writing of Amharic to new speakers.

242. (AFRC543, AFST242, AFST543, NELC483) Intermediate Amharic I. (A) Wogayehu. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

243. (AFRC544, AFST243, AFST544, NELC484) Intermediate Amharic II. (B) Hailu, Wogayehu. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

247. (AFRC548, AFST247, AFST547) Advanced Amharic. (C) Staff. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

An advanced Amharic course that will further sharpen the student's knowledge of the Amharic language and the culture of the Amharas. The learner's communicative skills will be further developed through listening, speaking, reading and writing. There will also be discussions on cultural and political issues.

270. (AFST270, AFST529) Intermediate Yoruba I. (A) Awoyale. Prerequisite(s): AFRC 171 or permission of the instructor. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

271. (AFST271, AFST532) Intermediate Yoruba II. (B) Awoyale. Offered throught the Penn Language Center.

280. (AFST280, AFST582) Intermediate Swahili I. (A) Mshomba. Prerequisite(s): AFRC 181 or permission of the instructor. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

282. (AFST281, AFST583) Intermediate Swahili II. (B) Staff. Prerequisite(s): AFRC 280 or permission of the instructor. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

284. (AFST284, AFST584) Advanced Swahili I. (C) Mshomba. Prerequisite(s): AFRC 282 or permission of the instructor. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

This is an advanced Kiswahili course which will engage learners in extended spoken and written discourse. Advanced learners of Kiswahili will listen to, read about, write, and speak on authentic video materials, contemporary novels, and newspapers. They will also participate in various discussions on cultural and political issues.

285. (AFST285, AFST586) Advanced Swahili II. (B) Mshomba. Prerequisite(s): AFRC 284 or permission of the instructor. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

540. (AFRC240, AFST240, AFST540, NELC481) Elementary Amharic I. (A) Wogayehu. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

An introductory course for students with no previous knowledge of Amharic. Amharic belongs to the southern branch of Hemeto-Semitic languages which is also referred to as "African." Amharic is the official language of Ethiopia and is spoken by 14 million native Amharas and by approximately 19 million of the other ethnic groups in Ethiopia. The goals of this course are to introduce students to the culture, customs, and traditions of the Amharas. Students will develop communicative skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing.

541. (AFRC241, AFST241, AFST541, NELC482) Elementary Amharic II. (B) Wogayehu. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

Continuation of Elementary Amharic I. Amharic belongs to the southern branch of Hemeto-Semitic languages, which is also referred to as "Afrasian." Amharic is the official language of Ethiopia and is spoken by 14 million native Amharas and by approximately 18 million of the other groups of Ethiopia. This course continues to introduce basic grammar, vocabulary, and the reading and writing of Amharic to new speakers.

543. (AFRC242, AFST242, AFST543, NELC483) Intermediate Amharic I. (A) Wogayehu. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

544. (AFRC243, AFST243, AFST544, NELC484) Intermediate Amharic II. (B) Wogayehu. Offered through the Penn Language Center.

Amharic is a Semitic language belonging to the Afro-Asiatic or Hemeto-Semitic family. It is spoken by approximately 13 million people in Ethiopia, where it is the official language. Students will use both written and oral exercises to gain a greater knowledge of the language and culture.