Introduction to Africana Studies
History/English 3350
MW 11-12:15
Humanities 229

Instructor:
Dr. Molly McCullers
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Office Hours - MW 9:30-10:30, 12:30 - 3
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Course Overview & Objectives:
This course is an introduction to major themes in African and African American studies. It focuses on the creation of the African diaspora in the Atlantic and examines questions of heritage, identity, connection, and legacy. By the end of this course, students will:

● Demonstrate content knowledge of the history of the Atlantic African Diaspora
● Analyze Primary & secondary Sources for historical content and interpretations
● Critically Reflect on questions and problems of heritage and identity in the Atlantic African diaspora

Required Texts:

Assignments:

This class is reading intensive, but hopefully not in a bad way. There are 3 basic sets of assignments:

- **Daily reading Questions** - Quick Question based on readings due for the day to help keep everyone on track
- **Book Papers** - There will be four papers based on the books for class. They will be different types of papers based on the format of the book. Some will be more historical and analytic in nature, some will be more reflective, imaginative, or personal. Papers should be 4 pages double spaced. Papers must be turned in in hard copy and in the dropbox on course den. Hard copies must be stapled or be counted off 2 points.
- **Final Course Reflection** - This is a 2-page paper that asks you to reflect on what you learned from the course as a whole. What did you learn about African Atlantic History, Issues of Heritage and Identity, Contemporary Politics, and yourself?

Due Dates:

- **The Diligent** - Monday, 2/17
- **Domingos Alvares** - Monday, 3/9
- **The Home Place** - Wednesday 4/1
- **Born a Crime** - Monday 4/20
- **Final Reflection** - Wednesday 4/22

Grade Distribution:

- **Daily Reading Questions** - graded on a pass/fail basis - 20% (1% each with 1 freebie)
- **Book Papers** - 40% (10% each)
- **Final Reflection** - 10%
- **Participation** - 25%
- **Attendance** - 5%
Policies:

- **Attendance** - You are permitted 2 Unexcused absences. A third absence without a university-approved documented excuse will drop your attendance grade to 90%. Each additional unexcused absence will drop your attendance grade by 5%.

- **Participation** - This course is discussion based. Your Participation is **ESSENTIAL**. This doesn’t mean talking for the sake of talking, but coming to class prepared and willing to engage meaningfully with the material and classmates.

- **Late Work** - Unless you have a documented excuse and reason why you cannot turn something in on time, I cannot accept any late work. No Exceptions.

- **Etiquette** - This course examines difficult subjects. Everyone will be respectful in speech and differences of opinion. The objective of this class is to foster discussion and dialogue.

- **Academic Honesty** - All work must be entirely your own. Quotes, paraphrases, and ideas from other sources must be properly cited. Academic Dishonesty will result in a report to the Office of Student Affairs and a failing grade for the course.

- **Accommodations** - If you need accommodations, it is your responsibility to provide me with your SAR from the Office of Accessibility Services. I cannot provide accommodations without your SAR.

- **Grading** - I do not discuss grades within 48 hours of returning them. I do not change grades except in cases of mathematical or entry error - NO EXCEPTIONS. It is against university policy to discuss grades via email.

- **University Policies**:
  
  [http://www.westga.edu/assetsdept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf](http://www.westga.edu/assetsdept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf)
Schedule of Classes

- **Monday 1/6** - Intro to Class - Brief History of Africa in the World
- **Wednesday 1/8** - Conditions leading to Slave Trade

Unit 1 - The Transatlantic Slave Trade

- **Monday 1/13** - Diligent preface + part 1
- **Wednesday 1/15** - Diligent Part 2 - The Financiers
- **Monday 1/20** - MLK Holiday
- **Wednesday 1/22** - Diligent Parts 3&4 - Outfitting a Slaver/ Sailing South
- **Monday 1/27** - Diligent Part 5 - Cruising African Coast
- **Wednesday 1/29** - Lecture - Intro to Dahomey & Slave Coast
- **Monday 2/3** - Diligent Part 6 & 7 - Whydah/Assou
- **Wednesday 2/5** - Diligent Part 8 & 9 - Jakin / Atlantic Islands
- **Monday 2/10** - Diligent Part 10 - Middle Passage
- **Wednesday 2/12** - Diligent Part 11 & 12 - Martinique & Return
Unit 2 - Slave Experiences & Transatlantic Connections

- Monday 2/17 - Lecture Intro to Domingos Alvares
  *Diligent* Paper Due
- Wednesday 2/19 - Domingos Alvares - Introduction & Ch. 1
- Monday 2/24 - Domingos Alvares - Chs. 2 - 4
- Wednesday 2/26 - Domingos Alvares - Chs. 5&6
- Monday 3/2 - Domingos Alvares - Chs. 7&8
- Wednesday 3/4 - Domingos Alvares - Chs. 9&10

Unit 3 - Legacies - African American Heritage & Identity

- Monday 3/9 - Lecture - Intro to The Home Place - Heritage & Identity
  *Domingos Alvares* Paper Due
- Wednesday 3/11 - Home Place Intro & Part 1 - Flock
- Monday 3/16 - Spring Break
- Wednesday 3/18 - Spring Break
- Monday 3/23 - Home Place Part 2 - Fledgling
- Wednesday 3/25 - Home Place Part 3a - Flight - Bluebird - Jawbone
- Monday 3/30 - Home Place - Part 3b - Flight - New Religion - Patchwork
  Legacy
Unit 4 - Apartheid South Africa

- Wednesday 4/1 - Lecture - Intro to Apartheid South Africa
  * The Home Place Paper Due
- Monday 4/6 - Born a Crime - Part 1
- Wednesday 4/8 - Born a Crime - Chs. 9-11
- Monday 4/13 - Born a Crime - Chs. 12-14
- Wednesday 4/15 - Born a Crime - Part 3
- Monday 4/20 - Wrap Up
  * Born a Crime Paper Due
- Wednesday 4/22 - Absolute LAST Class
  * Final Reflection Due