

Department: AFAM : Institute for African American Studies (AFRA after Spring 2014)

Course No.: 4994W

Credits: 3

Title: Senior Seminar

Contact: Jeffrey O Ogbar

WQ: W

Catalog Copy: 4994W. Senior Seminar

(297W) Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: AFAM 3211; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 3800. Open only to undergraduate African American Studies majors in their senior year. With a change in content, may be repeated for credit.

Critical training and comprehensive examination of African American studies, using primary and secondary sources.

Meets Goals of Gen Ed.

a. A brief (2-3 sentences) course description that includes course goals and learning objectives.

This course is a capstone course for the major, which includes use of advanced texts for discussion and research. It is a writing-intensive course that is designed to introduce students to primary and secondary documents and scholarly interpretations on a common topic, grounded in African American Studies.

b. Course requirements: Specify exam formats, nature and scope of weekly reading assignments, nature and scope of writing assignments, problem sets, etc.

The course requires discussion of the documents and readings and a 20-page research paper on an approved aspect of the subject of the course.

c. List the major themes, issues, topics, etc., to be covered.

The course explores variable topics in African American Studies, pulling from interdisciplinary approaches, including the humanities, arts and social sciences.

d. If this is an existing general education course, please specify how the revisions will affect the way in which the course fulfills the requirements.

W Criteria:

(1) The course requires a 15-20 page research paper, which utilizes primary and secondary sources. The major paper and any shorter writing projects place emphasis on learning the content of the course by exploiting critical and analytical skills, while engaging course reading assignments. The writing component represents at least 50 percent of the final grade for the course. All writing assignments are evaluated for analytical content, style and clarity. Papers are reviewed in draft form by the instructor and returned to students with comments and suggestions for revision before the final version is submitted for evaluation. Students cannot pass the course without passing the W component.

(2) A major goal of the course is to teach critical and analytical skill both verbally and in writing. There will be discussions on selected readings, as well as instruction on written expression.

(3) Students are expected to submit and revise at least one version of the major paper, incorporating written comments and suggestions from the instructor, before submitting the completed paper. Draft papers may also be reviewed in individual conference between the instructor and the student, or peer-reviewed in student group discussions and feedback provided for revisions.

SYLLABUS:

Online URL: (https://web2.uconn.edu/senateform/request/course_uploads/joo02002-1239835658-4994WMODEL.doc)