Outline of Instruction

Division: Social Sciences    Area: History
Course Number: 256    Course Name: African-American History
Prerequisites: NONE
Corequisite: NONE
Hours Required: Class: 45  Lab: 0  Credits: 3

Course Description/Purpose

This course examines the history of African Americans from their African origins to the present. Special emphasis is placed on the cultural development and contributions of black Americans and the ever-changing dimensions of racism and discrimination in American society. This course will help the student understand the integral role that African-Americans have played in our nation's history, and to perceive that the very foundation of the American experiment rests on cultural diversity.

Major Units

- African background
- Slave trade
- Slavery in the colonies
- The Revolutionary era
- Blacks in the new republic
- Expansion and slavery
- The peculiar institution
- Free people of color
- Sectional strife
- The Civil War
- Reconstruction
- White supremacy returns
- Self-help and philanthropy
- The color line
- World War I
- Harlem Renaissance
- The New Deal
- The American dilemma
- World War II
- Civil Rights struggle
- The Black revolution
- Modern Black America

Educational/Course Outcomes

Student learning will be assessed by a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, quizzes and tests, journals, essays, papers, projects, laboratory/clinical exercises and examinations, presentations, simulations, portfolios, homework assignments, and instructor observations.
Cognitive  
Each student will be expected to Identify/Recognize . . .

- the essential content of the course
- the important contributions of the African-Americans to the national experience
- the importance of the African past for all Americans
- the contradictions and paradoxes between the black experience and the American Dream

Performance  
Each student will be expected to Demonstrate/Practice . . .

- the ability to perform acceptably on essay tests and higher-level identification questions which require the student to state clearly the significance of the item in question
- the ability to write a ten-page essay on some aspect of African-American history that denotes cultural contributions and African linkages

JD/pf—6/04