

COMMON COURSE OUTLINE

HIST 118

African American History Since 1877

3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Three hours of lecture a week; one semester. This course begins with the Reconstruction period after the American Civil War and traces the African American experience in America to the present. In the process of examining African American history and culture, particular emphasis will be placed on: transition from slavery to freedom, the realities of the Reconstruction legacy, the period of “Jim Crowism,” Black nationalism, African American participation in the World Wars, migrations out of the South, institutional developments, the modern Civil Rights movement, and current challenges. The course will also focus on racism in the United States and the contributions of African Americans in politics, economics, religion, culture and the arts. Prerequisites: Reading Skill 1; English Skill 2.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to analyze and think critically about contemporary American society as it relates to the African American past, and be able to identify the relevant antecedent events and ideologies that have shaped current public issues. (III, V, VI, 2, 10)
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the contributions African Americans have made to American society. (I, V, 1, 5, 9)
3. Analyze orally and/or in writing historical information related to African American life, history, or culture. Primary and secondary sources such as diaries, speeches, newspapers, biographies, electronic sources, and interpretive essays from historians will be used. (I, II, III, IV, VI, 6)
4. Synthesize information from both print and electronic sources to construct a historical argument that is based on the logical presentation of specific, historical facts and that analyzes the causal factors of a historical event or process. (I, II, III, IV, 3,6, 10)
5. Compare and contrast the experiences of African Americans of different national origins, genders, classes, and ideologies. (I, III, V, 1, 9)
6. Recognize connections between African Americans and the modern African Diaspora. (III, V, 5, 8)
7. Demonstrate students' effectiveness in written and oral communication skills within a context of a diverse environment. (II, V, 4)

8. Determine the role that race, class, gender, religion, and ethnicity play in influencing historical issues and events. (I, II, III, V, 1,2,6, 9,10)
9. Develop skills in listening and conflict resolution and apply these skills to cross cultural dialogue. (II, III, V, 7, 9)
10. Analyze and interpret data in chart or graph formats. (I, II, III, IV, VI, 1)
11. Identify the value and role of electronic media in historical research and analysis. The electronic sources used would have an emphasis on African American life, history, and culture. (I, IV, 6).

Major Topics

- Legacy of the Reconstruction Era 1865-1877
- Economic changes, and social and legal consequences
- The Nadir and “Jim Crowism”
- African Americans and World War I
- Harlem Renaissance
- African American women's club movement
- African Americans and the Great Depression; Black Cultural movement 1930-1950
- African American involvement in World War II
- The emergence of the Civil Rights Movement 1940-1960
- Rise of Militancy and Black nationalism
- Legislative Gains of the Civil Rights movement
- Economic Challenges and Changes
- Contemporary Issues

Course Requirements (VII)

Individual exams and writing assignments will be determined by the instructor and will be described in the syllabus for each section. However, all students will:

1. Participate actively in class activities;
2. Respond to required reading assignments, a minimum of 200-300 pages, some of which will include primary documents (or excerpts thereof) and interpretive essays;
3. Successfully complete a minimum of two exams and/or quizzes that demonstrate mastery of the major concepts in the course and which consist of a combination of objective and critical thinking/analysis components;
4. Produce a minimum of two writing assignments that demonstrates the ability to conduct research, analyze primary and secondary sources, employ and evaluate electronic sources.
5. Present a minimum of one individual or group oral presentation(s) of relevant materials (II).

Other Course information:

This course currently is a general education elective course. It satisfies the diversity requirement.