



**NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Course Syllabus**

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**HISTORY 107: AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY SINCE 1877**

Semester: Fall 2019

Class Meets: MWF 3:00-3:50 p.m.

Classroom Location: Gibbs 315

Section Number: HIST. 106

<https://www.ncat.edu/cahss/departments/hist/index.html>

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**Course Description:**

HIST 107 is an introduction to African-American History from Emancipation to the present day. Over the course of the semester, we will trace the history of African Americans from Emancipation through Reconstruction to the rise of President Barack Obama. This history includes the elimination of slavery and oppression based on race, but also entails the economic, geographical, social, and educational mobility, or “a new sense of options” post-enslavement.

**Course Objectives:**

This course will cover in detail the lives of African Americans in relation to key historical events and changes over time that provide an opportunity to examine the inner lives and dynamics of people of African descent engaged in the struggle for freedom and concerned with making freedom meaningful in their lives and the lives of their families and communities. We will explore in-depth various facets of African-American history such as Reconstruction, the advent of Jim Crow, early twentieth century black political thought, the Great Migration, the Harlem Renaissance, the Depression era, the civil rights era, and African Americans in contemporary America. We will also explore the diversity of the African American experience by examining the different goals of black communities and individuals across the United States as well as experiences within and amongst African-American communities, individuals, and organized collective movements. Throughout the semester, we will also explore the larger questions: What is the meaning of freedom for African Americans? And, What is the story we should tell of African American history?

**Required Books:**

Cone, James. *Martin & Malcom & America*.

Conniff, Michael L. and Davis Thomas J. *Africans in the Americas*.

Franklin, John Hope. *From Slavery to Freedom*.

Hine, Darlene Clark, *The African American Odyssey*.

Moody, Anne. *Coming of Age in Mississippi*.

Smallwood, Arwin, *The Atlas of African American History and Politics: From the Slave Trade to Modern Times*.

**Specific Course Objectives:**

Students in this course will be able to understand the impact of Reconstruction including Black Reconstruction from 1868-1877, the role of the Freedmen's Bureau and establishment of debt peonage in the South, the consequences of the Compromise of 1877 and the Black Exodus on the North and South. Students will also examine the growth of white resistance to African American advancement through the rise of the Ku Klux Klan, lynching, the origins of Jim Crow, and the disenfranchisement of African Americans in the South. Students will explore African American resistance to political, social, cultural, and economic advancement through a discussion of the role of African Americans in the development of the West, particularly black cowboys, black settlers, and the buffalo soldiers, the importance and development of African-American churches and colleges in the South since 1865, evolution of African-American education in America from 1865 to 1954 from W.E.B. Du Bois' liberal arts education and "Talented Tenth" ideology to Booker T. Washington's emphasis on vocation education and self-help philosophy, the development of the Colored Farmers' Alliance and the role of black farmers in the Populist Movement.

We will also study massive movements of bodies and ideas through the various phases of the "Great Migration" and their impact on the Northeastern, Midwestern and far Western cities. Students will also discuss the role of Black Nationalism and Pan-Africanism in American and African and their roles in the decolonization of Africa. Students will also explore the impact of the Harlem Renaissance on urban and rural African Americans

Students will investigate the relevance and impact of social, political, and economic organizations on the African American community through groups such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the National Urban League (NUL), and the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). Leaders such as Marcus Garvey, A. Philip Randolph, Malcolm X, and Dr. Martin Luther King will be discussed. Students will explore the ideological differences that emerged within the Civil Rights Movement, such as Black Nationalism, black power, integrationism. They will also examine civil rights' groups and their activism with took shape in the form of organizations such as the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and the Black Panther Party; in the form of protests such as marches, freedom rides, and sit-ins; and in the role of court cases such as *Brown v. Board of Education*. Students will also discuss President Lyndon B. Johnson and the impact of his Great Society programs on the African American community.

Students will investigate the political and economic changes to the post-civil rights era America through the presidencies of Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, and Jimmy Carter. The rise of political conservatism as a response to civil rights, the ramifications of urban renewal efforts and school integration, the reasons for the end of the Black Exodus from the American South in 1980, and the challenges of drugs, crime, and education for African Americans will be explored, along with the impact of the election of Barack Obama.

## **Broader Course Goals:**

1. **Learn History:** By acquiring knowledge of the basic facts and events of African American History since 1877, we will be able to identify the significant questions about the period: How did political, economic, and social change affect African Americans? What were the tensions between racial accommodation and racial agitation? What is the *real* story of African American history?
2. **Think Historically:** By learning to ask **HOW** and **WHY** as well as **who, what, where, and when**, we will gain an understanding of historical change, of how historians think and interpret the past through the lens of the present. Reading primary source documents to hear the voices of Black Americans on their own terms is critical to viewing change across time.
3. **Retrieve/Recover History:** Through exposure to a wide variety of historical sources and practices, we will learn how historians go about “recovering” or interpreting the past. We will analyze a variety of secondary sources (books written by historians) and primary sources (autobiographies, cartoons, political documents, speeches, and so forth), learn to assess their reliability and produce our own interpretation of them.
4. **Do History:** After learning some of the historian’s tools, we will use these tools to better understand the past and present by conducting oral history interviews. To reflect on the course’s themes and goals, we will use a variety of materials, including textbooks, primary sources, films, multimedia, activities, role-plays, debates, and most importantly in-class discussions—to explore the history of African descended peoples.

**TIPS** I encourage you to take notes on all lectures, readings, videos, and documents as you read/view them. Try to summarize their arguments/meanings. This will pay off in big ways as it will serve as a ready-made study guide.

## **Specific Instructional Objectives:**

1. Trace the establishment and development of the first Black colleges and churches in the South during Reconstruction.
2. Discuss Black Reconstruction, the “Freedmen's Bureau” and the establishment of “Peonage” in the South from 1868-1877.
3. Discuss the role of African Americans in the development of the West in particular Black Cowboys, Black settlers and the Buffalo Soldiers.
4. Discuss the impact of the “Compromise of 1877” and the “Black Exodus” on the North and South.
5. Discuss the origins of Jim Crow, and the disenfranchisement of African-Americans in the South.

6. Discuss the rise of the Ku Klux Klan and thirty years of lynching in America.
7. Discuss the evolution of African-American education in America from 1865 to 1954 explaining W. E. B. Du Bois's Liberal Arts education and Talented Tenth theory and Booker T. Washington's Agricultural and Technical education and his self help philosophy.
8. Discuss the Colored Farmers' Alliance and the role of Black farmers in the "Populist Movement."
9. Discuss the development of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the National Urban League (NUL) and their impact on the African-American community of America.
10. Discuss the various phases of the "Great Migration" and its impact on Northeastern, Midwestern, and far Western Cities.
11. Discuss the Red Summer, rise of Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) 1914-1920.
12. Discuss the "Harlem Renaissance" and its impact on urban and rural African Americans.
13. Discuss the contributions of African-American soldiers during World War I and the War's impact on their lives.
14. Discuss the movement of African-American voters from the Republican to the Democratic Party during the election of Franklin Roosevelt and the transformation of African-American politics in America.
15. Discuss the rise of "Black Nationalism" and "Pan-Africanism" in America and Africa and their roles in decolonization of Africa.
16. Discuss African-American soldiers in World War II and the war's impact on the African-American community, including the origins of the Civil Rights Movement.
17. Discuss *Brown v. Topeka, Kansas Board of Education* and its meaning for black education.
18. Discuss Malcolm X the rise of the Black Muslims and his contributions to people of color around the world.
19. Discuss Martin Luther King and his role in the civil rights movement including: the Montgomery bus boycott, founding of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the Civil Rights marches, Freedom Rides, and Sit-Ins.
20. Discuss the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), the Black Panther Party, and the rise of Black power.

21. Discuss Lyndon B. Johnson and the impact of his "Great Society" programs on the African-American community.
22. Discuss the reasons for the end of the "Black Exodus" from the American South in 1980.
23. Discuss the white response to Civil Rights (Conservatism) during the period 1980-2000, including Ronald Reagan, Newt Gingrich, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush.
24. Discuss the new challenges for Black America in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (education, drugs, crime, AIDS and the Black counter culture).

### **Schedule of Assignments:**

Week 1: Aug. 21

- **Pre-Test**
- **Introduction "How and Why We Study History"**
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 5 & 6 "The Impact of the Civil War, Emancipation, Reconstruction and American Racism and Colonialism on African Americans"

Week 2: Aug. 26 – 28

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 13 "Failure of Reconstruction."
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 5 & 6 "The Impact of the Civil War, Emancipation, Reconstruction and American Racism and Colonialism on African Americans"

Week 3: Sep. 2 – 5

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 14 "Rise of Jim Crow and Racial Violence."
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 7 The Rise of Jim Crow, World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Great Migration from the American South

Week 4: Sep. 9 – 12

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 15 "Imperialism and Migration"
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 3 "Free Blacks, Slaves, and Slavery in the New Republic"
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 7 The Rise of Jim Crow, World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Great Migration from the American South
- **Review for Exam #1**

Week 5: Sep. 16 – 18

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 16 "World War I and Racial Uplift"
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 7 The Rise of Jim Crow, World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Great Migration from the American South

## **-Exam #1, Thursday, September 18**

Week 6: Sep. 23 – 25

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 16 “World War I and Racial Uplift”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 7 The Rise of Jim Crow, World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Great Migration from the American South

Week 7: Sep. 30 – Oct. 2

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 17 “The New Negro and Black Nationalism”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 7 The Rise of Jim Crow, World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Great Migration from the American South

Week 8: Oct. 7 – 9

- **No Class Tuesday Oct. 9 “Fall Break”**
- African American Odyssey. Chapter 18 “The Great Depression and the New Deal”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 7 The Rise of Jim Crow, World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Great Migration from the American South

Week 9: Oct. 14 – 16

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 19 “The New Deal.”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 7 The Rise of Jim Crow, World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Great Migration from the American South

Week 10: Oct. 21 – 23

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 20. “Blacks and World War II”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 8 The Growth of Black Political Power in the North, the Great Depression, and Blacks During World War II
- **Review for Exam.**
- **No Class Thursday Oct. 23 “Fall Convocation”**

Week 11: Oct. 28 – 30

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 21. The Search for Civil Rights
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 9 & 10 African Americans during the Cold War and the Civil Rights Movement (1945-1965) and the rise of Black Power, Black Nationalism, and the African-American Counterculture
- Martin & Malcolm & America.
- **Exam #2 Thursday, Oct. 30**

Week 12: Nov. 04 – 06

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 22. Long Freedom Movement
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 10 The rise of Black Power, Black Nationalism, and the African-American Counterculture

Week 13: Nov. 11 – 13

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 23. Black Culture in the 1980s

- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 11 African Americans and the Challenges of the 1990s and Beyond.

Week 14: Nov. 18 – 21

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 24 Obama and a Post Racial Nation
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 11 African Americans and the Challenges of the 1990s and Beyond.

Week 15: Nov. 25 – 27

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 24 Obama and a Post Racial Nation
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 11 African Americans and the Challenges of the 1990s and Beyond.
- **Paper Due Nov. 25**
- **Thanksgiving Break Nov. 27 - 30**

Week 16: Dec. 2 – 4

- Dec. 4, **LAST DAY OF CLASS**
- Final Exam (See University Exam Schedule)

## **Bibliography for Further Reading**

### **Reconstruction**

Eric Foner, Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution  
Berlin, Miller & Rowland, "Afro-American Families in the Transition from Slavery to Freedom"  
Thomas C. Holt, Black Over White  
Barbara Fields, Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground  
Leon Litwack, Been in the Storm So Long  
W.E.B. DuBois, Black Reconstruction  
Peter Kolchin, First Freedom

### **Peonage: The Black Economy in "The New South"**

Daniel Pete, Breaking The Land: The Enclosure of Cotton, Tobacco, and Rice Cultures  
Arthur Franklin Raper Share Croppers All  
Dwight Billings, Planters and the Making of a "New South"  
Harold Rabinowitz, Race Relations in the Urban South  
Daniel Pete, The Shadow of Slavery: Peonage in the South, 1901 1969  
Edward Cary Royce The Origins of Southern Sharecropping

### **The Blacks and Politics in "The New South"**

Gerald Jaynes, Branches Without Roots  
J. Morgan Kousser, The Shaping of Southern Politics  
Roger Ransom & Richard Sutch, One Kind of Freedom  
C. Vann Woodward, Origins of the New South  
Jonathan Weiner, Social Origins of the New South  
Eric Anderson, Race and Politics in North Carolina  
Gerald Gaither Blacks and Populist Revolt  
Helen G. Edmonds Fusion Politics in North Carolina  
Harold Shapiro, White Violence and Black Response

### **Race, Class, Gender and Ideology: The Rise of Black Education in the South**

James Anderson, The Education of Blacks in the South, 1860-1935  
Cynthia Neverdon-Morton, Afro-American Women of the South and the Advancement of the Race  
Darlene Clark Hine, Black Women in White  
Joel Williamson, A Rage for Order  
James P. Comer, Maggie's American Dream  
Paula Giddings, When and Where I Enter  
George Frederickson, Black Image in the White Mind  
Lawrence Friedman, The White Savage  
Tera Hunter, To Joy My Freedom

### **African-American Intellectual & Political Development**

August Meier, Negro Thought in America  
E. David Cronon Black Moses: The Story of Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association  
William Toll, The Resurgence of Race  
Stephen Fox, The Guardian of Boston



Jackie Rouse, Lugina Burns Hope: Southern Reformer  
Louis Harlan, Booker T. Washington, Vols. 1 & 2  
Elliot M. Rudwick, W.E.B. DuBois: A Study in Minority Group Leadership  
Harold Cruse, Crisis on the Negro Intellectual  
Alfreda Duster (ed.), Crusade for Justice: The Autobiography of Ida B. Wells

### **African-Americans During Jim Crow and The Great War, (World War I)**

Arthur E. Barbeau and Florette Henri The Unknown Soldiers: African-American Troops in World War I  
Robert L. Zangrando The NAACP Crusade Against Lynching, 1909-1950  
Arthur I. Waskow, The 1919 Race Riots: A Study in Connections between Conflicts and Violence  
Ann D. Gordon African American Women and The Vote, 1832-1965  
Stephanie J. Shaw What A Women Ought to Be and to Do: Black Professional Women Workers During the Jim Crow Era

### **Migration, Urbanization and Socio-Cultural Development**

Carole Marks, Farewell We're Good and Gone  
Alferdteen Harrison Black Exodus  
Kenneth Kusmer, A Ghetto Takes Shape  
Allan Spear, Black Chicago  
Donald G. Nelson, Black Ethos  
Gilbert Osofsky, Harlem: The Making of a Ghetto  
Joe Trotter, Black Milwaukee  
August Meier & Elliot Rudwick, Black Detroit and the Rise of the UAW

### **The Growth and Expansion of Black Culture: The Harlem Renaissance**

Watson Steven, The Harlem Renaissance: Hub of African-American Culture  
Nathan I. Huggins Harlem Renaissance  
Davarian Baldwin, Chicago's New Negroes: Modernity, the Great Migration, and Black Urban Life  
David L. Lewis, When Harlem Was in Vogue  
Kerry Candaele, Bound For Glory: From the Great Migration to the Harlem Renaissance, 1910-1930  
Donald G. Nelson, Black Ethos  
“Midnight Ramble” –Film

### **The Myth of the Negro Past: The Rise of Black Sociology**

Joseph E. Halloway, Africanisms in American Culture  
Melville Herskovitz, The Myth of the Negro Past  
E. Franklin Frazier, The Negro Church in America  
C. Eric Lincoln, The Black Church Since Frazier  
Gunar Myrdal, An American Dilemma  
Oliver Cromwell Cox, Caste, Class and Race

### **The New Deal and Black America**

Harvard Sitkoff, A New Deal for Blacks  
Raymond Wolters, Negroes and the Great Depression  
Nancy Weiss, Farewell to the Party of Lincoln

Marc Naison, Communists in Harlem During the Depression  
Dan T. Carter, Scottsboro: A Tragedy of the American South  
Gena Rae McNeil, Groundwork: Charles Houston and the Struggle for Civil Rights  
Arnold Hirsch, Making the Second Ghetto  
Robert Weisbrot, Father Divine

### **African-Americans during the War to End All Wars: World War II**

John D. Silvera The Negro in World War II  
Benard C. Natly Strength for the Fight: mA History of Black Americans in the Military  
A. Russell Buchanan Black Americans in World War II  
Charles E. Francis The Tuskegee Airmen: The Men Who Changed a Nation  
Lou Potter Liberators Fighting on two fronts in World War II  
Dominic Capeci Layered in Violence: The Detroit Rioters of 1943  
Arthur I. Waskow From Race Riot to Sit-in, 1919 to 1969

### **The Civil Rights Movement**

Aldon Morris, Origins of the Civil Rights Movement  
Jack Bloom, Class, Race and the Civil Rights Movement  
Manning Marable, Race, Reform and Rebellion  
Adam Fairclough, To Redeem the Soul of America  
Clay Carson, In Struggle: SNCC  
John Dittmer, Local People: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi  
Doug McAdam, Freedom Summer  
David Garrow, Bearing the Cross  
Gerald Horne, Communist Front?  
Paula Pfeffer, A. Philip Randolph, Pioneer of the Civil Rights Movement  
Charles Payne, I've Got the Light of Freedom: The Organizing Tradition and the Mississippi Freedom Struggle  
Danielle McGuire, At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance--A New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power  
Barbara Ransby, Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision

### **Post-Civil Rights: Black Power, Black Nationalism, and The Rise of The African American Counter Culture**

James Button, Blacks and Social Change "Exploding the Myth of African-American Progress" "A Response to Inequality: Black Women, Women, Racism & Sexism"  
Peniel Joseph, Waiting Til the Midnight Hour  
Hasan Jeffries, Bloody Lowndes: Civil Rights and Black Power  
Harold Cruse, Plural But Equal  
Jonathan Kaufman, Broken Alliance  
Patricia L. Rose Black Noise: Rap Music & Black Culture Resistance in Contemporary American Popular Culture

### **The New Black America: The Haves and the Have Not's: The Rise of Black Conservatives in America**

Marble Manning How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America: Problems in Race, Political Economy and Society  
Norman Solomon False Hope: The Politics of Illusion in the Clinton Era

Marble Manning Black Conservatives  
Marcus D. Pohlmann Black Politics in Conservative America