

BLACK AMERICAN STUDIES

www.siu.edu/~bas/

College of Liberal Arts**FACULTY**

Brown, Joseph A., *Director* and Professor, Ph.D., Yale University, 1984; 1997.

Chipasula, Frank M., Associate Professor, Judge Williams Holmes Cook Professor, Ph.D. Brown University, 1987; 2005.

Gadzekpo, Leo K., Assistant Professor, Ph.D., American Cultural Studies, Bowling Green University, 1997, 1998.

Smoot, Pamela A., Assistant Professor, Ph.D., American History, Michigan State University, 1998, 1999.

There is no approved graduate program in Black American Studies. Four-hundred-level courses may be taken for graduate credit unless otherwise indicated in the course description.

Courses (BAS)

410H-3 African Expressive Culture. (Same as Anthropology 410H) This course examines aspects of African expressive culture including the visual arts, music, dance, orature, cinema, drama, and ceremony from an anthropological perspective. Particular attention is given to analysis of African expressive culture in social context and the role of the arts in the practice of politics, religion, medicine, and other aspects of African life. Many of the expressive genres examined deal with historical representation and political resistance. Therefore this course provides insights into African history and politics through the creative representations of African artists.

420-3 Themes in Africana Drama. (Same as THEA 460). Explores significant themes in African and African American drama, with special attention to performance styles and cultural issues.

449-3 Race and Media in United States History. (Same as History 449 and Mass Communication and Media Arts 449) This course explores the history of race in the modern United States by focusing on moments of racial crisis that garnered media attention. The course asks what these moments reveal about the shifting status of “race,” as well as how spectacles have changed with the transformation of modern media.

460-3 Slavery and The Old South. (Same as History 460) This course examines slavery and southern distinctiveness from the colonial period to 1861. Discussion topics include the plantation system, race relations, women and slavery, and southern nationalism.

461-3 Black Americans on the Western Frontier. (Same as History 461) This course examines the history of African Americans in the American West. Taking both a chronological and thematic approach, it begins with a discussion of early black explorers in the age of encounter, and ends with a focus on black western towns established in the United States by the 1880’s.

465-3 Governments and Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa. An examination of the impact of western colonial rule on the societies and politics of Africa, the method by which these colonial areas became sovereign states in the post-World War II era, the role of domestic political institutions, African political thought and behavior, and the development of foreign policies regarding relations with other African states, continental and international organizations, and international organizations, and non-African states.

472-3 Psychology of Race and Racism. (Same as Psychology 470) A review of the history and evolution of the construct of race as a psychological phenomenon. The persuasiveness of race in every sphere of life will be studied, from a multidisciplinary perspective.

473-3 Comparative Slavery. (Same as History 473) A comparative study of slavery from antiquity to its abolition in the 19th century with the differing socio-cultural, political and economic contexts; organized chronologically, regionally, and thematically.

475-3 Education and Black America. This course uses the scholarship of cultural anthropology and social studies to look at the history of education in the African American community; how public education affects African American families; how schools shape cultural change and how racial, ethnic peer group, and gender issues help determine curriculum issues.

491-3 to 6 Independent Readings in Africana Studies. Special topics, focused on research needs of students who are regularly enrolled in upper-division courses, especially graduate students doing research in Africana related topics in other departments and programs. May be repeated for up to six credit hours. By permission of the director of the BAS program.

495-3 to 9 African Cultural Continuities: Study Abroad. Study abroad 4-6 week program is designed to introduce similarities in culture (food, dance, music, family traditions, religion) of people in Ghana and in the cultures of people in the African diaspora. Class begins on the SIUC campus and will re-locate to Elmina and Cape Coast, Ghana, during the first year of a three-year sequence. Other years will locate in areas of the West Indies, Caribbean & Central America. May be taken for graduate credit. Prerequisite: six hours of Black American Studies or African Studies courses and permission of instructor.

499-3 to 9 (3 per topic) Special Topics in Black American Studies. Topics vary and are announced in advance. May be repeated as the topic varies. Prerequisite: 109 or permission of instructor.