CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Surveys black experience from 1550-1980. Emphasizes the various aspects of slavery, the Civil War, reconstruction, and the black experience during World War I and World War II periods and the Civil Rights Movement.

PREREQUISITES: NONE

COURSE RATIONALE:

A general survey of the history of African people in the United States from the "discovery" to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950's and 1960's through the economic and political crises of the 1970's and 1980's. The course examines the societal forces (economic, political, social, etc.) operating as determinants of the African-American condition in America over time. In the context of "Black Self-Determination", the course focuses on eight major themes: resistance; religion; education; women; labor; family; migration and the civil rights struggle.

INTENDED AUDIENCE:

Anyone interested in American history, race relations, economic history and/or African-American history, political science, social science, education, and law. The course should be especially beneficial to students of African, African-American, minority and/or ethnic studies.
EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, the student is able to:

1. Understand the basic economic, social, political, etc., forces operating as a determinant of Black people's condition in America over time.
2. Identify African-American leaders and their ideas as well as the organizations they formed.
3. Identify indigenous institutions of the Black community which had a major influence on the African-American experience, and in shaping American society.
4. Identify various historians, schools of thought, concepts and theories related to the subject.
5. Formulate theoretical and analytical frameworks that will describe historical and socio-economic factors related to the Black condition.

Graduates Students:

In addition to meeting the five aforementioned objectives graduate students will be expected to:

6. Develop a competence in assembling information and weaving it into a well-written, creative interpretation of the subject.

TEXT:


V.P. Franklin Black Self-Determination, Lawrence Hill Books.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Read all assigned materials
2. Attend class and participate in class discussions
3. Mid-Term Examination
4. Class Presentation (Oral Report)
5. Book Review (Undergraduate) or Research Paper (Graduate)
6. Final Examination

**Book Review (Undergraduate)**

Each student, in consultation with the instructor, will select a book on some significant aspect of the Black experience in the United States and write a (three (3) to five (5) pages) book review. A key element of this review should be a statement of the authors thesis.

**Research Paper (Graduate)**

Each student, in consultation with the instructor, will select a topic related to an important aspect of the Black experience. The key to this assignment is the development of a thesis. All topics must be approved by the instructor. The student must develop his/her thesis in conjunction with the instructor.

**EVALUATION:**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Examination</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Presentation</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Reviews or Research Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
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All book reviews and research papers are due the last day of class.