AFRICANA STUDIES

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The Discipline of Africana Studies

As a field of study, Africana Studies analyzes the history, cultures, modes of political thought and social movements engendered by the freedom struggles of black people. It engages as well the unfinished work of achieving fully enfranchised forms of citizenship and the many forms of expressive culture African diasporic communities have created and inspired as articulations of their histories, experiences, and struggles. In so doing, Africana Studies trains students in the analytical tools necessary for rigorous and culturally sensitive analyses of racial formation both historically and in contemporary societies.

Africana Studies Department

The Africana Studies major offers an interdisciplinary, comparative approach to the study of the history, politics, cultures, literatures, and experiences of peoples in Africa and the African Diaspora. Through this course of study, students come to see the centrality of Africa and the black Diaspora in the modern world and develop a critical understanding of the political, social and ideological forces that shape their place in the world. Our introductory courses encourage students to understand the world from multidisciplinary and transnational perspectives, to critically engage with primary and secondary materials, to develop key geographical knowledge and to engage in comparative analysis.

In consultation with their Africana advisor, majors determine a course of study that draws from a range of disciplinary and/or theoretical perspectives. This coursework includes a required colloquium which grounds students in key theories and methodologies of the black Diaspora, a Harlem course that asks students to think about our historic location in relation to the larger Diaspora and a senior seminar that requires students to conduct groundbreaking research.

This multidisciplinary training not only involves a questioning of disciplinary boundaries, but also provides students with the intellectual tools necessary to think critically about the production and dissemination of knowledge. Our home in a premier college for women means that Africana Studies majors at Barnard develop a particular understanding of how gender and sexuality, as well as race, class, religion and region interact with and transform each other in individual and group experiences.

Mission

As a department for the multidisciplinary study of the history, politics, cultures, and literatures of Africa and African Diaspora communities in the Americas, the Caribbean and Europe, Africana Studies at Barnard is defined by a unique approach to studying the African Diaspora that centers on a gendered analysis of racial and diasporic formations. Its central mission is to train students to think critically about the gendered nature of racial difference from a relational perspective: at once locally, globally, and trans/nationally. The curriculum provides students with a deep knowledge of:

- the history of African and African-descended cultures forged prior to and as a result of the Middle Passage;
- the transnational communities of affiliation created in response to diasporic dispersal; and
- the diverse forms of cultural production engendered by Blacks in the multiple contact zones that constitute the African diaspora.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the major in Africana Studies should be able to attain the following outcomes:

1. integrate research tools and methods from a range of disciplines in order to study the history, politics, cultures, literatures, and experiences of peoples in Africa and the African Diaspora;
2. compare histories and cultures of black peoples across the globe;
3. evaluate and interpret primary and secondary source materials;
4. express themselves effectively in writing and oral presentations;
5. demonstrate their understanding of Harlem’s symbolic and historical importance to peoples of the African Diaspora;
6. identify and communicate the importance of Africa and the African Diaspora to an increasingly global, diverse and interconnected world;
7. demonstrate in their coursework knowledge of the key intellectual traditions of the African Diaspora;
8. analyze and critique representations of peoples or cultures of Africa and the African Diaspora;
9. design, execute and present an original research project.

This department is supervised by the Africana Studies Committee:

Chair: Yvette Christiansë (Africana Studies/English); Celia E. Naylor (Africana Studies/History)

Core Faculty: Yvette Christiansë (Africana Studies/English); Kim F. Hall, (Africana Studies/English); Monica M. Miller (Africana Studies/English); Celia E. Naylor (Africana Studies/History); Colin W. Leach (Psychology/Africana Studies)

Secondary Faculty: Abosedo George (History); Kaiama L. Glover (French); Maja Horn (Spanish and Latin American Cultures);

Affiliated Faculty: Severine Autesserre (Political Science); Brian Larkin (Anthropology); Rose Razaghian (Africana Studies); Mignon Moore (Sociology)

Requirements for the Major

I. The Africana major consists of ten courses (a minimum of 38 credits) to be distributed as follows:

I: Introductory Courses

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africana Studies 2004</td>
<td>Introduction to African Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africana Studies 2005</td>
<td>Caribbean Culture and Societies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africana Studies 2006</td>
<td>Introduction to the African Diaspora</td>
<td>3</td>
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II. Language
Each student must demonstrate proficiency in any of the languages of Africa or the diaspora (including Arabic, Dutch, English, French, Hausa, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swahili) by completing at least the fourth semester of that language, or its equivalent. This requirement is not in addition to the general foreign language requirement.

III. Harlem
Each student will take a course on Harlem, chosen in consultation with her advisor, from among the offerings at Barnard or Columbia.

IV. Electives
Each student will, with the approval of her advisor, select five electives. Of these five, one must be on Africa and one must concern issues of gender.

V. One Semester Colloquium in Africana Studies
AFRS BC3110 Africana Colloquium: Black European Cultural Studies

VI. Senior Seminar
Students will complete a one-semester program of interdisciplinary research in preparation of a senior essay.

Requirements for the Minor
Although the college requires students to declare the minor formally after they have completed course work for the minor, the Africana Studies program strongly encourages students to meet with the Africana Studies Director (or the minor advisor) to plan a course of study and fill out an "intent to minor" form.

The Africana minor consists of five courses to be distributed as follows:

Two of the introduction courses below.
AFRS BC2004 Introduction to African Studies
AFRS BC2005 Caribbean Culture and Societies
AFRS BC2006 Introduction to the African Diaspora

One course on Harlem, chosen in consultation with her advisor, from among the offerings at Barnard or Columbia. Two electives chosen by students in consultation with the minor advisor.

Cross-Listed Courses

American Studies
AMST UN3930 Topics in American Studies. 4 points.
Please refer to the Center for American Studies website for course descriptions for each section. americanstudies.columbia.edu

Anthropology (Barnard)
ANTH UN1002 The Interpretation of Culture. 3 points.
Discussion Section Required

The anthropological approach to the study of culture and human society. Case studies from ethnography are used in exploring the universality of cultural categories (social organization, economy, law, belief system, art, etc.) and the range of variation among human societies.

ANTH V3160 The Body and Society. 3 points.
Enrollment limited to 40; not open to first-years. Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Non-anthropology majors require the instructor’s permission.
Introduction to medical anthropology, exploring health, affliction, and healing cross-culturally. Draws from theory and methods to address critiques of biomedical, epidemiological, and other models of disease; the roles of healers in different societies; the inseparable nature of religion and healing; and different conceptions of the body and how this affects cultural conceptions of health.

ANTH V3660 Gender, Culture, and Human Rights. 3 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Cultures in Comparison (CUL).
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

ANTH V3943 Youth and Identity Politics in Africa. 4 points.
Enrollment limited to 15. Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor is required.
Examines ways in which African youth inevitably occupy two extremes in academic writings and the mass media: as victims of violence, or as instigators of social chaos. Considers youth as generating new cultural forms, as historically relevant actors, and informed social and/or political critics. At the core of such critiques lie possibilities for the agentive power of youth in Africa.

ANTH V3983 Ideas and Society in the Caribbean. 4 points.
Enrollment limited to 20. Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Focusing on the Anglo-Creole Caribbean, this course examines some aspects of popular culture, literary expression, political change, and intellectual movements over the past thirty years.

MDES W2030 Major Debates in the Study of Africa. 4 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Cultures in Comparison (CUL), CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement, Recitation Section Required

This course will focus on key debates that have shaped the study of Africa in the post-colonial African academy. We will cover seven key debates: (1) Historiography; (2) Slavery and slave trades; (3) State Formation; (4) Colonialism; (5) Underdevelopment; (6) Nationalism and the anti-colonial struggle; (7) Political identity and political violence in the post-colony. Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement.
Art History (Barnard)

AHIS UN3948 Jacob Lawrence's Harlem. 4 points.
The course has the heavy workload associated with seminars.

2017 is the centennial of the birth of the artist Jacob Lawrence, who grew up in Harlem, studied art as a child with some of its leading artists and frequented the cultural institutions established for the community at this time. Along with his famous series of paintings dedicated to Black history, such as Migration, and Toussaint L'Ouverture, Lawrence made a large number of works recording the places and people of his home, seeking creative means to both document Black experience in this time and place and give it meaning.

In this seminar we will look at Harlem at Lawrence's eyes through three archives of Harlem at this time: James Vanderzee's street photographs, Aaron Siskind's Harlem Document, and Lawrence's paintings of his community. We will study Harlem in the interwar years as a means of understanding what it is these artists chose to record. We will look at the aesthetic debates of the Harlem Renaissance and each artist's biography to investigate how they chose to depict Harlem The class will combine classroom discussions with excursions to the locations and institutions frequented by these artists as a means of tracing continuities and transformations from that period to the present.

The final project for our seminar will be a digital exhibition of select works from these archives. Students will work together to develop the themes and each will create entries on specific works of art. Please note that, while we will be having a digital exhibition workshop in class, students will also need to meet with IMATS staff outside of class time at least once as they conduct the work for this exhibition.

This course is part of Harlem Semester 2017.

Comparative Literature (Barnard)

CLRS W4190 Race, Ethnicity, and Narrative, in the Russian/Soviet Empire. 3 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

This course examines the literary construction of ethnic and cultural identity in texts drawn from the literatures of ethnic minorities and non-Slavic nationalities that coexist within the Russian and Soviet imperial space, with attention to the historical and political context in which literary discourses surrounding racial, ethnic, and cultural particularity develop. Organized around three major regions -- the Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Russian Far East --readings include canonical "classics" by Aitmatov, Iskander, and Rytkheu as well as less-known texts, both "official" and censored.

Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race

CSER W1012 History of Racialization in the United States. 3 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Cultures in Comparison (CUL).
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

The History of Racialization in the United States examines the development of race and racism through the study of significant historical circumstances that define the institutional structure of American Empire and of the resulting interactions among its peoples. Race is not static. Consequently, it is not an ahistorical object, nor a predetermined identity, nor a uniform category of analysis. Traditionally, the history of American race relations is the contact between racially defined groups over time and space of the effort required to maintain social and economic differences among them. Racialization, then, refers to the process by which one population group or many are "placed" in distinct racial categories.

Dance (Barnard)

DNCE BC2580 Tap as an American Art Form. 3 points.
Prerequisites: DNCE BC1446 or equivalent experience.
Studio/lecture format focuses on tap technique, repertory, improvisation, and the development of tap explored through American history, jazz music, films, videos, and biographies.

DNCE BC3570 Latin American and Caribbean Dance: Identities in Motion. 3 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Examines the history and choreographic features of Latin American and Caribbean dance forms. Dances are analyzed in order to uncover the ways in which dancing shapes national, racial, and gender identities. Focuses on the globalization of these dances in New York City.

DNCE BC3578 Traditions of African-American Dance. 3 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Traces the development of African-American dance, emphasizing the contribution of black artists and the influence of black traditions on American theatrical dance. Major themes include the emergence of African-American concert dance, the transfer of vernacular forms to the concert stage, and issues of appropriation, cultural self-identification, and artistic hybridity.

DNCE BC3980 Performing the Political: Embodying Change in American Performance. 4 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: An introductory course in dance or theatre history or permission of instructor. Enrollment limited to 12 students.
Exploration into the politics of performance and the performance of politics through the lens of 20th-century American dance.
Economics
English & Comparative Literature
English (Barnard)

ENGL BC3129 Explorations of Black Literature: Early African-American Lit. 1760-1890. 3 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Literature (LIT).

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 18 students.
Poetry, prose, fiction, and nonfiction, with special attention to the slave narrative. Includes Wheatley, Douglass, and Jacobs, but emphasis will be on less familiar writers such as Brown, Harper, Walker, Wilson, and Forten. Works by some 18th-century precursors will also be considered.

ENTH BC3144 Black Theatre. 4 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 16 students.

ENGL BC3190 Global Literature in English. 3 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Selective survey of fiction from the ex-colonies, focusing on the colonial encounter, cultural and political decolonization, and belonging and migration in the age of postcolonial imperialism. Areas covered include Africa (Achebe, Aidoo, Armah, Ngugi); the Arab World (Mahfouz, Munif, Salih, Souief); South Asia (Mistry, Rushdie, Suleri); the Caribbean (Kincaid); and New Zealand (Huime).

ENGL BC3194 Critical and Theoretical Perspectives on Literature: Marxist Literary Theory. 3 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Literature (LIT).
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Evolution of Marxist criticism from Marx to Jameson and Eagleton. Central questions: What is unique about Marxist cultural analysis? What are the different Marxist schools of criticism? Is there a future for Marxism? Issues considered: capitalism and culture, class analysis, commitment, modernism and postmodernism, commodityfication and alienation, and postcolonialism.

ENGL BC3196 Home to Harlem: Literature of the Harlem Renaissance. 4 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Literature (LIT).
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 20 students.
In the spring of 2016, ENGL 3196y will be centered on the relationship between art, activism and social justice as this relationship was developed during the Harlem Renaissance and beyond. Exploring the cultural contexts and aesthetic debates that animated Harlem in 1920s to 1930s, the course will focus on the politics of literary and theatrical production, and explore the fashioning and performance of New Negro identity through fiction, poetry, essays, and artwork, with special attention to theater/performance. This course will partner with Harlem’s National Black Theater and work toward an understanding of the relationship between art/literature and socio-political change through the NBT’s spring 2016 production of Dominique Morisseau’s Blood on the Root, a multi-genre performance piece on racial injustice inspired by the 2006 Jena Six case in Louisiana.

French and Francophone Studies
French (Barnard)

FREN BC3070 Negritude. 3 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Cultures in Comparison (CUL).
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Reading ability in French required for all students. French majors must write their papers in French.
Analysis of the theoretical and literary precursors of négritude; major figures of the movement; relations with the Harlem Renaissance; and the formulation of creolity by contemporary Caribbean writers and thinkers. Authors will include Gobineau, Maran, Price-Mars, Hughes, McKay, Césaire, Senghor, Dumas, Fanon, Sartre, Glissant, and Chamoiseau. Taught in French.

FREN BC3071 Major Literary Works of the French-Speaking World. 3 points.

Prerequisites: Satisfaction of the language requirement in French or permission of the instructor.
Introduction to major works of fiction from the French speaking countries of the Caribbean, West Africa, North Africa and Indochina. Considers some of the principal authors of these regions, and examines the sociopolitical, historical, and aesthetic considerations that have influenced Francophone literary production in the twentieth century.

FREN BC3072 Francophone Fiction: Special Topics. 4 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Literature (LIT).
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Looks at the portrayal of women as unsettling figures in the Francophone Caribbean literary universe. Examining the uncanny heroines in the novels of both male and female writers, students will identify the thematic commonalities and specific configurative strategies that emerge in the fictional representation of women in the region. The symbolic import of zombies, schizophrenics, and other “disordering” characters will be analyzed as indicators of and reflections on broader social realities.
FREN BC3073 Africa in Cinema. 3 points.


French and Romance Philology
History
HIST W3540 History of the South. 3 points.
A survey of the history of the American South from the colonial era to the present day, with two purposes: first, to afford students an understanding of the special historical characteristics of the South and of southerners; and second, to explore what the experience of the South may teach about America as a nation. Group(s): D Field(s): US

HIST W3772 West African History. 3 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
This course offers a survey of main themes in West African history over the last millennium, with particular emphasis on the period from the mid-15th through the 20th century. Themes include the age of West African empires (Ghana, Mali, Songhay); re-alignments of economic and political energies towards the Atlantic coast; the rise and decline of the trans-Atlantic trade in slaves; the advent and demise of colonial rule; and internal displacement, migrations, and revolutions. In the latter part of the course, we will appraise the continuities and ruptures of the colonial and post-colonial eras. Group(s): C Field(s): AFR

HIST W4429 Telling About the South. 4 points.
A remarkable array of Southern historians, novelists, and essayists have done what Shreve McCannon urges Quentin Compson to do in William Faulkner's Absalom, Absalom--tell about the South--producing recognized masterpieces of American literature. Taking as examples certain writers of the 19th and 20th centuries, this course explores the issues they confronted, the relationship between time during which and about they wrote, and the art of the written word as exemplified in their work. Group(s): D Field(s): US Limited enrollment. Priority given to senior history majors. After obtaining permission from the professor, please add yourself to the course wait list so the department can register you in the course.

HIST W4518 Research Seminar: Columbia and Slavery. 4 points.
In this course, students will write original, independent research papers of around 25 pages, based on research in both primary and secondary sources, on an aspect of the relationship between Columbia and its colonial predecessor King's College, with the institution of slavery and its colonial predecessor King's College, with the institution of slavery.

HIST W4768 Writing Contemporary African History. 4 points.
Prerequisites: the instructor's permission. SEE UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR SECTION OF THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE. An exploration of the historiography of contemporary (post-1960) Africa, this course asks what African history is, what is unique about it, and what is at stake in its production. Field(s): AFR

HIST W4928 Comparative Slavery and Abolition in the Atlantic World. 4 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.
Prerequisites: seminar application required. SEE UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR SECTION OF THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE. This seminar investigates the experiences of slavery and freedom among African-descended people living and laboring in the various parts of the Atlantic World. The course will trace critical aspects of these two major, interconnected historical phenomena with an eye to how specific cases either manifested or troubled broader trends across various slaveholding societies. The first half of the course addresses the history of slavery and the second half pertains to experiences in emancipation. However, since the abolition of slavery occurs at different moments in various areas of the Atlantic World, the course will adhere to a thematic rather than a chronological structure, in its examination of the multiple avenues to freedom available in various regions. Weekly units will approach major themes relevant to both slavery and emancipation, such as racial epistemologies among slave owners/employers, labor regimes in slave and free societies, cultural innovations among slave and freed communities, gendered discourses and sexual relations within slave and free communities, and slaves' and free people's resistance to domination. The goal of this course is to broaden students' comprehension of the history of slavery and freedom, and to promote an understanding of the transition from slavery to freedom in the Americas as creating both continuities and ruptures in the structure and practices of the various societies concerned. Group(s): ABCD Field(s): US/LA

HIST W4769 Health and Healing in African History. 4 points.
This course charts the history of health and healing from, as far as is possible, a perspective interior to Africa. It explores changing practices and understandings of disease, etiology, healing and well-being from pre-colonial times through into the post-colonial. A major theme running throughout the course is the relationship between medicine, the body, power and social groups. This is balanced by an examination of the creative ways in which Africans have struggled to compose healthy communities, albeit with varied success, whether in the fifteenth century or the twenty-first. Field(s): AFR

History (Barnard)
HIST BC1760 Introduction to African History: 1700-Present. 4 points.
Corequisites: Students who take this course may also take Introduction to Africa Studies: Africa Past, Present, and Future. Survey of African history from the 18th century to the contemporary period. We will explore six major themes in African History: Africa and the Making of the Atlantic World, Colonialism in Africa, the 1940s, Nationalism and Independence Movements, Post-Colonialism in Africa, and Issues in the Making of Contemporary Africa.
HIST BC2180 Merchants, Pirates, and Slaves in the Making of Atlantic Capitalism. 3 points.

Examines how the Atlantic Ocean and its boundaries were tied together through the flow of people, goods, and ideas. Studies the cultures of the communities formed by merchants, pirates, and slaves; investigates how their interactions and frictions combined to shape the unique combination of liberty and oppression that characterizes early modern capitalism.

HIST BC2980 World Migration. 3 points.

Overview of human migration from pre-history to the present. Sessions on classical Rome; Jewish diaspora; Viking, Mongol, and Arab conquests; peopling of New World, European colonization, and African slavery; 19th-century European mass migration; Chinese and Indian diasporas; resurgence of global migration in last three decades, and current debates.

HIST BC3402 Selected Topics in American Women's History. 4 points.

Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

Critical examination of recent trends in modern U.S. women's history, with particular attention to the intersection of gender, sexuality, class, and race. Topics will include: state regulation of marriage and sexuality, roots of modern feminism, altered meanings of motherhood and work, and changing views of the body.

HIST BC3546 The Fourteenth Amendment and Its Uses. 4 points.

Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

The role of the 14th Amendment in shaping the modern American Constitution; theories of judicial review; the rise and fall of economic due process; the creation of civil liberties; the civil rights revolution; and the end of states' rights.

HIST BC3587 Remembering Slavery: Critiquing Modern Representations of the Peculiar Institution. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

The enslavement of people of African descent signifies a crucial historical and cultural marker not only for African-Americans but also for Americans in general. We will interrogate how and why images of slavery continue to be invoked within the American sociocultural landscape (e.g., in films, documentaries, historical novels, and science fiction).

HIST BC3763 Children and Childhood in African History. 4 points.

Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

This course focuses on the history of childhood and youth in African societies and how young people as historical agents have impacted the social histories of their communities. How did young Africans live in past times? What forces shaped understanding of their status as children or youth? How have major historical processes such as colonialism, industrialization, apartheid, and liberation, neocolonialism, and neoliberalism impacted and been impacted by children and youth in Africa? What roles have young people themselves played in the making of African histories? These questions will be explored in course readings, discussions, and students' original research projects.

HIST BC3771 Critical Perspectives on the Mobilization of Race and Ethnicity on the Continent and in the Study of Africa. 4 points.

Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing.

Critically examines the relationship between social difference and narratives and practices of power in historical and contemporary African publics. Race and Ethnicity are the key axes of social difference that will be examined. Other axes of difference such as gender, sexuality, class, caste, generation and nationality will also be examined through points of intersection with race and ethnicity.

HIST BC3905 Capitalism, Colonialism, and Culture: A Global History. 4 points.

Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of Instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

From Indian Ocean worlds of the seventeenth century, to Atlantic world slavery, to the establishment of colonies in Asia and Africa during the nineteenth century, colonization was critical to the development of metropolitan ideas regarding politics and personhood. This seminar will examine these histories, along with emerging constructions of race and gender, as precursors to debates about human rights and humanitarianism in the twentieth century.

Music
MUSI W4435 Music and Performance in the African Postcolony. 3 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

This course examines music and performance in various African contexts, focusing on the postcolonial period. It will explore the complex interactions between music, politics, nation, race, and mediation through case studies from Ghana, Nigeria, DRC, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and South Africa. In addition, discussions will involve what is meant to speak about “African music,” and class will theorize about the conditions of musical production in the context of postcolonialism.
Political Science (Barnard)

POLS BC3101 * Colloquium on Black Political Thought. 4 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: POLS W1013 or the equivalent. Admission by application through the Barnard department only. Enrollment limited to 16 students. 
Barnard syllabus.
Advanced political theory colloquium treats black political thought as concerned with the universal problem of domination. Examines how black thinkers relate democracy, slavery and race; redefine race consciousness as linked fate; articulate new social theories to suggest new "meanings" for race; redefine the political to address social and aesthetic concerns.

POLS V3604 Civil Wars and International Intervention in Africa. 3 points.
Enrollment limited to 110. Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: at least sophomore standing, except in consultation with the instructor.

This course analyzes the causes of violence in civil wars. It examines the debates around emergency aid, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. In addition, it focuses on recent conflict situations in Africa -- especially Congo, Sudan, and Rwanda -- as a background against which to understand the distinct dynamics of violence, peace, and international interventions in civil conflicts. (Cross-listed by the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race.)

POLS BC3810 *Colloquium on Aid, Politics & Violence in Africa. 4 points.
Prerequisites: POLS UN1601 or the equivalent. Admission by application through the Barnard department only.

Explores the concepts, theoretical traditions and debates around development and humanitarian aid, focusing on the relationships between aid, politics, and violence. It looks at the political and military impacts of aid, the linkage between humanitarian aid and conflict resolution, and aid's contribution to perpetuating subtle forms of domination. (Cross-listed by the Africana Studies and the Human Rights Programs.)

Political Science

POLS UN3619 Nationalism and Contemporary World Politics. 3 points.
The causes and consequences of nationalism. Nationalism as a cause of conflict in contemporary world politics. Strategies for mitigating nationalist and ethnic conflict.

POLS GU4496 CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN POLITICS. 3.00 points.
This course aims to teach students what, if any, answers social scientists have to the questions that concern anyone with an interest in African politics: 1) Why have democratic governments flourished in some countries and not others? 2) What institutions may enable Africans to hold their leaders accountable? 3) How do people participate in politics? 4) In what ways do aspiring African political leaders build public support? 5) To what extent does persistent poverty on the continent have political causes? and 6) Why is violence used to resolve some political disputes and not others?

POLS W4445 Politics of the Middle East and North Africa. 3 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: POLS V1501 or the equivalent. Enrollment limited to 70 students. L-course sign-up through eBear. Barnard syllabus.
This course has two objectives: studying the political economy and history of the Arab states, Israel, Turkey, and Iran, and reviewing major themes in the Middle East political science literature. Topics include: historical legacies of colonialism, the political economy of state-society relations, the politics of religion, the politics of democratization, and burgeoning forms of new media.

Religion

RELI V2615 Religions of Harlem. 3 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Through a range of field exercises and classroom guests, this course will introduce students to the rich religious history of Harlem, while also challenging them to document and analyze the diversity of Harlem's contemporary religious scene.

RELI V3630 Religion and Black Popular Cultures. 3 points.
As an exploration of the relationship between religion, race, and popular culture, the course will begin with theoretical readings that expose students to a variety of definitions of and approaches to each of these categories. After tackling these theoretical concerns, the remainder of the course will entail a cross genre and thematic engagement with the terrain of black popular culture(s) in which students will be challenged to apply new theoretical resources in order to interpret a wide range of "religious" phenomena.

RELI V3650 Religion and the Civil Rights Movement. 3 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Examination of the role of religion in the drive for civil rights during the 1950s and 1960s. The course will look at the role of activists, churches, clergy, sermons, and music in forging the consensus in favor of civil rights.

RELI W4826 Religion, Race and Slavery. 0 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

This course explores the religious aspects of race and slavery from the Bible through the abolition of slavery in and around the Enlightenment, ending in the post-colonial era. The focus is mostly on the Atlantic World.

Sociology (Barnard)

SOCI UN3235 SOCIAL MOVEMENTS. 3.00 points.
Prerequisites: One introductory course in Sociology suggested.

Prerequisites: One introductory course in Sociology suggested. Social movements and the theories social scientists use to explain them, with emphasis on contemporary American activism. Cases include the Southern civil rights movement, Black Lives Matter, contemporary feminist mobilizations, LGBTQ activism, immigrant rights and more recent forms of grassroots politics.
SOCI V3247 The Immigrant Experience, Old and New. 3 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

The immigrant experience in the United States. Topics include ideologies of the melting pot; social, cultural, and economic life of earlier immigrants; the distinctiveness of the African-American experience; recent surge of "new" immigrants (Asians, Latinos, West Indians); and changing American views of immigration.

SOCI BC3913 Inequalities: Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality in U.S. Law and Society. 4 points.
This class will examine the historical roots and ongoing persistence of social, economic, and political inequality and the continuing role that it plays in U.S. society by examining how such issues have been addressed both in social science and in law.

Drama and Theatre Arts (Barnard)
ENTH BC3144 Black Theatre. 4 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 16 students.

Women's Studies (Barnard)
WMST BC3134 Unheard Voices: African Women's Literature. 4 points.
Not offered during 2022-23 academic year.

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 14 students.
How does one talk of women in Africa without thinking of Africa as a 'mythic unity'? We will consider the political, racial, social and other contexts in which African women write and are written about in the context of their located lives in Africa and in the African Diaspora. This course is the same as AFRS BC3134 Unheard Voices: African Women's Literature.

WMST GU4305 Feminist Postcolonial Theory. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Critical Approaches and/or permission of instructor.
Enrollment limited to 20 students.
Examines important concerns, concepts and methodological approaches of postcolonial theory, with a focus on feminist perspectives on and strategies for the decolonization of Eurocentric knowledge-formations and practices of Western colonialism. Topics for discussion and study include orientalism, colonialism, nationalism and gender, the politics of cultural representations, subjectivity and subalternity, history, religion, and contemporary global relations of domination.