

Spring 2007 | University of North Carolina, Greensboro
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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

HIS 713: African Americans After 1865

Course Syllabus

This course will explore the African American experience from 1865 to the present. Drawing upon a mixture of classic and recent historical literature, students will examine the key transformations that affected black life in the decades since the end of slavery as well as the major historiographical debates within the field of black history.

Course Requirements: Attendance is mandatory. Students are required to read each book for each week in preparation for in-class discussion. Students are also required to lead discussion, both in pairs and individually, during the semester. Finally, students are required to write four six- to eight-page papers (due in class on January 25, February 22, March 29, and April 26). Students who submit assignments after the deadline will be penalized with a grade deduction based on the lateness of the assignment.

Final Grade Composition

Participation and discussion	20%
6- to 8-page papers (4 x 20%)	80%

Unit 1

Week 1: January 11

Introduction

Week 2: January 18

Eric Foner, *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877*

Week 3: January 25

Steven Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet: Black Political Struggles in the Rural South from Slavery to the Great Migration*

First paper due at the beginning of class

Unit 2

Week 4: February 1

Glenda E. Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow: Women and the Politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896-1920*

Week 5: February 8

Theodore Rosengarten, *All God's Dangers: The Life of Nate Shaw*

Week 6: February 15

Leon F. Litwack, *Trouble in Mind: Black Southerners in the Age of Jim Crow*

Week 7: February 22

David L. Lewis, *W. E. B. Du Bois: Biography of a Race, 1868-1919*

Second paper due at the beginning of class.

Unit 3

Week 8: March 1

Joe William Trotter, ed., *The Great Migration in Historical Perspective: New Dimensions of Race, Class, and Gender*

Week 9: March 8

Spring Break
No class

Week 10: March 15

Alain Locke, *The New Negro: Voices of the Harlem Renaissance*

Week 11: March 22

Robin D. G. Kelley, *Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists During the Great Depression*

Week 12: March 29

Daryl Scott, *Contempt and Pity: Social Policy and the Image of the Damaged Black Psyche, 1880-1996*

Third paper due at the beginning of class.

Unit 4

Week 13: April 5

Timothy B. Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie: Robert F. Williams and the Roots of Black Power*

Week 14: April 12

Scott Saul, *Freedom Is, Freedom Ain't: Jazz and the Making of the Sixties*

Week 15: April 19

John Dittmer, *Local People: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi*

Week 16: April 26

Curtis J. Austin, *Up Against the Wall: Violence in the Making and Unmaking of the Black Panther Party*

Fourth paper due at the beginning of class.