

Spring 2015 | University of North Carolina, Greensboro  
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Office Hours: Mondays, 11:00 - 12:00, Wednesdays, 3:30 - 4:30, and by appointment

## **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 during the semester. Finally, students are required to write three ten- to twelve-page papers (due in class on February 10, March 17, and April 21). 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	25%
10- to 12-page papers (3 x 25%)	75%

### **Unit 1**

#### **Week 1: January 14**

Introduction

#### **Week 2: January 21**

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

#### **Week 3: January 28**

Hannah Rosen, *Terror in the Heart of Freedom: Citizenship, Sexual Violence, and the Meaning of Race in the Postemancipation South*

#### **Week 4: February 4**

Tera W. Hunter, *To 'Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women's Lives and Labors After the Civil War*

#### **Week 5: February 11**

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

**First paper due at the beginning of class.**

## **Unit 2**

### **Week 6: February 18**

Leslie Brown, *Upbuilding Black Durham: Gender, Class, and Black Community Development in the Jim Crow South*

### **Week 7: February 25**

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

### **Week 8: March 4**

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

### **Week 9: March 11**

Class Canceled – Spring Break

### **Week 10: March 18**

David Levering Lewis, *W. E. B. Du Bois, 1919-1963: The Fight for Equality and the American Century*

**Second paper due at the beginning of class.**

## **Unit 3**

### **Week 11: March 25**

Thomas J. Sugrue, *Sweet Land of Liberty: The Forgotten Struggle for Civil Rights in the North*

### **Week 12: April 1**

Barbara Ransby, *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision*

### **Week 13: April 8**

Hasan Jeffries, *Bloody Lowndes: Civil Rights and Black Power in Alabama's Black Belt*

### **Week 14: April 15**

Robert O. Self, *American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland*

### **Week 15: April 22**

Heather Ann Thompson, *Whose Detroit?: Politics, Labor, and Race in a Modern American City*

**Third paper due at the beginning of class.**

