



1. Ta-Nehisi Coates, *Between the World and Me*
2. Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*
3. Walter Johnson, *Soul by Soul*
4. Anne Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*
5. Danielle L. McGuire, *At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance*

Any assignment listed as a PDF can be found in the Documents section of the course website on Pweb.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

### RESEARCH PAPER

An 8-10 page research paper provides you with an opportunity to explore a topic that interests you. This course introduces you to key problems, issues, and questions of African American history from the colonial period to the present. The research paper presents you with the chance to explore an issue in greater detail than the course covers on the syllabus. To make the project manageable, you will have short assignments throughout the semester. There will be separate grades for these assignments.

### SHORT ASSIGNMENTS

Short assignments serve as an opportunity to reinforce course content and to systematically explore the implications of the course reading for a given class session. We will use these short assignments as a way to improve your understanding of course material through writing. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** I may assign a short assignment the meeting before the assignment is to be submitted. In such an instance, it will be the kind of assignment that can be completed within one hour after you have completed the assigned reading.

### EXAMS

Mid-Term Exam: Monday, March 11. I will provide you with a study guide for the exam approximately one week before the test.

Final Exam: A take-home exam due by 5 p.m., Friday, May 17.

Participation: 20%

- Attendance
- Active participation in class that demonstrates your engagement with the assigned course material

Short Assignments: 25%

Research Paper: 25%

Mid-Term Exam: 15%

Final Exam: 15%

Extra Credit: There will be extra credit opportunities to bolster your course grade. I will explain the specifics of each extra credit assignment as they arise.

### **Policies**

1. ATTENDANCE. Each class is worth 100 points. **two free passes**  
This means that you can miss two class sessions for any reason at all without informing me. After you use up the two free passes, your lack of attendance will affect your grade for the course. After using up the two free passes, you will lose 100 points per missed class session.

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If you require specific physical, psychiatric or learning accommodations, please let me know at the beginning of the semester so that we can formulate a plan to address your needs. You should also provide appropriate documentation to the Associate Dean and Director of Academic Advising, Joyce Stern, whose office is located in Rosenfield Center (x3702).

## **SCHEDULE**

Note: You can find any item labeled as a PDF in the Documents section of the course website on Pweb.

Friday, February 1:

- 1) The Brownies' Book Encourages Black Children to Know Their History, 1920
- 2) Carter G. Woodson on His Goals for Black History, 1922
- 3) Mary McLeod Bethune Outlines the Objectives of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History
- 4)

## SLAVE SOCIETIES

Friday, February 15

Reading:

- 1) *American Historical Review*, Vol. 85, No. 1  
(Feb., 1980): 44-78. (JSTOR)
- 2) Anthony Johnson, a Former Slave, Claims His Slave Property, 1655 (PDF)
- 3) *The American Museum, or Repository of Ancient and Modern Fugitive Pieces, Prose and Poetical*. For June, 1787. Volume 1. Number 6. Philadelphia: Mathew Cary, 1787 (PDF)

## REVOLUTIONS

Monday, February 18

Reading:

- 1) Gary Nash, *Race and Revolution*, Ch. 3 (PDF)
- 2) Nash, *Race and Revolution*, Documents for Ch. 3 (PDF)

## THE DOMESTIC SLAVE TRADE

Wednesday, February 20

Reading:

- 1) Holt, *Children of Fire*, 141-148
- 2) Walter Johnson, *Soul by Soul*, Introduction Ch. 2

Friday, February 22

Reading: Johnson, *Soul by Soul*, Ch. 3 4

Monday, February 25

Reading: Johnson, *Soul by Soul*, Ch. 5 Epilogue

## LIFE AS A SLAVE

Wednesday, Feb. 27

Reading: Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* (through Ch. VII)

Friday, March 1

Reading: Douglass, *Narrative of the Life* (finish)







## ELITE RESPONSES TO JIM CROW

Monday, April 15

Reading:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3) Intellect

(Autumn 1994), 363-80 (JSTOR).

Wednesday, April 17

Reading:

- 1) Reading: W.E. B. DuBois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, Chs. 1, 3, 5-6 (PDF)

## LIVING UNDER JIM CROW

Friday, April 19

Reading: James Weldon Johnson, *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*

## A NEW HISTORY OF CIVIL RIGHTS?

Monday, April 22

Reading:

- 1) Danielle L. McGuire, *At the Dark End of the Street*, Prologue, and Ch. 1

Wednesday, April 24

NO CLASS

Reading:

- 1) McGuire, *At the Dark End of the Street*, Ch. 2 Ch. 5

Friday, April 26

NO CLASS

Reading:

- 1) McGuire, *At the Dark End of the Street*, Ch. 6 Epilogue

## COMING OF AGE DURING THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

Monday, April 29

DISCUSS McGuire, but stay on schedule with reading Moody

Reading: Anne Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part I

Wednesday, May 1

Reading: Anne Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part II

Friday, May 3

Reading: Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part III

Monday, May 6

Reading, Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part IV

#### RACE AND INEQUALITY IN THE POST-CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

Wednesday, May 8

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*The Atlantic*, June 2014.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/features/archive/2014/05/the-case-for-reparations/361631/>

Friday, May 10

Reading: none

RESEARCH PAPER DUE: Thursday, May 16, 5 p.m., via email attachment.

TAKE HOME FINAL EXAM DUE: Friday, May 17, 5 p.m., via email attachment.