The course explores the foundation of African Diaspora Studies, answering basic questions such as who, what, why, and when did the field emerge. Most importantly, the course will also explore a wide range of conceptual and theoretical perspectives in African Diaspora Studies. We will especially focus on the applications of topical concepts/ideas in the social sciences (identity, representation, race, colonialism, globalization, migration, transnationalism, development, cultural production) to the study of the African Diaspora subjectivities. The historical contexts that have defined the African Diaspora peoples will also be emphasized throughout the course.

**Course Requirements**

All students must complete the reading assignments in a timely and complete manner, and participate actively in class discussions. There will be surprise quizzes, a mid-term exam, a final exam, and a research paper of 10 pp. (excluding bibliography and title page). Students are required to make an oral presentation of their paper.

**Quizzes and make up exams are only offered if students provide a doctor’s note**

**Grading:**

Quizzes 30%
Mid-term exam (20%)
Final Exam (20%)  
Research paper—10 pages excluding bibliography and title page—(25%)
Please use The Chicago Manual of Style
Oral Presentation 5%

**Midterm: February 18**
**Final Exam: May 6**

**Reading List**
Books

*The Postcolonial State in Africa*, by Crawford Young

*The African Diaspora: A History through Culture*, by Patrick Manning

*The Problem of Race in the 21st Century*, by Thomas Holt

*Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History*, by Michel-Rolph Trouillot

Articles

“Marcus Garvey, Race Idealism and his Vision of Jamaican Self-government,” by Nicholas Patsides
Available on JSTOR—Atkins Library Website

“Incorporation and Transnationalism among Dominican Immigrants,”
Available on Jstor on Atkins Library Website

“Unravelling the Silences of Black Sexualities,” by Sanya Osha
Available on JSTOR—Atkins Library Website

Available on JSTOR—Atkins Library Website

Units of Instruction

2
Week 1: 1-9-13
Introduction
The Idea of Diaspora

Week 2: 1-14 / 1-16
Diaspora in Pre-colonial Africa
Manning, pp. 1-91

Week 3: 1-21 / 1-23
The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, Christianity, and the Construction of Blackness
African-American Christianity
Causes and effects of the slave trade
Manning, pp. 92-155

Week 4: 1-28 / 1-30
Plantation Slavery: Structure, Regional Differences, and Resistance
Family Structure and Plantation Slavery
Manning, pp.156-208

Week 5: 2-4 / 2-6
Enlightenment and post-enlightenment notions of Blackness
Pan-Africanism, Garveyism, and Black colonial soldiers in Africa
Nicholas Patsides’ article

Week 6: 2-11 / 2-13
Colonialism
The impact of colonial education
Anti-colonial thinkers and decolonization
The struggle for citizenship in the U.S.
Manning, 209-282

Week 7: 2-18 / 2/20
Midterm exam: 2-18
Apartheid in South Africa
The global anti-apartheid movement
Documentary

Week 8: 2-25 / 2-27
Governance, democracy, and development in Africa
The Congo, Senegal, and South Africa as case studies
Young, Chapter 1 through 5

SPRING BREAK 3/3 -- 3/8 NO CLASSES
Week 9: 3-11 / 3-13
Migration, transnationalism in Africa and the African Diaspora
José Itzigsohn’s article

Week 10: 3-18 / 3-20
Culture in Africa and the African Diaspora
Hybridity, creolization, resistance
Holt, (entire book)

Week 11: 3-25 / 3-27
Sexuality in Africa & the African Diaspora
Gender relations and Black feminism
Sanya Osha’s article
Anthony Manion and Ruth Morgan’s article

Week 12: 4-1 / 4-3
The Blues to Hip Hop: Black music in the U.S.
Traditional Music in Africa and the African Diaspora
Documentary

Week 13: 4-8 / 4-10
Globalization in Africa
Globalization in the Caribbean and Latin America
Globalization in the U.S. inner cities
Young, Chapter 6 through 9

Week 14: 4-15 / 4-17
Modernity and the African world
Student presentations
Michel-Rolph Trouillot (entire book)

Week 15: 4-22 / 4-24
Student presentations

Week 16: 4-29
Revisions