

Indiana University
Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies
Course Descriptions

Spring 2010

A541 Third World Cinemas (3 cr.)

Historically contingent, culturally inflected, and formally innovative, Third World films are a major current in world cinema. This course surveys the cinematic traditions, practices, and thematic concerns of Third World cinemas. Emphasizing the political and cultural significations of cinema, select narrative fiction and documentary films are examined. Subjects under study include filmic approaches to colonialism and postcoloniality, cinematic formations and social processes, and the legitimizing and oppositional practices of film.

A557 Race and Politics in the African Diaspora (4 cr.)

This course introduces students to theories, methodologies, and scholarship on the relationship between race and politics in the African Diaspora by examining central themes relating to the state, citizenship, public policy, racial ideologies, and de jure and de facto segregation.

A580 Contemporary Black American Writing (4 cr.)

The black experience in America as it has been reflected since World War II in the works of outstanding Afro-American writers: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama.

A591 Black Intellectual Traditions (4 cr.)

Surveys the evolution of "racial" ideas and ideologies among African Americans. Participants will discuss how black intellectuals have engaged in dialogue and debate about strategies for coping with injustice, while formulating diverse concepts of justice, salvation, artistry, and positive black identity.

A669 Independent Project in Black Social Issues (3 cr.)

Designed to meet individual interests of students by providing opportunities for research on a chosen topic and by encouraging nontraditional approaches or settings in the application of concepts developed in formal classes.

A680 The Black Novel (3 cr.)

Analysis of the Afro-American novel from the Harlem Renaissance to the present: genesis, development, and current trends. Emphasis on traditions arising out of the black experience and on critical perspectives developed by black critics and scholars.

A689 Independent Project on Black Literature (3 cr.)

Designed to meet individual interests of students by providing opportunities for research on a chosen topic and by encouraging nontraditional approaches or settings in the application of concepts developed in formal classes.

A697 Special Topics in AAADS (4 cr.)

This course conducts an intensive study an analysis of selected historical and contemporary issues relating to the experiences of Blacks in the Diaspora. Course strategies emphasize critical methodology and analytical writing.

A698 Field Study Seminar (4 cr.)

Development of the final master's project. A critical paper, a thesis-length documentation of a field study, or a substantial record of creative activity is required.

A699 Independent Project in Black Music (3 cr.)

Designed to meet individual interests of students by providing opportunities for in-depth research on a chosen topic and by providing settings for the creative and practical application of concepts developed in formal class settings.