

REL-2060: AFRICAN-AMERICAN RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: REL-2060 : African-American Religious Experience

Board of Trustees:

June 2022

Academic Term:

Fall 2022

Subject Code

REL - Religious Studies

Course Number:

2060

Title:

African-American Religious Experience

Catalog Description:

An exploration of the religious history, culture, and themes of African Americans from the colonial period to the present. Topics include Liberal, Evangelical and Fundamentalist theologies, with particular focus on rituals, music, sacred traditions, and literature. The Social, Civil Rights and Prosperity Movements will be examined as contributing factors to contemporary African American religious life.

Credit Hour(s):

3

Lecture Hour(s):

3

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

ENG-1010 College Composition I or ENG 101H Honors College Composition I, or departmental approval.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Critically Analyze principles, terminology, and key concepts of African American religious traditions through primary texts and relevant events, and historical figures.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Objective(s):

1. Critically examine the role of the African-American church and its impact in the Black community.
2. Explore the influence of folktales, sermons, spiritual traditions and medicinal practices within the Black community.
3. Analyze social/ cultural and political ideologies through the prism of communities of faith within the African American culture.

Course Outcome(s):

Produce an expository, critical or analytical essay for in-class presentation.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Oral Communication: Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

Objective(s):

1. Demonstrate an ability to incorporate terminology, concepts and ideologies exclusive to the Black Church into a cohesive discussion.
2. Explain rationales for the Independent African Church and Social Gospel Movements, and the Nation of Islam.

Course Outcome(s):

Determine the degree to which liturgical spiritual and sacred practices in the African-American religious community coincide with global mainstream religious views

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

Objective(s):

1. Compare and contrast congregations within African-American churches with various Protestant denominations.
2. Examine diversity among various faith systems using mythical, allegorical and traditional religious narratives.
3. Explore literary texts, film, and music of diverse cultures incorporated into African American religious traditions.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Comprehensive or Topical Exams
2. Quizzes and/or
3. Expository or Analytical Essay Questioning and/or
4. Midterm Papers and/or Midterm Exams
5. Individual or Group Projects/Presentations
6. Research Paper and/or
7. Topical Presentation

Course Content Outline:

1. From Africa through Early America
2. The Institution of Religion during Slavery
3. Theology and Composition of Spirituals
4. Worship by Free Blacks
5. The Black Baptists
6. The Black Methodists
7. The Black Pentecostals
8. The Historical Shadow of the Plantation
9. The Black Metropolis
10. The Great Migration
11. The Black Consciousness Movement and the Church
12. The African-American Church, Politics and the Civil Rights Movement
13. The African-American Church and Womanist views
14. Nation of Islam and African-American Muslims
15. The African-American Church and the Youth
16. Music and Ritual of the African-American Church
17. Black Theology: The Role within the Modern Church

Resources

Cone, James and Gayraud Wilmore, eds. "Black Theology: A Documentary History"

Copeland, M. Shawn. *Knowing Christ Crucified: The Witness of African American Religious Experience*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2018.

Harvey, Paul. *Through the Storm, Through the Night: A History of African American Christianity*. Maryland, Rowman & Littlefield, 2013.

Felder, Cain Hope. *Troubling Biblical Waters: Race, Class and Family*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books (POSSIBLE TEXTBOOKS), 1998.

Glaude, Eddie S. Jr. *African American Religious Thought: An Anthology*. First. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2014.

Gates, Louis. *The Black Church: This is Our Story, This is Our Song*. New York: Penguin Press, 2021.

The C. Eric Lincoln Series on the Black Experience. 2nd. Durham, Duke University Press, 2000.

Lincoln, C. Eric and Mamiya, Lawrence H. *The Black Church in the African American Experience*. Durham: Duke University Press (POSSIBLE TEXTBOOKS), 1998.

Payne, Wardell, ed. *Directory of African American Religious Bodies*. Washington, DC: Howard University Press, 1991.

Pinn, Anthony B. *Barieties of African American Religious Experience: Toward a Comparative Black Theology*. 20th Anniversary Ed. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2017.

Raboteau, Albert J. *Slave Religion: The "Invisible Institution" in the Antebellum South*. Updated edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press (POSSIBLE TEXTBOOKS), 2004.

Albert J. Raboteau. *Canaan Land: A Religious History of African Americans (Religion in American Life)*. Second. Republished. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Sernett, Milton C. . *African American Religious History: A Documentary Witness*. 2nd ed. 2000.

Spencer, Jon Michael. *Protest and Praise: Sacred Music of Black Religion*. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Fortress, 1990.

Sheppard, Phillis Isabella. *Tilling Sacred Grounds: Interiority, Black Women, and Religious Experience (Emerging Perspectives in Pastoral Theology and Care)*. 2022.

Washington, James Melvin. *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Martin Luther King, Jr.* San Francisco: Harper Row, 1991.

Wilmore, Gayraud . *African American Religious Studies: An Interdisciplinary Anthology*. First. Durham/London: Duke University Press, 2012.

Wilmore, Gayraud S. *Black Religion and Black Radicalism: An Interpretation of the Religious History of Afro-American People*. 3rd ed. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books (POSSIBLE TEXTBOOKS), 1998.

Wilmore, Gayraud, and David Shannon, eds. *Black Witnesses to Apostolic Faith*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans (POSSIBLE TEXTBOOKS), 1985.

Wimbush, Vincent L. *African Americans and The Bible*. 2nd ed. New York/London: Continuum Publishing Co., 2001.

Wood, Forrest. *The Arrogance of Faith: Christianity and Race in America from the Colonial Era to the Twentieth Century*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2009.

Instructional Services

OSAN Number:

Ohio Transfer 36 TMAH

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