



Institute for Research in African-American Studies
Columbia University

Undergraduate Program in African-American Studies
Student Handbook

ACADEMIC YEAR
2005-2006

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IRAAS OVERVIEW

African-American Studies entails a critical scholarly examination of the collective experiences of people of African descent in the Americas, the Caribbean and Africa. In the United States during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, black studies is embodied in the black intellectual tradition, the massive body of writings and interpretations of African Americans by and about themselves and their social, cultural, economic and political conditions. Through these centuries, the black intellectual tradition has evolved certain characteristics as a body of thought. It has been “descriptive”, attempting to present a thick description or richly detailed narrative of the substance and realities of black life; it has been “corrective”, seeking to overturn racist stereotypes and misinformation about the black experience; and it has been “prescriptive”, an attempt to link theoretical work with practical endeavors to transform reality in the interests of black people. Since the establishment of the first formal department in African-American Studies at San Francisco State University in the mid-1960s, hundreds of colleges and universities have initiated black studies programs. As of 2000, twenty-five research universities have M.A. degrees in African-American Studies, and five offer Ph.D. degrees in the field.

Columbia University is located near the cultural and political heart of black America, the community of Harlem. At the end of the nineteenth century, blacks living in densely populated urban neighborhoods such as San Juan Hill and the Tenderloin began to relocate to Harlem. Black ownership of residential housing was greatly accelerated with the establishment of the Afro-American Realty Company by Philip A. Payton, Jr. in 1904. By the First World War, tens of thousands of African Americans from the South had begun to arrive in the city, as Harlem quickly became known as the urban black Mecca. In the golden age of the twenties, Harlem became the center of black literary and cultural life, home to outstanding artists, poets and novelists. Harlem was a central site for the rise of black nationalism, first in the twenties with the popular emergence of Marcus Garvey and his Universal Negro Improvement Association, and a generation later with the charismatic leadership of Malcolm X. Harlem has continued to serve as the location for the development of a series of influential African-American political figures, including Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Percy Sutton, Congressman Charles Rangel, and David Dinkins, New York City’s first African-American mayor.

For over a century, Columbia University has played a central role in the scholarly interpretation of the black experience. Columbia anthropologist Franz Boas was largely responsible for establishing critical studies that drew distinctions between race and culture. In the 1920s, Boas, Carter G. Woodson, and Elsie Clews Parsons worked together to train students in African-American Studies. Together, they transformed the social sciences and humanities. Zora Neale Hurston, Melville Herskovits, and Otto Klineberg are perhaps the best-known participants of the program, but others like Eugene L. King were integral to the university community and the Harlem Renaissance. In the 1960s, influential black scholars, such as anthropologist Elliot Skinner and political scientist Charles V. Hamilton, came to Columbia and helped to train a new generation of scholars interested in Africa, the Caribbean and black America.

The Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University was established in July, 1993 by Dr. Manning Marable with the unique mission of achieving academic excellence and social responsibility in black studies. The Institute is an academic resource center that has built a new intellectual tradition upon the rich legacy of Harlem’s history. Since its inception, the Institute has significantly expanded the array of contemporary scholarship and interpretations of the diasporic black experience. Through its events and special projects, the Institute has emerged as one of the nation’s premier intellectual centers of advanced scholarship devoted to the study of the black experience.

Institute Events

“Conversations” Lecture Series

The Institute sponsors a monthly lecture series entitled “Conversations.” The series brings together members of the community and scholars for a dialogue about the historical and contemporary social, political and economic experiences of blacks in the U.S. as well as the larger African diaspora.

Past Conversations lecturers have included:

2005 Martha Biondi, Northwestern University; Orlando Lima, Ceo-Limachips Press & Consulting, NY; Dr. Paulette Young, Columbia University; Anne C. Bailey Spelman College; Mignon R. Moore, Columbia University; Dana Ain-Davis, Visiting Scholar- Columbia University; Jonathan Kidd; Visiting Scholar-Columbia University ; Sonia Winton, Visiting Research Scholar-IRAAS

2004 David Goldberg , Independent Scholar; Errol Lewis-New York Daily News; Jonathan Kahn, Columbia University; Mia Bay- Rutgers University;; Salim Washington, Visiting Scholar-Columbia University; Coco Fusco, Columbia University; Donna Daniels, Visiting Scholar-Columbia University; Asale Angel-Ajani', New York University

2003 David Dent, New York University; Arlene Davila, New York University; Frank Andre Guridy, Visiting Scholar in Residence - Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture; Kyra Gaunt, New York University; Adam Green; Donald Robotham, The Graduate Center/City University of New York; T.K. Hunter, Visiting Scholar - Columbia University; and the IRAAS Graduate Student MA Thesis Presentations: Candice Carto, Douglas Ficek, Tikia Hamilton, LeShane Lindsey, Christine Pinnock, Russell Rickford

2002 Regina Austin, Columbia University-University of Pennsylvania; LaShonda Barnett, Columbia University/William& Mary College; Kristal Brent-Zook, Columbia University; Veronique Helenon, Columbia University; Jeff Kerr-Ritchie, Schomburg Center Scholar-in-Residence/Columbia University; Lisa Maya-Knauer, Hartwick College; Nicholas McBride, University of Massachusetts; Cheryl Mwarira, Hofstra University/Columbia University; Pedro Perez-Sarduy, Poet/Novelist/Journalist; Tricia Rose, New York University; Geoff Ward, Vera Institute of Justice/Columbia University; Christopher Winks, New York University/Columbia University

2001 Valerie Boyd, Zora Neale Hurston Biographer; Richard Brooks, Northwestern School of Law; Michelle Fine, City University of New York Graduate Center; Louis Massiah, Scribe Video Center & W.E.B. Du Bois biographer; Pedro Noguerra, Harvard University; Jacqueline Stewart, University of Chicago; Alford Young, University of Michigan; Tukufi Zuberi, University of Pennsylvania

2000 Johanna Fernandez, Columbia University; Kai Fikentscher, Columbia University; Thomas Glave, State University of New York-Binghamton; Lynette Jackson, Barnard College; Terry Williams, New School University

1999 Marla Frederick, Duke University; Zachary Morgan, Brown University; Samuel Roberts, Princeton University; Paulette Young, Columbia University

Zora Neale Hurston Lecture

In honor and recognition of the many contributions of African-American women to our history, the Institute sponsors an annual Zora Neale Hurston Lecture. Zora Neale Hurston, born in 1891, is one of the greatest writers and anthropologists of the 20th century. She was a unique scientist and artist who could write about the most ordinary things and make them infinitely vibrant. Of writing, she noted: *Anyway, the force from somewhere in Space which commands you to write in the first place, gives you no choice. You take up the pen when you are told, and write what is commanded. There is no agony like bearing an untold story inside you.*

Some of Hurston's works include: Jonah's Gourd Vine (1934), Mules and Men (1935), Tell My Horse (1937), Their Eyes Were Watching God (1937), Moses, Man of the Mountain (1939), Dust Tracks on a Road (1942), Seraph on the Suwanee (1948), Sanctified Church (1948), and Mule Bone (a play written with Langston Hughes—1996). Zora Neale Hurston died in 1960 but her works remain in the consciousness of world literature.

Past Speakers have included

- 2005** Professor Mindy Fullilove, Clinical Psychiatry, Columbia University and Columbia Presbyterian Hospital
- 2004** Professor Tricia Rose, American Studies, University of California-Santa Cruz
- 2003** Professor Cathy Cohen, Director of the Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture, University of Chicago
- 2002** Professor Mira Nair, Filmmaker, Columbia University School of the Arts
- 2001** Professor Valerie Smith, Director of African-American Studies, Princeton University

Public Dialogues

A Public Dialogue with Actor, Delroy Lindo & Film Critic Armond White, December 10, 2004

Tony Award-nominated **DelRoy Lindo** discusses his experiences in the film industry and his African Diaspora Film Festival premiere of his new film "Wondrous Oblivion" with Armond White & the audience. Lindo an NAACP Image Award-nominee for his portrayal of numbers boss West Indian Archie in Spike Lee's *Malcolm X* (1992) captured the attention of moviegoer. His cinematic works include an NAACP Image Award-nominated performance in "Soul of the Game," (1996), "Ransom" (1996), "The Cider House Rules" (1999), as well as "Gone in Sixty Seconds" (2000) "Romeo Must Die" (2000), "Heist" (2001), (2005)"Lackawanna Blues" and his upcoming film projects include "Exonerated" and "Domino." **Armond White** is a film critic for *the New York Press*. He is author of The Resistance: Ten Years of Pop Culture That Shook the World (Overlook Press) and Rebel for the Hell of It: The Art-Life of Tupac Shakur (Thunder's Mouth Press). He has been Chairman of the New York Film Critics Circle, was arts editor of *The City Sun* and has won the Deems Taylor-ASCAP Award for music criticism. White curates a yearly music video program at the Film Society of Lincoln Center. He has taught at Long Island University, Columbia and Fordham universities. His articles have been published world wide in *The New York Times*, *The Nation* and *Sight and Sound*.

Public Dialogues (cont-)

“New Challenges and Directions for Black America: Public Dialogue with Hugh Price” November 19, 2002

Dr. Manning Marable talks with Hugh Price, former Executive Director of the National Urban League. Price has dedicated his career to social advocacy. He was vice president of the Rockefeller Foundation, where he was responsible for managing domestic initiatives in education for at-risk youth.

He has also served on the editorial board of *The New York Times* and at WNET/Thirteen as senior vice president. The National Urban League is a leading social service and civil rights organization dedicated to helping African Americans achieve social and economic equality.

“Manning Marable & Russell Simmons: A Public Dialogue,” January 28, 2002

Dr. Manning Marable interviewed Mr. Russell Simmons, founder of several successful business organizations including Def Jam Records, Phat Farm clothing, Rush advertising agency, and Rush Philanthropic. Mr. Russell Simmons has had a profound impact on American culture and business. He is a master visionary who has long shaped the cutting edge of hip hop – America’s most compelling cultural explosion of the latter 20th century.

In this public dialogue, Manning Marable and Russell Simmons engaged in a candid conversation about Russell Simmons’s autobiography, Life and Def: Sex, Drugs, Money & God; the state of hip hop culture, and our nation’s current sociopolitical climate.

Academic Conferences

Each year, the Institute sponsors and co-sponsors conferences that bring together members of the community, leading scholars, practitioners and policymakers for a critical exchange of ideas that explore a wide range of issues that have shaped and continue to define the black experience.

The Institute has sponsored conferences such as:

“Criminally Unjust: Young People & the Crisis of Mass Incarceration” April 23rd, 2005

This conference brought together young people, students, teachers, parents, activists, scholars, and artists to address the effects of America’s crisis of mass incarceration on young people. The wide range of scholars, activists and practitioners lent their voices and scholarship to a rich dialogue with young people about the state of the growing crisis criminal injustice in NYC and around the country.

To educate, provide awareness, develop meaningful strategies, and ultimately bring together the participants & attendees to initiate systemic change in the U.S. criminal justice system. The conference addressed mass youth incarceration through a variety of forums, panel discussions, workshops and performances. The following topics were addressed: The Crisis of Juvenile Injustice; The Public Education System and the Crisis of Mass Incarceration; Youth Organizing Against Criminal Injustice; The Criminalization of Youth in Popular Culture; Teaching Young People About Mass Incarceration; New Directions in the Struggle for True Juvenile Justice. Some participating panelists were Ras Baraka; Yvonne Bynoe; Rosa Clemente; Bakari Kitwan; Manning Marable; NYC Councilman Bill Perkins; Kate Rhee; Dr. Geoff Ward

Academic Conferences (cont-)

“The Black Presence in the Ivy League: Where Do We Go From Here?” October 22-23, 2004

In light of the 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education and the recent challenges to Affirmative Action, the Institute for Research in African American Studies is hosted *Black Faculty in the Ivy League: Where Do We Go From Here?*, an interdisciplinary conference. African-Americans began to enter Ivy League Institutions in larger numbers following the social unrest of the 1960's and the assassination of Martin Luther King. This conference was not be a self-congratulatory occasion; instead it provided us the opportunity to provide reflective, critical and forward thinking analysis. Some of the panels included: *The Black Presence in the Ivy League: A Historical Perspective; Perspectives of Architectural Education and Architecture within Historic Black Colleges Universities and Ivy League Institutions; Recruitment, Retention and the Pipeline; Diversity in Higher Education: A Roundtable; Guaranteeing Student Success.*

Plenary session: *Where Do We Go From Here? Moving Blackwards into the Future* included panelists **Mary Frances Berry** – University of Pennsylvania; **Kimberle Crenshaw** – Columbia University; **Lewis Gordon** – Temple University and **Manning Marable** – Columbia University. Moderator: **Robin D.G. Kelley** –Columbia University

“Africana Studies Against Criminal Injustice: Research-Education-Action” April 11-12, 2003

The conference brings together scholars, activists, practitioners, government, and community representatives together to discuss the issues of crime and justice in the Black experience, focusing on how crime, criminal justice policy, and racialized injustices impact African-American and Black Diaspora individuals, families, and communities. More than an academic exercise, this conference is part of an effort to address the crisis of mass criminalization and incarceration confronting African-American and other Black Diaspora communities.

There is urgent need to develop new insight and strategies to address forms of social and political exclusion generated, reproduced and/or intensified by racialized criminal justice policies and procedures. It is also important that we understand these processes in relation to the historical and global development of the “color line” of social control. Africana Studies is poised to make valuable contributions to a growing body of work on the collateral consequences racialized mass incarceration, informing new strategies of critical research, education, and collective action.

“Rethinking Black Studies: Beyond the Boundaries, Making New Connections” October 2-3, 2003

The Institute for Research in African-American Studies will celebrate its Tenth anniversary with a two-day conference. The event was co-convened by Dr. Farah Jasmine Griffin and Dr. Manning Marable. Participants in the conference included former and current faculty and doctoral students who were or continue to be affiliated with the Institute. The conference discussed the future of black studies at Columbia University. Conference panel topics included: “The Future in the Past: Studying the Black Experience at Columbia,” “From Campus to Community: IRAAS Conferences, 1993-2003,” “The State of African-American Studies, Beyond Boundaries: Comparative,” “Cross Cultural and Transnational Perspectives on Race, Gender, and Class and Sexuality,” “IRAAS Publications and Research Projects, New Directions in African-American Studies,” “The Future of African-American Studies at Columbia University.” Invited panelists included: Lee Baker, Michael Blakely, Marcellus Blount, Michael Eric Dyson, Eric Foner, Joy James, Winston James, Alvin Pouissant and Curtis Stokes.

Academic Conferences (cont-)

“Forty Acres & a Mule: The Case for Black Reparation, A Research Conference” November 7-8, 2002.

Co-sponsored with the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture panelists included: Adjoa Aiyetoro, N’COBRA; Abdul Karim Bangura, American University; Billie Ann Davis, Race & Reconciliation Project; William Darity, Jr., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Deadria Farmer-Paellmann, Attorney; Dania Frank, Ph. D. Harvard University; Farah J. Griffin, Columbia University; Allen Guelzo, Eastern University; M. Njeri Jackson, Virginia Commonwealth University; Kirk Lyons, New York Theological Seminary; Manning Marable, Columbia University; Irma McClaurin, Fisk University; Theresa Mohamed, Onodaga Community College; Calvin C. Moore, Bowdoin College; Frederick Newsome, M.D., Harlem Hospital Center; Charles J. Ogletree, Jr.; Rodney Roberts, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Tukufu Zuberi, University of Pennsylvania.

“Many Thousand Gone: African Diaspora Poets Read for Peace” December 12, 2002

Participating poets included: Malaika Adero, Elizabeth Alexander, Ruth-Miriam Garnett, Gary Johnston, Sylvie Kande, Dawad Philip, Peggy Ann Tartt, and Mervyn Taylor.

“Race & Globalization” October 31 – November 1, 2001

There are numerous meanings of globalization and each focuses our understanding of identity and social life by highlighting different dimensions of global interchange. With the flow of images, symbols, goods, and people crossing state and other borders, conventional ways of marking subjectivity and belonging are being rewritten. This conference critically explored how the reconfiguration of territories is leading to new conceptualizations of personal and collective identities. Panelists included: *Amrita Basu*, Amherst College; *Faye Harrison*, University of Tennessee; *Manning Marable*, Columbia University; *Don Robotham*, CUNY Graduate Center; *Leith Mullings*, CUNY Graduate Center; *Sudhir Venkatesh*, Columbia University; *Sandhya Shukla*, Columbia University; *Percy Hintzen*, University of California at Berkeley; *Howard Winant*, Temple University; *Rob Smith*, Barnard College; *Sundiata Cha-Jua*, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; *Carolle Charles*, Baruch College; *Gina Perez*, Hunter College; *Nicholas De Genova*, Columbia University; *Arvind Rajagopal*, New York University; *Avelardo Valdez*, University of Texas at San Antonio; *Lewis Gordon*, Brown University; and *Angela Gilliam*, The Evergreen State College.

“For Love of Abbey: A Symposium” December 6 – 7, 2001

The career of Ms. Abbey Lincoln, one of our most important living artists, has yielded a tremendous body of work documenting not only her individual growth and development but also the changing nature of contemporary music, politics and cultural representation. As evidenced in her artistic expressions, Ms. Lincoln recognizes the enormous complexity of the history and culture she bears and has refused the limits of easy categorization, forms, and disciplines. This symposium reflected a semester long series of events devoted to exploring and celebrating Ms. Lincoln’s cultural contributions. Panelists for the symposium included: *Manning Marable*, Columbia University; *Robert O’Meally*, Columbia University; *Ingrid Monson*, Harvard University; *Eric Porter*, University of California at Santa Cruz; *Steven Gregory*, Columbia University; *LaShonda K. Barnett*, College of William & Mary; *Salim Washington*, Brooklyn College; *Krin Gabbard*, SUNY Stony Brook; *Fred Moten*, New York University; *Farah Griffin*, Columbia University; and *Chuck Stewart*, photographer.

Co-Sponsored Conferences & Events

Conference:

“Romare Bearden Symposium- Bearden & the Other Arts & Disciplines”

Saturday, October 15- 16 2004 This academic symposium is a centerpiece of the Romare Bearden Homecoming Celebration, which honors Bearden’s legacy of artistic and intellectual achievements with engaging visual art, music, dance and education programs for all ages. October 15th panel discussion with Dr. Billy Taylor, Brent Hayes Edwards, Farah Jasmine Griffin, C. Daniel Dawson, Richard Powell, and Lisa Gail-Collins Keynote by Dr. Toni Morrison.

In co-sponsorship with Center for Jazz Studies at Columbia University –

Public Lecture:

Professor Piero Gleijeses, presented “The Cuban Revolution, U.S. Foreign Policy and African Liberation: The Untold Story”, November 3, 2004

Piero Gleijeses is professor of American Foreign Policy at the School of Advanced International Studies at the Johns Hopkins University. Author of “Conflicting Missions: Havana, Washington & Africa, 1959-1976” and “Shattered Hope: The Guatemalan Revolution & the United States, 1944-1954.” He is the recipient of the 2003 Robert H. Ferrell Prize from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations & the 2003 Medal of Friendship from the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba.

In co-sponsorship with the Institute of African Studies and the Institute for Latin American Studies both at Columbia University

Educational Forum & Panel Discussion:

“Malcolm X Life after Death: The Legacy Endures – An Educational Forum & Radio Broadcast on WBAI-FM February 21, 2005

Marking the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Malcolm X/El Hajj Malik El Shabazz in upper Manhattan's Audubon Ballroom; the enduring legacy and significance of Malcolm X, even 40 years after his death, continues to inspire and educate millions of people worldwide. American Studies at Columbia University are proud to sponsor an educational forum, "Malcolm X: Life After Death -- The Legacy Endures" marking the occasion, and also announcing their involvement in helping to establish a permanent memorial to Malcolm X at the Audubon Ballroom, located at Broadway and W. 165 St. in Washington Heights. The program will be chaired by historian Manning Marable, founding director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies. Marable is currently writing a comprehensive biography of Malcolm X.

The panel of presenters includes Farah Jasmine Griffin, current director of the Institute for Research in African American Studies; Robin D.G. Kelly, professor of anthropology at Columbia; noted poet Sonia Sanchez, Distinguished Visiting Professor in African-American Studies at Columbia; spoken word artist Bryonn Bain; and Imam Talib Abdur Rashid, director of the Islamic Brotherhood of Harlem.

In co-sponsorship with The Center for Contemporary Black History, Black Students Organization at Columbia University and the Association of Black & Latino Graduate Students at Columbia University

Co-Sponsored Conferences & Events (cont-)

Conference:

“International Civil Society, World Governance & the State” March 30-April 1 2005

Our conference promises to build bridges and to foster integrative analyses, by bringing advocates or critics of civil society or world governance together with scholars engaged in research on these topics. It will draw speakers from all perspectives, establish connections between scholarship and world developments, across the disciplines and the North-South divide. We are inviting academics as well as people from outside the university, including literary and cultural workers, those engaged with policy, and activists more directly involved in the field. Questions of gender will be involved at all levels.

Keynote Panel featuring Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Dr. Toni Morrison in dialogue, with Professors Mary Robinson, Amartya Sen, Joseph Stiglitz, and Dr. Shashi Tharoor as discussants.

In Co-sponsorship with Center for Comparative Literature & Society, Institute for Research on Women & Gender Studies, The Center for Ethnicity and Race, The Institute for Social & Economic Research and Policy and the Ford Foundation

Short Film, Lecture and performance:

"Soul on Soul: The Legacy of Mary Lou Williams" April 21st, 2005

Mary Lou Williams was the most important jazz musician to emerge in the first three decades of jazz. William's multidimensional talents as an instrumentalist, arranger and composer made her a star. Her longevity as a topflight jazz artist was extended because of her penchant for adapting to and influencing stylistic changes in the music. Miss Williams made New York City her home at a creative height for jazz (1941-1948). She recorded *The Zodiac Suite* in 1945 and had her own weekly radio show called "The Mary Lou Williams Piano Workshop". She was also a guest artist at Carnegie Hall, which marked the first meeting of Jazz and the Symphony. By 1955 after a tour in Europe for two years Ms. Williams returned to the states and soon converted to Catholicism. It is through this time that Mary Lou Williams retired and devoted much of her time to religious activities and charitable efforts. Yet, her devotion to music did not change. In 1962 she broke new ground for her composition and recording of "Hymn in Honor of Saint Martin de Porres". She was the first Jazz composer to write for sacred purposes.

Lecture by Dr. Tammy Kernodle-Miami University, Ohio; performance with acclaimed Jazz pianist, Bertha Hope and film short – "Soul on Soul-The Story on Mary Lou Williams" courtesy of Paradox Films; City Lore- Soul on Soul Project in celebration of the renowned jazz pianist, composer, arranger, educator and humanitarian.

In co-sponsorship with the Center for Jazz Studies at Columbia University

Academic Centers

The Institute directly contributed to the development of or is affiliated with some of Columbia's academic centers:

The Center for Contemporary Black History directed by Manning Marable, Founding Director of IRAAS, which engages students in conducting research related to contemporary African-American studies and trains the students on the multimedia dissemination of the research.

The Center for Contemporary Black History (CCBH) promotes the critical study of black history, culture, and politics within urban America since 1900, with an emphasis on understanding the central role of black intellectuals and public leaders in the making of modern society. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, the Center utilizes the educational and research tools of both traditional disciplines and new media technology to organize and enrich the study of contemporary black American history. CCBH currently houses three initiatives: (1) the Malcolm X Project, which is currently developing a Multimedia Study Environment version of *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*; (2) the Africana Criminal Justice Project, examining crime and justice in black intellectual and social history, and addressing the impact of mass incarceration on black civic capacity and participation; and (3) *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society*, published quarterly with Taylor and Francis Publishers.

The Center for Urban Research and Policy, directed by Sudhir Venkatesh. The mission of the Center for Urban Research and Policy is to: create a more informal national dialogue about the challenges and successes of our nation's urban policies and programs; advance research and curriculum on pressing urban issues; prepare and train students to play a greater role in improving cities; promote the participation of urban residents, particularly women and minorities, in policy determination at the local, state, and national levels; provide public officials and community leaders with new tools for management and policy analysis.

The Center for Jazz Studies, directed by Robert O'Meally, which regularly brings prominent performing artists and scholars of jazz to Columbia's campus. The mission of Columbia University's Center for Jazz Studies is to include jazz as a part of Columbia University's core curriculum for the twenty-first century. In keeping with the great mission of Columbia University as a whole, the Center for Jazz Studies is committed to offering students a "broad range of innovative multidisciplinary programs, and through the earnest exploration of difficult questions," to provide "students from the United States and around the world with the depth of understanding and intellectual flexibility they need to respond to the challenges in the years to come."* Our mission, simply put, is to assert that to be an educated person in the new millennium means understanding jazz music as part of a complete arts and sciences curriculum, as indispensable equipment for living in our time

The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, interim director Robin D. G. Kelley. The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race provides a venue for collaborative and comparative projects on the subjects of ethnicity and race. It reaches: (1) across disciplinary boundaries and promotes interdisciplinary research and teaching; (2) across social formations and works at the junctures and articulations of race, gender, sexuality, and class; and (3) across national borders and compares racial and social formations transnationally and globally. The Center refuses a singular focus on ethnicity or race, and sees racializations as simultaneous, complicitous, and sometimes contrary constructions of gender, sexuality, class, and nation.

In truth, the Center's intellectual mission is to expose the fraudulent natures of the ideas and practices of race and to ascertain the articulations of race with gender, sexuality, class, and nation. Columbia's ethnic studies programs -- African-American, Asian American, and Latina/o studies -- constitute the Center and collaborate to sponsor jointly listed courses and sponsored activities.

IRAAS Sponsored Special Projects

Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society

The Institute for Research in African–American Studies has always produced scholarly publications focusing on the various theoretical debates, politics, culture and recent history of black America, Africa and the black diaspora. In January 1999, the Institute launched Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society to replace Race and Reason which was the Institute’s first journal, published annually for four years beginning in the fall semester of 1994.

Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society, is a quarterly interdisciplinary journal dedicated to the mapping of the intellectual contours of the modern black experience. In the spirit of W.E.B. Du Bois, Souls (whose title was inspired by Du Bois’s classic 1903 analysis of black American culture and politics, The Souls of Black Folk) presents creative and challenging interpretations of the major themes and issues currently being discussed by scholars of black America. Souls brings together intellectuals from both traditional academe and the black community to engage in a critical dialogue about contemporary problems and challenges facing black America today. It has quickly become one of the leading scholarly publications of African-American Studies. The editorial board and contributing editors of Souls feature a number of the most prominent public intellectuals, scholars and writers in the United States, including Cornel West, Michelle Wallace, Robin D.G. Kelley, Michael Eric Dyson, Amiri Baraka, Joy James, Patricia Williams, Angela Y. Davis, and Johnnetta Cole.

Recent themes explored in Souls are: “Black Feminism,” “Theorizing Black Studies,” “Race and Revolution in Cuba,” “Race-ing Justice: Black America vs. the Prison Industrial Complex”; and “The New South Africa.” Graduate students receive complimentary copies of each issue; and have the opportunity to work directly with the editors of Souls, both as interns and volunteers, reviewing manuscripts, editing, and writing.

Malcolm X Project (MXP)

When Malcolm was assassinated at the Audubon Ballroom in Manhattan, at the age of thirty-nine on February 21, 1965, he had been a prominent public figure for less than a decade. He had formerly been the national spokesperson of the Nation of Islam, a conservative Muslim sect that had little impact on mainstream American life. His new protest group based in Harlem, the Organization of Afro-American Unity, existed barely a year and had only several hundred members and supporters at the time of his death. For these reasons, many prominent black leaders felt that Malcolm X’s influence would quickly and quietly disappear. Only days after the assassination, Bayard Rustin, the architect of the 1963 March on Washington, D.C., wrote: "Now that he is dead, we must resist the temptation to idealize Malcolm X, to elevate charisma to greatness. Malcolm X is not a hero of the movement; he is a tragic victim of the ghetto.... White America, not the Negro people, will determine Malcolm’s role in history." Political journalist Henry Lee Moon, editor of the NAACP’s publication *The Crisis*, declared in April 1965, that "Malcolm was an anachronism... vivid and articulate but, nevertheless, divorced from the mainstream of Negro American thought."

A generation after his assassination, Malcolm X’s image and historical reputation have been profoundly transformed. Most historians of the black experience now rank Malcolm X among the half dozen most influential personalities in African-American history, an elite group that includes Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois, Marcus Garvey, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. But unlike these other historical personalities, Malcolm X alone has become a genuine cultural icon to millions of young African Americans since the early 1990s. By the late 1990s, almost three million copies of The Autobiography of Malcolm X had been sold worldwide. In 1999, *Time* magazine selected The Autobiography as one of the top ten nonfiction works of the twentieth century, placing it with classics such as The Diary of Anne Frank.

IRAAS Sponsored Special Projects (Cont-)

The Institute, under the direction of Dr. Manning Marable and with the guidance of members of the Shabazz family, launched the Malcolm X Project which comprehensively explores the dynamics of the political legacy and relevancy of Malcolm X to contemporary struggles, and principally includes the development of a multimedia version of The Autobiography of Malcolm X, providing interactive electronic visual presentations of Malcolm X's writings, historical documents and speeches, media & film clippings of Malcolm X, and interviews with historians of the period; a Malcolm X – Dr. Betty Shabazz Oral History Project, which would record interviews with their surviving siblings and close relatives, prominent civil rights, labor, business and community leaders from Harlem and throughout black America; and the Malcolm X Papers Project that would compile and organize the full range of Malcolm X's correspondence, speeches, interviews, unpublished writings, and related materials, which would be published in several edited volumes, and a comprehensive biography of the subject.

The Institute's Malcolm X Project provides graduate students with the extraordinary opportunity to work directly with archival documents and rare manuscripts that are significant in African-American history. Students involved in the project can learn how to interpret, edit and write annotations about historical materials; acquire experience conducting interviews as part of the oral history research; and how to use digital media to disseminate research.

Africana Criminal Justice Project (ACJP)

Africana Studies has fostered innovative approaches to research and education on African-American and black diaspora experiences, especially in the analysis of community processes, social problems, and social change. Africana Studies is also distinguished by its forthright commitment to the pursuit of social justice. Though not often recognized for these contributions, a long line of scholars, public intellectuals, and leaders working in this tradition have contributed to our body of knowledge on crime, punishment, and resistance to racialized criminal injustice. This work forms a foundation for Africana Studies in criminology and criminal justice, and resource base for research, education, and organizing initiatives. With support from the *Criminal Justice Initiative of the Open Society Institute*, the Africana Criminal Justice Project was established to further develop and stimulate engagement with this intellectual tradition, identify its implications for an "Africana Theory of Justice," and support initiatives seeking to address a response to the contemporary crisis of racialized criminal injustice, especially through the promotion of black civic capacity and leadership in communities impacted by mass criminalization and incarceration.

These objectives inform the research, education, and organizing initiatives which comprise the Africana Criminal Justice Project. Few institutional contexts evidence a greater need for innovative research, education, and collective action than the U.S. criminal justice system. Our national response to poverty, unemployment, drug abuse, crime and other social problems has grown increasingly hostile and exclusionary, amounting to an oppressive and exclusionary campaign of mass criminalization and incarceration. The adverse consequences of this response are exacerbated by corresponding patterns including divestment in public education to fund the prison industrial complex, disregard for the rehabilitation and re-entry of young and adult prisoners, and the disfranchisement of citizens who are incarcerated, or who have completed criminal sentences. While criminal sanctions and policies are directed at individuals, they have an aggregate social consequence, an impact highly concentrated in the segregated, poor, and otherwise marginalized black and Hispanic communities from which prisoners disproportionately come, and to which they eventually return. The Africana Criminal Justice Project seeks to address these and other issues through a series of inter-related research, education, and organizing initiatives

Institute for Research in African-American Studies (IRAAS)
Core and Affiliate Faculty Listing

Columbia University's faculty who publish and teach in the disciplines related to African-American, African and Caribbean studies are truly extraordinary. They provide our M.A. students with a unique intellectual resource to engage the study of the black experience. **Professor Mignon R. Moore, Director of Undergraduate Studies, serves as the principal adviser to all majors & concentrators.**

Marcellus Blount, English and Comparative Literature;

George C. Bond, Anthropology -Teachers College, Columbia University

Ann Douglas, English and Comparative Literature

Maguette Camara, Dance

Barbara Fields, History

Eric Foner, History

Coco Fusco, School of Visual Arts

****Steven Gregory**, Anthropology and African-American Studies, **-Director of Graduate Studies**

****Farah J. Griffin**, English and Comparative Literature and African-American Studies-**IRAAS Director**

Carl Hart, Psychology-Morningside campus/ Clinical Psychiatry-Health Science campus

****Robin D.G. Kelley**, Anthropology and African-American Studies

Ousmane Kane, International and Public Affairs

Rashid Khalidi, History Dept.-Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies and Literature

George E. Lewis, Music Dept.-Edwin H. Case Professor of Music

Mahmood Mamdani, Anthropology, Political Science, and Director, Institute for African Studies

Gregory Mann, History

****Manning Marable**, International & Public Affairs, Political Science and History-Director, Center for Contemporary Black History; **IRAAS Founding Director**

****Mignon R. Moore**, Sociology and African-American Studies, **Director of Undergraduate Studies**

Robert O'Meally, English and Comparative Literature, and Director, Center for Jazz Studies

****Samuel Roberts**, History, and Research Fellow in African-American Studies **(on academic leave Fall 2005-Spring 2006)**

****David Scott**, Anthropology and Research Fellow in African-American Studies

***Sudhir Venkatesh**, Sociology and African-American Studies

****African-American Studies core faculty who have a direct administrative or research appointment with IRAAS.**

IRAAS Core Faculty Biographies

Steven Gregory – Director of Graduate Studies; Associate Professor of Anthropology and African-American Studies; and Chair of the African-American Studies M.A. Program. Ph.D., New School for Social Research. Professor Gregory's research interests include race and gender studies, urban ethnography, political economy and globalization. His work has appeared in the American Ethnologist, Cultural Anthropology, Public Culture and Social Text. He is the author of Black Corona (1998), Santeria: A Study in Cultural Resistance (1999) and the co-editor of Race (1994).
Office: 757 Schermerhorn Extension; Phone: 212-854-4552; Email: sg820@columbia.edu.

Farah Jasmine Griffin – Director, IRAAS; Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African-American Studies. Ph.D., Yale University. Professor Griffin's most recent books include: Beloved Sisters and Loving Friends: Letters from Rebecca Primus of Royal Oak, MD and Addie Brown of Hartford, CT. 1854-1868, edited volume (1999), Stranger in the Village: Two Centuries of African American Travel Writing, edited with Cheryl Fish (1998) and Who Set You Flowin'? (1995). Professor Griffin recently authored If You Can't Be Free Be A Mystery: In Search of Billie Holiday.
Office: 758 Schermerhorn Extension; Phone: 212.854.6411; Email: fjg8@columbia.edu.

Robin D.G. Kelley - Professor of Anthropology and African-American Studies; Ph.D. University of California-Los Angeles. Professor Kelley's recent publications include: A Disjointed Search for the Will to Live (2003); Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination (2002); White Architects of Black Education: Ideology and Power in America, 1865-1954 (2001); Ellen Gallagher: Preserve (2001); Discourse on Colonialism (2000); Yo Mama's Disfunktional (1998); Though Justice Sleeps: African Americans, 1880-1900, Vol. 6 (1997); Into the Fire: African Americans since 1970, Vol. 10 (1996); Race Rebels: Culture, Politics, and the Black Working Class (1996); Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists During the Great Depression (1990)
Office: 867 Schermerhorn Extension; Phone: 212.854.6761; Email rdk21@columbia.edu

Manning Marable Director, CCBH; Founding Director, IRAAS Professor of International & Public Affairs, Political Science and History; Ph.D., University of Maryland, College Park. Professor Marable is a prominent lecturer and interpreter of the politics and history of race in America. His most recent publications include The Great Wells of Democracy: The Meaning of Race in American Life (New York: Basic, 2003), Freedom (2002); Black Leadership (1998), Black Liberation in Conservative America (1997), Dispatches from the Ebony Tower edited volume (2000) and Let Nobody Turn Us Around, edited with Leith Mullings (2000).
Office: 1313 International Affairs Building; Phone: 212.854.7002; Email: mm247@columbia.edu.

Mignon R. Moore – Director of Graduate Studies, Assistant Professor of Sociology and African-American Studies; Ph.D., University of Chicago. Research interests in the sociology of the family, gender, race and sexuality, urban poverty. Her work has appeared in such places as the American Journal of Sociology, the Journal of Marriage and the Family, and Racial and Ethnic Studies. Professor Moore is completing a book titled Invisible Families of New York: Gay Identities, Relationships and Motherhood among Black Women. *Office: 320M Fayerweather Hall; Phone: 212.854.4358; Email: mm1664@columbia.edu.*

IRAAS Core Faculty Biographies (cont-)

Samuel K. Roberts –, Assistant Professor of History and African-American Studies; Ph.D., Princeton University. His publications include *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, forthcoming Summer 2005. “‘Where Our Melanotic Citizens Predominate’: Locating African Americans and Finding the ‘Lung Block’ in Tuberculosis Research in Baltimore, Maryland, 1880-1920,” in Paola Boi, ed., *CrossRoutes, the Meanings of "Race" for the 21st Century*, Münster (Germany) and Piscataway, NJ 2003; “Introduction” to Carter G. Woodson, *A Century of Negro Migration*, 2002, Dover Publications; “‘Where Our Melanotic Citizens Predominate’: Locating African Americans and Finding the ‘Lung Block’ in Tuberculosis Research in Baltimore, Maryland, 1880-1920,” (forthcoming, in publication of selected papers from the annual meeting of the Collegium for African-American Research, Cagliari, Sardinia (Italy), 21-25 March 2001); “Whither Goes the March?: Response to Adetokunbo Adelkan on the Million Man March, and Christian Appropriation and Transformation,” *Koinonia: The Princeton Theological Seminary Graduate Forum* 12:1 (Spring 2000) **(on academic leave Fall 2005-Spring 2006)**

Office: 322 Fayerweather Hall; Phone: 212.854.6637; E-mail: skr2001@columbia.edu.

David Scott - Associate Professor of Anthropology and Research Fellow of African-American Studies. Ph.D., New School for Social Research. Professor Scott’s interests include the problem of the postcolonial politics, diaspora, and cultural history. The Caribbean and South Asia are his historical and geographical areas of preoccupation. He is the author of *Formations of Ritual* (Minnesota 1994), and *Refashioning Futures* (Princeton 1999), and he is the editor of the journal of Caribbean criticism, *Small Axe*.

Office: 452 Schermerhorn Extension; Phone: 22.854.4552; Email: das133@columbia.edu.

Sudhir Venkatesh - Assistant Professor of Sociology and African-American Studies, Director of Research, and Coordinator for the **Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program**. Ph.D., University of Chicago. Professor Venkatesh’s research and ethnographic work is based in American cities and focuses on issues related to race, poverty, youth and underground economies in Chicago and Harlem. His publications have appeared in the *American Journal of Sociology*, *SIGNS*, and the *American Prospect*. He authored, *American Project: The Rise and Fall of a Modern Ghetto* (2000) Dr. Venkatesh is also the Director of The Center for Urban Research and Policy.

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**INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES
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Director, Undergraduate Program in African-American Studies

Professor Mignon R. Moore

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Professor Sudhir Venkatesh

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First Year–Sophomore Academic Advising Class Center

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Junior–Senior Academic Advising Center (Schapiro)

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THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

African-American Studies is an interdisciplinary curriculum that examines the experiences of people of African descent in the United States, as well as in sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean. At Columbia University, the Institute offers more than sixty courses in ten different academic departments and programs each year. The academic program for undergraduate students in Columbia College includes a major, a concentration, and a premedical concentration in African-American Studies. All undergraduate students are advised by Professor Mignon Moore, Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Students should schedule an appointment with Prof. Moore to discuss their programs of study.

All students are responsible for providing their permanent and local mailing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses to Ms. Sharon Harris, the Institute's administrative assistant

The Major

A minimum of 36 points is required for the completion of the major. The number of points allocated per course is indicated in the Columbia University Bulletin. The core requirements are:

- (a) *African-American Studies C1001 – "Introduction to African-American Studies"*
- (b) *African-American Studies C3936 - "Colloquium: Black Intellectuals"*
- (c) *African-American Studies C3930 - "Topics in the Black Experience"*

Students must also take a minimum of four courses in a "governed electives" category from at least three different departments, which provides an interdisciplinary background in the field of African-American Studies. One "governed electives" must be a literature course; one must be a history course; and one must focus primarily on cultures and societies located in Africa or within the African Diaspora outside of the United States, such as the Caribbean or Latin America. In addition, five courses must be taken within a designated area of study, preferably within a distinct discipline. Students may also select their five courses within a particular geographical area or region. One of these five courses must be a seminar.

The Concentration

A minimum of 24 points is required for the concentration. All students must take *African-American Studies C1001 - "Introduction to African-American Studies"*. Within the "governed electives" category, a minimum of 9 points must be taken with one course in the humanities; one in the social sciences; and one that focuses primarily on non-U.S. cultures and societies within the African Diaspora or Africa. Additionally, a minimum of 12 points must be acquired from courses within a designated area of study, such as a specific discipline or a regional area. One of the courses taken to fulfill either the governed electives category or the designated area of study must be either *African-American Studies C3936 - "Colloquium: Black Intellectuals"*; or *African-American Studies C3930 - "Topics in the Black Experience."*

The Pre-medicine Concentration in African-American Studies

A minimum of 15 points is required including *African-American Studies C1001 - "Introduction to African-American Studies"*, and at least 12 points from the "governed electives" category. Of these, one course must be taken in the humanities; one must be in the social sciences; and one must focus on non-U.S. cultures and societies within the African Diaspora. One course must be either *African-American Studies C3936—"Colloquium: Black Intellectuals"*; or *African-American Studies C3930 —"Topics in the Black Experience."*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

The requirements for departmental honors in African-American Studies:

- 1) All requirements for major must be completed by graduation date;
- 2) Minimum grade point average of 3.5 in the major; and
- 3) Completion of Senior Thesis - due to the Undergraduate Chair, Professor Mignon Moore, on the first Monday in April.

A successful thesis for departmental honors must be selected as the most outstanding paper of all papers reviewed by the Thesis Committee in a particular year. The Thesis Committee is comprised of department faculty and led by the undergraduate chair. Manuscript should be of superior quality, clearly demonstrating originality and excellent scholarship, as determined by the committee.

The Senior Thesis should be written under the supervision of at least one faculty member. All students interested in writing a thesis should notify the Undergraduate Chair and submit the name of the faculty advisor ideally **by November 1st**, but certainly **no later than the start of the spring semester**.

All African-American Studies majors are strongly encouraged to write a Senior Thesis, even if they are ineligible or do not wish to be considered for Departmental Honors.

COURSES

(MC - Indicates courses that may be taken toward fulfillment of the Major Cultures requirement.)

C1001 Introduction to African-American Studies 3 pts - An interdisciplinary overview of the major themes and topics in the African-American experience since the Civil War. (MC)

C3200 African-American and African Thought 3 pts - An analysis of the political thought of selected black theorists (e.g., Edward Blyden, Frantz Fanon, Patricia Hill Collins, Cheikh Anta Diop, Kwame Appiah, and C. L. R. James) (MC)

C3300 African Civilizations in the Americas 3 pts - An introduction to the peoples and cultures of the African Diaspora. Comparative treatment of African culture in the New World and its impact on Western civilization (MC)

C3500 African-American Intellectual History: 20th Century 3 pts. - Examines the classic texts of the African-American intellectual heritage from the 20th century.

C3930 Seminar: Topics In The Black Experience 4 pts - An examination of selected topics that are central to understanding the black world, especially African Americans (e.g., black women in the U.S., African-American leadership, socialism and the black tradition, and race and political philosophy) (MC)

C3936 Colloquium: Black Intellectuals 4pts - Prerequisite: completion of courses equal to a least 9 points in the field of African-American Studies and the instructor's permission. An examination of the critical ideas and theories by African-American, Caribbean, and African scholars and writers (MC)

C3997–C3998 Independent study 1-4 pts - Prerequisites: completion of AFAS C1001 and courses equal to at least 9 additional points in African-American Studies: and departmental permission.

Other Approved Courses for The African-American Studies Major

Anthropology

V3038 Ethnicity and Race
W4225 Black Movements in the U.S.

Economics

W4228 Urban Economics
W4321 Economic Development
W4438 Economics of Race in the U.S.

English and Comparative Literature

W3237 Race and Racism
W3401 African-American Literature, II
W3661 Black Women in American Culture: Women Writers of African Diaspora (seminar)
W3740 Studies in African-American Literature (seminar)
ENHS W3911 Representations: The Politics and Poetics of "American" Identity (seminar)
W4621 African-American Texts: Early American
BC3140 Exploration of Black Literature, 1760-1890
BC3144 Minority Women Writers BC3998 Representations of Black Womanhood

Film

W3505 African-American Film
BC3047 Africa in Cinema

History

AHHS C1020 African Civilizations
W3003 African-American History Until 1865
W3004 African-American History Since 1865
W3005 Main Currents in African History
W3121 U.S. in the Era of Slavery and Jacksonian Democracy
W3122 America in the Era of Civil War and Reconstruction
W3643 Slavery and Slave Resistance in the Americas
W3644 Ethnicity and Race
W3648 History of the South
W3740 Telling about the South (seminar)
W3877 Politics, Culture, and the New Negro Movement 1900–1930
W3894 Race and Color in the Americas (seminar)
W3916 Colonialism through African Eyes (seminar)
W3924 Jim Crow South 1890–1970 (seminar)
W3929 Islam in Africa
W3931 Slavery and Race Relations
W3932 Segregation and Racism
C3948–C3949 Senior Thesis Seminar in United States history
W3971 Harlem: A Social and Cultural History, 1890–1965

Other Approved Courses for The African-American Studies Major

History (cont-)

W4778 Caribbean History: From Emancipation to Independence
W4905 South Africa in the 19th and 20th Centuries, Focus on Natal
W4907 History of East Africa, 1850–Present
W4909 Ecology, Gender, and History in Africa Since 1890
BC1030 History of Southern Africa PAFS
BC 3001 Medicine and Power in African History
BC3434 Memory, Orality, and African History
BC3447 Gender and Black Nationalism

Latino Studies

W3015 Latinos in Black and White: Race, Ethnicity and Identity in the Americas

Music

V2016 Jazz
V2018 The Brazilian Sound
V2020 Salsa, Soca, Reggae: Popular Musics of the Caribbean
V2050 Music 2000: Issues of Race and Ethnicity in New York City Musics
V3170 Studying Contemporary Popular Music
G4423 Music in West Africa

Political Science

W3245 Race and Ethnicity in American Politics
V3313 American Urban Politics
W3502 Political Change in the Third World
W4226 American Politics and Social Welfare Policy
W4405 Politics of South Africa
W4496 Contemporary African Politics

Religion

V3755 African-American Religion
V3803 Black Women's Religious Experiences

Sociology

V3200 Gender, Class, and Race
W3208 Sociology of Race
V3213 Culture in Contemporary America
V3247 The Immigrant Experience Old and New
V3900 Blacks and Jews: A Sociological Perspective
W3945 Seminar on Inequality and Public Policy
W3990 Research Seminar in Race and Ethnicity
G4047 Urban Poverty and Social Policy

Women and Gender Studies

V3121 Black Women in America
BC3507 Unheard Voices: African Women's Literature (seminar)