

## SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

**Summer 2012**

**Discipline:** Anthropology

**ANTH 4590:** African Diaspora

**Division:** Upper Division

**Faculty Name:** Carla Guerrón Montero

**Pre-requisites:** Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The concept “African diaspora” refers to the groupings of diverse peoples and cultures that have retained a consciousness of shared origins and are identified as part of a cultural and social continuum with other communities of African origin, including those that remained on the African continent. This concept allows us to speak of continuities and connections within the African world experience, without compromising the historical specificity of each culture under its rubric. This course addresses these historical, geographical, and cultural specificities, with particular emphasis on the anthropological approach to the African diaspora. Taking advantage of the countries visited in this voyage, we will explore the complex historical and cultural connections between the Mediterranean region and the African diaspora, particularly current migration patterns in the region. In addition, we will explore topics such as slavery and responses to slavery (rebellions and revolutions); cultural manifestations in the diaspora; and the “big thinkers” of the African Diaspora.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Students will understand the complex relationship of cultures within the diaspora with emphasis on the Mediterranean
2. Students will demonstrate their ability to write sustained, coherent, analytical, and persuasive arguments, incorporating library research.
3. Students will demonstrate their ability to make intellectual connections between the material covered in class and their experiences throughout the voyage, as well as with their own ethnic/racial background.

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

**AUTHOR:** Fanon, Franz

**TITLE:** Black Skin, White Masks

**PUBLISHER:** Grove Press

**ISBN #:** 978-0802143006

**DATE/EDITION:** 2008 (revised edition)

**COST:** \$11.20

**AUTHOR:** Dubois, Lauren

**TITLE:** Avengers of the New World: The Story of the Haitian Revolution

**PUBLISHER:** Belknap Press of Harvard University Press

**ISBN #:** 978-0674018266

DATE/EDITION: 2004  
COST: \$15.40

AUTHOR: Allison, Robert J.  
TITLE: The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano Written by Himself  
PUBLISHER: Bedford Books of St. Martin's Press  
ISBN #: 978-0312442033  
DATE/EDITION: 2006 (second edition)  
COST: \$13.86

AUTHOR: Manning, Patrick  
TITLE: African Diaspora: A History Through Culture  
PUBLISHER: Columbia University Press  
ISBN #: 978-0231144711  
DATE/EDITION: 2010  
COST: \$22.04

## TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

### PART I. What is the African Diaspora?

#### C-1

- Introduction of professor and students
- Understanding the African Diaspora
- Video: *Sankofa*
- Readings:
  - Manning, Chapters 1 and 2

#### C-2 and C-3

- Anthropology, History, and Geography of the African Diaspora
- Video: *Black Atlantic: On the Route of the Orixas*
- Readings:
  - Manning, Chapters 3 and 4

#### C-4 and C-5

- African Migrants in Europe: The Spanish and Italian Experience (Part I)
- Readings:
  - Salih, Ruba. "Shifting Boundaries of Self and Other: Moroccan Migrant Women in Italy" [on reserve]
  - Grassilli, Mariagiulia. "Festes, ferias and hip-hop : images of multiculturalism in Barcelona" [on reserve]

### PART II. Creating the African Diaspora

#### C-6 and C7

- The Frazer-Herskovitz Debate

- Slavery and the African diaspora
- The Post-Independence period
- Video: *Olandab Equiano* and *La Ultima Cena*
- Readings:
  - Allison's *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olandab Equiano* (all)

### C-8

- Exam No. 1

### C-9

- African Migrants in Europe: The Italian Experience (Part II)
- Readings:
  - Cole, Jeffrey. "Working-class Reactions to the New Immigration in Palermo (Italy)" [on reserve]
  - Hoskyns, Catherine and Marina Orsini-Jones. "Immigrant Women in Italy: Perspectives from Bologna and Brussels [on reserve]"

### C-10 and C-11

- Rebellions, revolts and revolutions
- The Haitian Revolution (1791-1804)
- Leading of class discussion
- Video: *Quilombo*
- Readings:
  - Dubois' *Avengers of the New World*, pp. 1-131

### C-12

- African Migrants in Europe: The Greek and Turkish Experience
- Readings:
  - Lazaridis, Gabriella and Maria Koumandraki. "Deconstructing naturalism : the racialisation of ethnic minorities in Greece" [on reserve]
  - Karabat, Ayse. "Turks with African ancestors want their existence to be felt" [on reserve]

### C-13

- The Haitian Revolution (1791-1804)
- Leading of class discussion
- Readings:
  - Dubois' *Avengers of the New World*, pp. 132-306

### C-14

- The "Big Thinkers" of the African Diaspora
- Video: *Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask*
- Readings:
  - Fanon's *Black Skin, White Masks* (all)
  - Manning, Chapter 5
- (Field lab assignment due)

### **PART III. Discourses and Expressions in the African Diaspora**

#### **C-15 and C-16**

- Art and Religion in the African Diaspora
- Leading of class discussion
- Excerpts from the video: *Legacy of the Spirits*
- Readings:
  - Davis, Susan Schaefer. “Growing up in Morocco” [on reserve]
  - El Hamel, Chouki. “Constructing a Diasporic Identity: Tracing the Origins of the Gnawa Spiritual Group in Morocco” [University access]

#### **C-17 and C-18**

- Music in the African Diaspora
- Leading of class discussion
- Case study: Panama
- Excerpts from videos: *Sworn to the Drum* and *Rebel Music*
- Readings:
  - Aadnani, Rachid. “Beyond Raï: North African Protest Music and Poetry” [on reserve]
  - Author(s): Rachid Aadnani
  - Guerrón Montero, Carla. “‘Can’t Beat me Own Drum in me Own Native Land:’ Calypso Music and Tourism in the Panamanian Atlantic Coast” [on reserve]
  - Reviewed work(s): Source: *World Literature Today*, Vol. 80, No. 4 (Jul. - Aug., 2006), pp. 21-26

#### **C-19**

- The African Experience in Portugal
- Readings:
  - Esteves, Alina and Maria José Caldeira. “Reinventing cultures : the contribution of the Cape Verdean community to the cultural dynamics of Lisbon” [on reserve]
  - Morén-Alegret, Ricard. “African immigrants and their organisations in Lisbon : between social and systemic influence” [on reserve]
  - Andrade-Watkins, Claire. “Portuguese African Cinema: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives: 1969 to 1993” [on reserve]

### **PART IV. Remembering the Motherland—Conclusions**

#### **C-20**

- Exam No. 2

#### **C-21**

- Group discussion of Recovering Roots Project
- (Recovering Roots Project due)

#### **C-22 and C-23**

- The Future of the African Diaspora
- Readings:

- Manning, Chapter 6 and Epilogue

**C-24 FINAL EXAM**

## FIELD LAB

A portion of your grade will come from your field lab. You will participate in **this** field lab, specifically designed for this course. Please write a five-page-report of your field lab, based on a template provided by the professor during the first week of classes:

### **THEATRE OF THE OPPRESSED (09:00-18:00 Wednesday July 25, 2012)**

The experience of the African diaspora throughout the world is an experience of oppression and creativity. The Theatre of the Oppressed provides an outstanding understanding of contexts of oppression for the African diaspora and beyond.

The Theatre for Social Change, also called Theatre of the Oppressed, was created by Augusto Boal in 1971, in Brazil. Since then it has become a worldwide endeavor used to create dialogue for liberation and conflict resolution, examine community issues, incite political activism, and explore psychological problems. Originally created to give the common man a voice, the theater is now widely used by teachers, artists, social workers and psychotherapists and can be found in the streets, schools, churches, trade-unions, theatres, prisons, etc. In the words of Augusto Boal, "Change is a game we all play and learn together to reinforce the concept that we all have the right to exist with dignity. Its purpose is to help humanize humanity." This participatory workshop, led by Jale Karabekir (Artistic Director of Tiyatro Boyali Kus), will immerse you in theatre for social techniques, such as forum theatre, image theatre, and rainbow of desire. The workshop will also include a discussion with the workshop facilitator regarding Theatre of the Oppressed issues in the host country.

In addition, we will visit the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Istanbul, where we will learn about the situation of African refugee migrants in Turkey and the Mediterranean.

## METHODS OF EVALUATION

**GRADES.** You will have the opportunity to earn up to **1000 points** during the term. Final grades will be determined by the number of points earned as follows:

900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
<600	F

- A. **100 points** for attendance and participation. Students are expected to come to each class prepared, and to have read the materials assigned prior to coming to class. Students should also make every effort to arrive to classes **on time**. Students are responsible for all readings, whether or not they have been fully discussed in class. In addition, students are encouraged to bring questions about the readings to class. Discussion and comments are strongly encouraged. In addition, students will engage in in-class writing exercises several times throughout the semester. These exercises will be counted as part of the participation grade and **cannot be taken at a later date** or substituted for any other exercise or activity.

- B. **150 points** for leading of class discussion. Students will be responsible for leading one class discussion during the course. During the first day of classes, students will form groups and will choose a date to lead. On that date, students will be responsible for providing a very short summary of the readings, and for bringing questions and/or activities to foster discussion in the class. A grade will be assigned based on the quality of the summary and the questions/activities developed by the students.
- C. **180 points** for two exams. These exams will be short answer and short essay. They will cover material from lectures, discussions, student presentations, and readings. They are not cumulative. Study guides will be given 2 classes before each exam. These exams will take place on days **C-8** and **C-20**.
- D. **200 points** from field-lab assignment. Information about the field assignments is provided above. Field lab assignment is due on day **C-14**.
- E. **140 points** for Recovering Roots Project. For this project, students will do the following:
- 1) Describe the conditions under which your ancestors migrated to the US
  - 2) Discuss how your ancestors in the US handled issues such as political or legal status, economic options, education and work opportunities, and religious freedom
  - 3) Discuss how your ancestors negotiated the color and racial hierarchies of the United States upon their arrival and beyond, and how this affected your social, economic, political, and cultural development as a family (over generations)
  - 4) Compare (using class materials and focusing on the three main aspects outlined above):
    - For students of African Descent: compare your African family diasporan experience to one non-African diaspora group in the Mediterranean
    - For non-African students: compare your family diasporan experience in the US to that of the African diaspora in the Mediterranean

Students will write a four-page paper on their diasporic affiliations (word-processed, double-spaced, minimum 10 point font size, maximum 12 point font size, Times New Roman or equivalent font, one-inch margins). In addition, students will briefly present their findings to the class. The recovering roots project is due on **C-21**. Discussion will take place on that day.

- F. **200 points** for final exam.

## **RESERVE LIBRARY LIST**

AUTHOR: Gomez, Michael

TITLE: Reversing Sail: A History of the African Diaspora: New Approaches to African History

PUBLISHER: Cambridge University Press

ISBN #:

DATE/EDITION: 2004

COST:

## **ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS**

AUTHOR: Andrade-Watkins, Claire

ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Portuguese African Cinema: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives: 1969 to 1993

JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Research in African Literatures

VOLUME: 26(3)

DATE: 1995

PAGES:134-150

AUTHOR: Cole, Jeffrey

ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Working-class Reactions to the New Immigration in Palermo (Italy)

JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Critique of Anthropology

VOLUME: 16

DATE: 1996

PAGES: 199-220

AUTHOR: Di Maio, Alessandra

ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Black Italia: Contemporary Migrant Writers from Africa

JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Black Europe and the African Diaspora

VOLUME: Illinois University Press

DATE: 2009

PAGES: 119-143

AUTHOR: El Hamel, Chouki

ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Constructing a Diasporic Identity: Tracing the Origins of the Gnawa Spiritual Group in Morocco

JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The Journal of African History

VOLUME: 49(2)

DATE: 2008

PAGES: 241-260

AUTHOR: Esteves, Alina and Maria José Caldeira

ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Reinventing cultures: the contribution of the Cape Verdean community to the cultural dynamics of Lisbon

JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The Mediterranean Passage: Migration and New Cultural Encounters in Southern Europe, by Russell King

VOLUME:

DATE: 2001

PAGES:

AUTHOR: Grassilli, Mariagiulia

ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Festes, ferias and hip-hop: images of multiculturalism in Barcelona



JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The Mediterranean Passage: Migration and New Cultural Encounters in Southern Europe, by Russell King  
VOLUME:  
DATE: 2001  
PAGES:

AUTHOR: Guerrón Montero, Carla  
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: 'Can't Beat me Own Drum in me Own Native Land:' Calypso Music and Tourism in the Panamanian Atlantic Coast  
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Anthropological Quarterly  
VOLUME: 79(4)  
DATE: 2006  
PAGES: 633-663

AUTHOR: Hoskyns, Catherine and Marina Orsini-Jones  
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Immigrant Women in Italy: Perspectives from Bologna and Brussels  
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The European Journal of Women's Studies  
VOLUME: 2  
DATE: 1995  
PAGES: 51-76

AUTHOR: Hunwick, J. O.  
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: African Slaves in the Mediterranean World: A Neglected Aspect of the African Diaspora  
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Global Dimensions of the African Diaspora  
VOLUME: Howard University Press, second edition  
DATE: 1993  
PAGES: 289-324

AUTHOR: Karabat, Ayse  
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Turks with African ancestors want their existence to be felt  
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Sunday's Zaman  
VOLUME:  
DATE: 2008  
PAGES:

AUTHOR: Lazaridis, Gabriella and Maria Koumandraki  
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Deconstructing naturalism: the racialisation of ethnic minorities in Greece  
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The Mediterranean Passage: Migration and New Cultural Encounters in Southern Europe, by Russell King  
VOLUME:  
DATE: 2001  
PAGES:

AUTHOR: Morén-Alegret, Ricard  
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: African immigrants and their organisations in Lisbon: between

social and systemic influence

JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The Mediterranean Passage: Migration and New Cultural Encounters in Southern Europe, by Russell King

VOLUME:

DATE: 2001

PAGES:

AUTHOR: Salih, Ruba

ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Shifting Boundaries of Self and Other: Moroccan Migrant Women in Italy

JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The European Journal of Women's Studies

VOLUME: 7

DATE: 2000

PAGES: 321-335