

BLACK AMERICAN STUDIES

Faculty

Brown, Joseph A., *Director* and Professor, Ph.D., Yale University, 1984; 1997.

Foster, Kevin M., Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Texas Austin, 2001; 2001.

Gadzekpo, Leo K., Assistant Professor, Ph.D., American Cultural Studies, Bowling Green University, 1997, 1998.

Smoot, Pamela A., Assistant Professor, Ph.D., American History, Michigan State University, 1998, 1999.

There is no approved graduate program in Black American Studies. Four-hundred-level courses may be taken for graduate credit unless otherwise indicated in the course description.

Courses (BAS)

410H-3 African Expressive Culture. (Same as Anthropology 410H) This course examines aspects of African expressive culture including the visual arts, music, dance, orature, cinema, drama, and ceremony from an anthropological perspective. Particular attention is given to analysis of African expressive culture in social context and the role of the arts in the practice of politics, religion, medicine, and other aspects of African life. Many of the expressive genres examined deal with historical representation and political resistance. Therefore this course provides insights into African history and politics through the creative representations of African artists.

465-3 Governments and Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa. An examination of the impact of western colonial rule on the societies and politics of Africa, the method by which these colonial areas became sovereign states in the post-World War II era, the role of domestic political institutions, African political thought and behavior, and the development of foreign policies regarding relations with other African states, continental and international organizations, and non-African states.

472-3 Psychology of Race and Racism. (Same as Psychology 470) A review of the history and evolution of the construct of race as a psychological phenomenon. The persuasiveness of race in every sphere of life will be studied, from a multidisciplinary perspective.

475-3 Education and Black America. (Same as Anthropology 410b) This course uses the practical tools and theoretical perspectives of anthropology to explore issues and challenges in contemporary education, especially as they relate to African American families and their children. Topics include: the formal processes of schooling and their impact upon student learning; schools as agents of cultural change, transmission or stasis; the impact of student culture upon formal learning; and the varied academic performance of different racial, ethnic and gender groups operating within shared schooling contexts.

495-3 to 9 African Cultural Continuities: Study Abroad. Study abroad 4-6 week program is designed to introduce similarities in culture (food, dance, music, family traditions, religion) of people in Ghana and in the cultures of people in the African diaspora. Class begins on the SIUC campus and will re-locate to Elmina and Cape Coast, Ghana, during the first year of a three-year sequence. Other years will locate in areas of the West Indies, Caribbean & Central America. May be taken for graduate credit. Prerequisite: six hours of Black American Studies or African Studies courses and permission of instructor.

499-3 to 9 (3 per topic) Special Topics in Black American Studies. Topics vary and are announced in advance. May be repeated as the topic varies. Prerequisite: 109 or permission of instructor.