

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

MCS 32 - The African American

3 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: Reading Level IV; English Level IV

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

51 hours Lecture

The course describes the cultural history of African Americans from the post Civil War period to the present. The African American experience is described and conceptualized as a function of cultural history and the adaptations made by African Americans in more contemporary contexts. The culmination of the comprehensive and detailed history highlights the challenges and creative triumphs of African Americans as indicated through action in social, political, economic, religious, and artistic endeavors. Finally, this discussion demonstrates how African Americans have through the years become a distinctive and vital part of the fabric of American culture.

II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. describe the historical background of African Americans as a contextual frame for understanding contemporary conditions.
- B. explain why social stratification or social class, which has become such a conspicuous part of American society, constantly involves the dynamics of ethnic life, both internally and externally, thereby requiring an inter-play of class and ethnic considerations.
- C. evaluate the uniqueness of African American culture, by examining contributions to American society as a whole.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Historical Background	6.00
2. Sociocultural Themes (family and community structures)	9.00
3. Political Economy	6.00
4. Education and Cultural/Linguistic Issues	9.00
5. Civil Rights and Integration	9.00
6. African American Contributions (law, politics, art, etc.)	6.00
7. Contemporary Issues	6.00
Total Hours	51.00

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- C. Discussion
- D. Multimedia Presentations

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Examinations
- B. Student presentations (oral and written). Each student will write a minimum of 2,500 words as part of his/her class requirement which will be graded for grammar and content.

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
- B. Writing Assignments
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Harris, E. Lynn. Mama Dearest. Karen Hunter Publishing, 2009.
- B. Massey, Brandan. Cornered. Kensington Books, 2009.
- C. Silver, Murray, M. Daddy King and Me. Continental Shelf Publishing, 2008.
- D. Walker, Alice. The Color Purple: Tenth Anniversary Edition. 10th Edition. Alice Walker, 1992.

Created/Revised by: Michael Findlay

Date: 09/20/2010