

Note: This is a slightly revised version of the syllabus I used in the Spring 2021 semester at Sacramento State University. While that class was taught online because of the pandemic, this syllabus reflects an in-person version of the course.

ETHN 70: Introduction to Pan-African Studies
Spring 2021 | MWF 12:00-12:50pm | Location

Instructor:

Jasmine H. Wade

Department: Ethnic Studies

Office Hours: Mondays 11:00am-11:50am (via Zoom)

Email: j.h.wade@csus.edu

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the field of Pan-African Studies. We will approach the field by looking at the ideas and experiences of Black people throughout the Western hemisphere. Since this course is meant to give a broad overview of the intellectual history of the field, we will become familiar with some of the “big” names and “big” concepts. Because Pan-African Studies is interdisciplinary, we will look at history, sociology, gender studies, philosophy, literature, and other fields. By the end of this course, you will be able to articulate those big ideas; engage with lesser known histories, names, and concepts; and make connections between course materials and your own life.

Required Materials:

These required books are available through the bookstore, Amazon, and other places where you'd buy academic books.

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi

ISBN: 978-1-101-94713-5

Publisher: YNG Books, Inc

Course Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, you will be able to...

- Articulate major concepts in Pan-African Studies.
- Understand and apply different methods to explore the major concepts of the course.
- Make connections between Pan-African Studies' ideas and your lives.
- Know where to go to learn more about Black lives and experiences throughout the hemisphere.
- Demonstrate growth in your writing, your public speaking, and your reading skills.

Course Format and Requirements:

Assignments for the Semester:

- Weekly responses to course materials
- Bi-weekly skills assignments
- Short Paper
- Final project

Student Evaluation:

Your grade will be based on the following:

20%	Weekly responses to course materials
20%	Skills assignments
25%	Short paper
25%	Final project
10%	Participation, quizzes

Assignments are not limited to the list above.

Final grades are based on the following:

97-100 = A+	87-89 = B+	77-79 = C+	67-69 = D+
93-96 = A	83-86 = B	73-76 = C	63-66 = D
90-92 = A-	80-82 = B-	70-72 = C-	60-62 = D-

Late Policy:

You can submit the midterm or final paper late with a penalty of 5% off each day the paper is late.

For the weekly assignments, you have access to two “Oops Cards.” If you miss a deadline for a weekly assignment, you can still turn it in within 48 hours. To use an Oops Card, submit the assignment regularly and then paste the following message in the comments on Canvas:

Dear Professor Wade,

Oops.

Signed,

[Your Name]

Once you have used up your oops cards, there are no opportunities to turn in the weekly assignments late.

Attendance Policy:

While I will take attendance each class for my own records, attendance is not mandatory. However, you are still responsible for the information provided in class, and it will be very difficult to pass this class if you do not regularly attend.

Academic Integrity:

I expect to hear your thoughts in your words on all assignments for this course. If you copy and paste language from a website, you *must* put it in quotation marks and cite it. You plagiarize any time you take the ideas of another person without giving them credit. Plagiarism usually looks one of two ways: 1) Taking any amount of an outside source (paragraph, sentence, phrase) and using it without a citation. 2) Having another person write all or part of your paper or editing your paper to the point that it is no longer your work. I take plagiarism very seriously. If you are caught plagiarizing, you will receive a zero for that assignment and may face disciplinary action.

Technology

All assignments should be typed and uploaded to Canvas. If you will not have regular access to a computer, word processing software, or Internet throughout the semester, please reach out. While laptops are permitted in class, distracting your peers is not. If you choose to bring a laptop, you must remain on task.

Your Learning Needs

I am committed to helping you be successful in this course. For disability (visible/invisible, physical/psychological/cognitive, etc.) and learning-related needs, please communicate with me during the first week of class in person or via email. But, of course, our bodies and circumstances are constantly changing. If things come up later in the semester, let me know as early as possible. You do not need to share your personal/medical information; we just need to have a conversation about what accommodations you need to be a full participant in the course.

Email

I will do my best to respond to emails within 24-36 hours during the week. I do not respond to emails on the weekends, but if you need to get in touch with me with an urgent matter, put URGENT in the subject line.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Note: This seminar calendar is subject to revisions and sudden changes depending on a variety of factors. I will always notify you in class and via email or Canvas Announcement of changes to the schedule.

	DAY	DATE	TOPICS
WEEK 1 Foundations	M		Syllabus and Introductions
	W		Read: "Of Our Spiritual Strivings" from <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i> by W.E.B. DuBois
	F		Read: "The Lived Experience of the Black Man" from <i>Black Skin, White Masks</i> by Frantz Fanon Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials Submit Skills Assignment: Fill out Student Introduction Survey
WEEK 2 THEORY & CANADA	M		Read: "The Race for Theory" by Barbara Christian and "Education of the Storyteller" by Toni Cade Bambara
	W		Read: <i>The Hanging of Angelique</i> by Afua Cooper Introduction, Ch 1, and Ch 3
	F		Read: <i>North of the Color Line</i> by Sarah-Jane Mathieu Introduction and Ch 2 Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials
WEEK 3 CANADA	M		Read: "All Roads Led to Montreal: Black Power, The Caribbean, and the Black Radical Tradition" by David Austin
	W		Watch: Ninth Floor (on YouTube and Amazon Prime)
	F		Read: "Reconstructing Manhood; or, The Drag of Black Masculinity" by Rinaldo Walcott Submit Skills Assignment: How to Watch a Documentary Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials
WEEK 4 CANADA	M		Read: <i>Policing Black Lives</i> Intro and Ch. 2 by Robyn Maynard
	W		Read: <i>Until We Are Free</i> by Rodney Diverlus, Sandy Hudson, and Syrus Marcus Ware Chapters 1, 6, and 10
	F		Watch: Robin Kelley and Fred Moten in Conversation at University of

			Toronto https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fP-2F9MXjRE&t=1885s Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials
WEEK 5 United States	M		Read: <i>Women, Race, and Class</i> by Angela Davis (Chapters 1 and 5)
	W		Read: <i>Black on Both Sides</i> (Introduction and Chapter 2)
	F		Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials
WEEK 6 United States	M		Read: <i>The Warmth of Other Suns</i> by Isabel Wilkerson Part I
	W		Read: “Controlling Images” in <i>Black Feminist Thought</i> by Patricia Hill Collins
	F		Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials
WEEK 7 United States	M		Read: <i>From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation</i> by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor Chapter 4 Read: “ What Did Cedric Robinson Mean by Racial Capitalism? ” by Robin Kelley
	W		Watch: I Am Not Your Negro (Available on Canvas, Kanopy, Netflix, Amazon, Hulu)
	F		Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials Submit Skills Assignment: Active Reading Strategies
WEEK 8 Caribbean	M		Read: <i>The Black Jacobins</i> by CLR James Prologue and Chapter IV
	W		Read: “The Idea of 1804” by Nick Nesbitt
	F		Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials
WEEK 9 Caribbean	M		Read: <i>The Caribbean: A History of the Region and Its Peoples</i> Chapter 6
	W		Read: <i>Britain’s Black Debt</i> Ch 3-4
	F		Read: <i>Britain’s Black Debt</i> Ch 12, 14 Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials Submit Skills Assignment: Mock Study Guide
	M		Read: “A Report from the Bahamas” by June Jordan

WEEK 10 Caribbean	W		Watch: Queen Nanny: Legendary Maroon Chieftainess - Portrait of a Freedom Fighter (on Canvas)
	F		Submit Weekly Response to Course Materials
WEEK 11 Homegoing	M		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "Effia" and "Esi"
	W		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "Quey" and "Ness"
	F		Short Paper Due
WEEK 12 Homegoing	M		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "Abena" and "H"
	W		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "Akua" and "Willie"
	F		Submit a weekly response to <i>Homegoing</i> Submit Skills Assignment: How to Read Fiction Like a Professor
WEEK 13 Homegoing	M		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "James" and "Kojo"
	W		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "Abena" and "H"
	F		Submit a weekly response to <i>Homegoing</i>
WEEK 14 Homegoing	M		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "Akua" and "Willie"
	W		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "Yaw" and "Sonny"
	F		Submit a weekly response to <i>Homegoing</i> Submit Skills Assignment: Historical Research Practice
WEEK 15 Homegoing	M		Read: These chapters in <i>Homegoing</i> - "Marjorie" and "Marcus"
	W		No readings - Review in class
	F		Submit weekly response to <i>Homegoing</i>

Final Project Due **Date TBA**