



African American History: 176

Reconstruction, Renaissance, and Resistance

Instructor: Mr. Hons,
Cleveland Heights High School

<http://honsaahistory.clevelandhistory.org/>

This KAP/CCP African American History course will focus primarily on the changing status of Black Americans from the period of Reconstruction after the Civil War, up through the blossoming of northern urban Black culture at the start of the 20th century, and concluding with the various examples of Black militancy displayed in the Civil Rights and Black Power eras. We will look at this metamorphosis through a variety of lenses, using both primary and secondary sources along the way.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- Daily attendance
- Read regularly as assigned and with a critical eye
- Participate in class discussions
- Take writing assignments seriously and complete them rigorously
- Be respectful at all times

REQUIRED READINGS

- *Textbook: Darlene Clark Hine, *The African American Odyssey*, vol. II
- Articles and handouts as given
- *Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson* by Geoffrey C. Ward
- *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson
- *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* by Malcolm X and Alex Haley
- *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement* by Barbara Ransby

GRADING

- Class participation – 30%
 - Participate in class discussions, make relevant and thoughtful points, respond to other's observations, pay attention, limit distractions during class
- Book analysis essays – 70% (as assigned)
 - We read a total of three full length books over the course of the semester in this class. At the end of each book you will be asked to write a critical analysis of the text's strengths and weakness. A more specific outline for this will be provided.
- Research paper – Counts as the semester final (so 20% of overall semester grade)
 - You will be asked to do a five page research paper by the end of the semester. A list of topics will be offered but students may present ideas to the instructor, as well. You must cite your sources using the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

Course Schedule

- *Week 1* - Introduction and overview: From Africa to the Americas
- *Week 2* - Reconstruction, Jim Crow, and a post-slavery America
- *Week 3* - Gullah culture
- *Week 4* - Reconstruction
- *Week 5* - Ward (Ch. 1 – 3)
- *Week 6* - Ward (Ch. 4 – 6)
- *Week 7* - Ward (Ch. 7 and wrap up)
- *Week 8* - Wilkerson (Part 1 – 2)
Wilkerson (Part 3)
- *Week 9* - Wilkerson (Part 4)
- *Week 10* - Wilkerson (Part 5) – We will not be reading every chapter in this book!
- *Week 11* - Ransby (Ch. 1 – 3)
- *Week 12* – Ransby (Ch. 4 – 6)
- *Week 13* – Ransby (Ch. 7 – 9)
- *Week 14* - Ransby (Ch. 10 – 12)
- *Week 15* - X (Ch. 1 – 6)
- *Week 16* - X (Ch. 7 – 13)
- *Week 17* - X (Ch. 14 – 19)
- *Week 18* - Wrap-up and conclusion
 - Turn in Research Paper

A few key things to remember....

1. This is a college level course. You receive high school *and* college credit for completing it.
2. Please arrive to class on time, prepared to begin at the bell.
3. Discussion and participation is critical to the success of this class.
4. Plan ahead to read ahead. Take notes about the reading. Be ready to discuss the readings.
5. Copying another's work is unacceptable. Letting another copy your work is unacceptable.
6. The more you attend, participate, and pay attention in class the higher your grade will be!

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____