

AFROAM 691C
Thursdays 2:30-5:00 p.m.

JOHN BRACEY
FALL 2006

HISTORIOGRAPHICAL METHODS IN AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES [Revised]

I. PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

This course will introduce you to some of the basics of what it means to read, think, and write as a historian. We will explore what historians do and why?; several current debates; the state of the field. We also will learn to locate and use the resources of both the Du Bois Library as well as the more important national repositories.

II. REQUIREMENTS

A. READ the following:

Martha Howell & Walter Prevenier, *From Reliable Sources: An Introduction to Historical Methods*. Cornell University Press, 2001.

Paul A. Cimballa & Robert F. Himmelberg (eds.), *Historians and Race: Autobiography and the Writing of History*. Indiana Univ. Press, 1996.

Douglas R. Egerton, *He Shall Go Out Free: the Lives of Denmark Vesey*. Madison House, 1999.

"The Making of a Slave Conspiracy," *William & Mary Quarterly*, Oct. 2001, Jan. 2002.

Tiffany Patterson, *Zora Neale Hurston and a History of Southern Life*. Temple Univ. Press, 2005.

Judith Stein, *Running Steel, Running America*. University of N.C. Press, 1998.

Herbert Hill, "Race and the Steelworkers Union: White Privilege and Black Struggle" *New Politics* Vol. VIII, No. 4 (New Series), Winter, 2002.

Wilson J. Moses, *Afrotopia*. Cambridge Univ. Press, 1998.

Nick Salvatone, *We All Got History: the Memory Books of Amos Webber*. Random House/Times Books, 1996.

*Books are available at the Food For Thought Bookstore.

RECOMMENDED: either expensive or hard to find, but of career-long value:

1. August Meier & Elliot Rudwick, *BLACK HISTORY AND THE HISTORICAL PROFESSION, 1915-1980*, 1986.
2. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham et al (eds), *THE HARVARD GUIDE TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY*, 2001.
3. James Danky (ed), *AFRICAN-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS*, 1998.
4. Richard Newman (ed), *BLACK ACCESS: A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AFRO-AMERICAN BIBLIOGRAPHIES*, 1984.
5. Debra Newman Ham (ed), *THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN MOSAIC: A LIBRARY OF CONGRESS RESOURCE GUIDE FOR THE STUDY OF BLACK HISTORY AND CULTURE*, 1993.
6. Debra Newman Ham (ed), *BLACK HISTORY: A GUIDE TO CIVILIAN RECORDS IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES*, 1984.
7. Elinor Des Verney Sinnette et al (eds), *BLACK BIBLIOGRAPHIES AND COLLECTORS: PRESERVERS OF BLACK HISTORY*, 1990.
8. Clarence E. Walker, *WE CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN: AN ARGUMENT ABOUT AFROCENTRISM*. Oxford University Press, 2001.

B. WRITE

1. Reading papers (two pages each) for each of the assigned readings.
2. Proposal for research project that includes an evaluation of the relevance of the types of sources encountered in the Library. (15-20 pages)

III. SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Sept. 7th: Introduction to course: procedures and requirements
Sept. 14th: FROM RELIABLE SOURCES
Sept. 21st: HE SHALL GO OUT FREE
Sept. 28th: ASALH Atlanta, GA.
Oct. 5th: ZORA NEALE HURSTON
Oct. 12th: RUNNING STEEL, RUNNING AMERICA
Oct. 19th: AFROTOPIA
Oct. 26th: Film on New Orleans with discussion by Kalamu ya Salaam
Nov. 2nd: LIBRARY: ELECTRONIC SOURCES—Isabel Espinal, Rm #1620, 5-6817
Nov. 9th: LIBRARY: DU BOIS COLLECTION—Danielle Kovacs, 25th floor, 5-2784
Nov. 16th: LIBRARY: GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS—Leonard Adams, 5-2765
Nov. 30th: LIBRARY: PERIODICALS—Elizabeth Campbell, 5-6854
Dec. 7th: HISTORIANS AND RACE/ WE ALL GOT HISTORY