

FALL 2009

AFRO-AM 397B: NATIVE AMERICANS AND AFRICAN AMERICANS

John Bracey, Joyce Vincent
Wednesdays 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.
Bartlett Hall Room 206

Course Prospectus: *This three hundred level course intends to: (1) Introduce major issues and themes regarding the historical encounters and interactions between the Indigenous populations of the western hemisphere, Europeans and Africans, (2) engage the implication and imposition of race on present day Native American identity and (3) examine various social methodologies for fostering distorted concepts of African American and Native American identities (i.e. census counts, news articles, and popular media) and (4) introduce or reference primary sources that indicate methodologies of transforming Indigenous national/cultural identities into racial social/economical identities. **Grades are based on:** (1) demonstrating a critical understanding of assigned readings by participating in and leading class discussions- prompt and regular attendance is vital. (2) take home mid-term, (3) take home final, (4) attendance. **Extra Credit is used to enhance the overall grade; it cannot be used to replace core course requirements.***

The following required texts are available at Food For Thought Books (Main St. Downtown Amherst):

- *Confounding the Color Line: The Indian-Black Experience in North America* (edited by James F. Brooks)
- *Crossing Waters, Crossing Worlds* edited by Tiya Miles and Sharon P. Holland
- *Sacred Revolt* by Joel W. Martin

The following required texts are available at Amherst Books (Main St. Downtown Amherst):

- *The Slave* (by Hans Kirk)
- *When Brer Rabbit Meets Coyote* , Jonathan Brennan

The following supplemental handouts can be used as a resource for preparation for featured speakers, class discussions and papers.

- “People Who I Wish Were Indian” by Sherman Alexie
- Cross Paths Publications Spring 08 Vol.11, issue 1 (Front cover, From the Executive Director, & “Seeing RACE for What It Is by Dr. Russ Handsman pgs 4,5,12 &13.)
- *Only Approved Indians Can Play:* by Jack Forbes (handout) e-reserve
- F.A. Mckenzie Letter to W.E.B. DuBois Jan. 9 1904 w/ notation DuBois Response

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS

Class discussions will be based on the assigned readings assigned for that class meeting; this means the reading needs to be completed before coming to class. You will need to bring the book to class for referencing during class discussion.

- 09 September** **Introduction to the course: Parameters, format, expectations, assignments, explanation and discussion of the rationale for the course.**
Video: "Black Indians"
- 16 September** "Recognition of the African-Native American Literary Tradition";
(Introduction to "When Brer Rabbit Meets Coyote")
- 23 September** "The Slave" by Hans Kirk
- 30 September** 1st Chapter Sherman Alexie's "Indian Killer" (handout)
Chapter Ten in "When Brer Rabbit Meets Coyote"
- 01 October** **Sherman Alexie Speaking Engagement Event**
4:30 p.m. at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall.
(Extra credit paper on comparison of Alexie and Trudell (11/18) with regard to indemnity matters. –Due on Dec. 2, 2009).
- 07 October** 500 Nations: Episode 4, Invasion of the Coast: the First English Settlements
Chap 3 (Miles and Holland), Chap 3 & 9 (Brooks)
Chap 3, 4 & 5 (Brennan)
- 14 October** 500 Nations: Episode 3, Clash of Cultures: the People Who Met Columbus
Intimacy and Empire: Indian-African Interactions in Spanish Colonial New Mexico, 1500-1800" (Brooks)
"The English Has a Mind to Make Slaves of All" (Brooks, pg.47-75)
Speaker: Professor Alex Deschamps and Laureen Pierre on Amerindians of the Caribbean.
- 21 October** "Sacred Revolt" by Joel Martin (Introduction and Chapters 1-3)
- 28 October** Sacred Revolt by Joel Martin (Chapters 4-8)
Speaker: Joel Martin, Dean of College of Humanities and Fine Arts
- 04 November** Chap 4, 5 and 13 (Miles and Holland)
- 11 November** **NO CLASS- Veterans Day Holiday**
Miles and Holland Chap 8th- Prep for Trudell
Forbes Approached Indian only
- 18 November** **John Trudell Speaking in Campus Center Room 101**
Attendance will be taken at the event
- 25 November** **NO CLASS- Thanksgiving Recess**

02 December “Blood and Money: The case of Seminole Freedmen and Seminole Indians (p. 120-144., Miles and Holland)
 “African and Indian by Choice,” “Blood Politics,” and Chap 6, 7 & 8 (Brooks)

09 December *Last Day of Class- Final Paper Due*
 “Knowing All my Names” by Tamara Buffalo (p. 218-225) and “Race & Federal Recognition in New England” (p 57-75) and “In their Native Country” (p. 100-120) (all in Miles and Holland)
 Chap 9 (Brennan)
 Chap 10 “A Most Secret Identity” by Ron Welburn and “Mascots” (Brooks)

FINAL PAPERS DUE DEC 16th,
 Ku’ualoha Ho’Omanawanui (p. 273- 308, Miles and Holland)

GRADES DUE DECEMBER 28, 2009

11 December **Nikkomo (Join us for dinner at JWECC –Chadbourne OHC (Extra credit).**

***No incompletes will be granted without a documented medical, legal, or extreme emergency.**

Fall 2009

First Day of classes	Tuesday	September	8
Last day to add or drop any class with no record - Undergraduate, Graduate, Stockbridge, Continuing Education	Monday	September	21
Holiday - Columbus Day	Monday	October	12
Monday class schedule will be followed	Tuesday	October	13
Last day to Drop with "DR" - Graduate	Monday	October	19
Mid-Semester Date (Last day to Drop with 'W' - Undergraduate, Stockbridge, Continuing Education)	Thursday	October	22
Holiday – Veterans’ Day	Wednesday	November	11
Registration begins for Spring 2010	Thursday	November	12
Thanksgiving recess begins after last class	Wednesday	November	25
Classes resume	Monday	November	30
Last day of classes	Friday	December	11
Reading Period begins	Saturday	December	12
Reading Period ends	Sunday	December	13
Final examinations begin	Monday	December	14
Last day of final examinations	Saturday	December	19
Snow day for Dec. 19 exams, semester ends	Monday	December	21
Final grades due	Monday	December	28
Number of class meetings: MTuWThF: 13			