AFROAM 101. Introduction to Black Studies, 3 credits  
Instructor: Yelana Sims  
TuTh 2:30-3:45 p.m.  
Interdisciplinary introduction to the basic concepts and literature in the disciplines covered by Black Studies. Includes history, the social sciences, and humanities as well as conceptual frameworks for investigation and analysis of Black history and culture.

AFROAM 117. Survey of Afro-American Literature I, 4 credits (AL,DU)  
Professor Tracy  
Lecture: MW 10:10 - 11:00 a.m.  
Discussions: F 10:10 or F 11:15  
The major figures and themes in Afro-American literature, analyzing specific works in detail and surveying the early history of Afro-American literature. What the slave narratives, poetry, short stories, novels, drama, and folklore of the period reveal about the social, economic, psychological, and artistic lives of the writers and their characters, both male and female. Explores the conventions of each of these genres in the period under discussion to better understand the relation of the material to the dominant traditions of the time and the writers' particular contributions to their own art.

AFROAM 132. African-American History: 1619-1860, 4 credits (HS,DU)  
Professor Kerth  
Lecture: MW 2:30 - 3:20 p.m.  
Discussions: F 1:25 or F 2:30  
This course will examine important developments and issues in African American history from the initial arrival of African slaves to Virginia until the Civil War. We will focus on the Black experience under slavery and the struggle for emancipation. Key topics to be discussed include the Atlantic slave trade, the evolution of African American communities and culture, free Black communities, the distinct experience of Black women, and Black protest traditions.

AFROAM 151. Literature & Culture, 4 credits (AL,DU)  
Professor Smethurst  
Lecture: MW 12:20 – 1:10 p.m.  
Discussions: F 12:20 or 1:25  
This course explores relevant forms of Black cultural expression that have contributed to the shape and character of contemporary Blackness. Topics to be discussed will include West African cultural patterns and the Black past; the transition-slavery; the culture of survival; cultural patterns evident in literature; and Black perceptions versus white perceptions.

AFROAM 192F. Freshman Survival Techniques, 1 credit  
Instructor: Doris Clemmons  
Thursdays 5:30 - 6:45 p.m.  
This course helps first-year students transition from high school to college. Students will be matched with peer mentors and academic advisors; learn effective study and time management skills; explore various topics that deal with academics and social issues; and receive assistance with securing internships, co-ops, and summer employment.
AFROAM 197A. Taste of Honey: Black Film-Part I, 1 credit
Professor Bracey
Thursdays 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.  Malcolm X Cultural Center
This course will take you on a historical journey exploring the roles of African American men and women highlighting their contributions and struggles in the American movie industry. Students will learn about the groundbreaking movies, roles and actors who helped pave the way for a future generation while breaking down racial barriers to tell the story of the African American experience. In this course you will enjoy a great selection of movies that explore a variety of topics in multiple genres such as race, gender and stereotypes while reflecting on how these characteristics are portrayed in drama, comedy, musicals, crime, biographies and action movies.

AFROAM 234. Literature of the Harlem Renaissance, 4 credits (AL,DU)
Instructor:  Biko Caruthers
TuTh 10:00-11:15 a.m.
Exploration of the cultural explosion also termed the New Negro movement, from W.E.B. Du Bois through the early work of Richard Wright. Essays, poetry, and fiction, and the blues, jazz, and folklore of the time examined in terms of how Harlem Renaissance artists explored their spiritual and cultural roots, dealt with gender issues, sought artistic aesthetic and style adequate to reflect such concerns. Readings supplemented by contemporary recordings, visual art, and videos.

AFROAM 236. History of the Civil Rights Movement, 4 credits  (HS,DU)
Instructor: TBA  *On-line only. Contact: UMassulearn.edu to register.

AFROAM 293B. The African Diaspora & the War on Drugs, 3 credits.
Professor Losier
TuTh 10:00-11:15 a.m.
This course explores the decades-long drug prohibition campaign popularly known as the “War on Drugs.” With the U.S. federal government regularly appropriating more than $50 million to this campaign, African Americans continue to find themselves disproportionately impacted by this regime of drug prohibition. Rather than remaining confined to the borders of the United States, this campaign, and its increasingly militarized operations, has over the past several decades spread throughout the Western hemisphere and, in doing so, directly impacted people of African descent throughout the Americas. By drawing on historical, biographical, and journalistic accounts of Black peoples' lived experiences, this course examines the elaboration of this campaign’s military, institutional, legal and policy frameworks. It will consider various activities – including, but not limited to drug production, trafficking and consumption, as well as community organizing, human rights advocacy, and social movement building – by Black people not only in the U.S., but across North, Central, and South America, as well as the Caribbean basin. The Reagan era Drug Wars and the ongoing opioid epidemic will be critical to this course, as they best highlight divergent strategies of law enforcement and public health responses to issues of drug use and addiction, as well as the roles of race, class, and gender in shaping these divergent responses. From here, this course will also explore various approaches to bringing about an end to the Drug Wars and remedying their impacts.
AFROAM 330. Songbirds, Blueswomen and Soulwomen, 3 credits
Professor Jimoh
Thursdays 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.
The focus for this course is the cultural, political, and social issues found in the music and history of African American women performers. The primary emphasis in the course will be on African American women in Jazz, Blues, and Soul/R&B, but students also will study African American women composers as well as Spiritual-Gospel and Opera performers.

AFROAM 331. The Life of W.E.B. Du Bois, 3 credits
Professor Bracey
TuTh 4:00-5:15 p.m.
An examination of the life and thought of arguably America’s greatest intellectual activist and one of Massachusetts’ native sons is the focus of this course. Students will conduct microfilm research in the W.E.B. Du Bois Special Collections and University Archives.

AFROAM 332. Blacks and Jews, 3 credits
Professor Bracey
Tuesdays 6:00-8:30 p.m.
Our aim in this course is to share with students an understanding of the scope and diversity of the relations of African Americans and Jewish Americans in the U.S., during the past 300 years. One of our purposes is to minimize the tendency toward comparing degrees of suffering, or posing an “Us versus Them” framework that ignores the more complex interactions that have characterized Black-Jewish relations over time and in different geographical parts of the U.S.

AFROAM 334. Black Speculative Fiction, 3 credits
Professor Jimoh
Thursdays 1:00-3:30 p.m.
Examination of the development of Black speculative fiction in the nineteenth and twentieth century, including science fiction, fantasy, gothic literature, magical realism, the detective novel, and/or related genres. Topics of discussion may include slavery and colonialism; diaspora; science, technology, and the environment; race and the paraliterary; utopianism and dystopianism; Blackness and metaphysics; Afrofuturism.

AFROAM 395G. Peer Leadership and Facilitation, 3 credits
Instructor: Doris Clemmons
Tuesdays 5:30 – 6:45 p.m.
This second part of a two-semester course is designed to help upper-class students (juniors and seniors) develop leadership and outreach skills. Students will serve as peer leaders, working directly with newly entering first-semester students and help them transition from high school to college. Students will assist first-year students form effective study habits and effectively manage their time.

AFROAM 494DI. Du Bois Senior Seminar, 3 credits (IE Course for AfroAm Seniors & Juniors)
Professor Shonekan
TuTh 2:30-3:45 p.m.
This course builds on the intellectual, activist, and cultural-criticism traditions promoted by Massachusetts-born, African-American polymath W.E.B. Du Bois to fulfill the Gen. Ed. Integrative Experience requirement. The course asks students to consider the evolution of their academic, personal, and professional goals in relation to their previous coursework both inside and outside Afro-American Studies and the university’s Gen. Ed. curriculum. Particular attention will be placed on the social justice and cultural knowledge aspects of African American Studies. Department majors may use course-writing assignments as the foundation for a subsequent senior research project.
AFROAM 601. Slavery
Professor Kerth
Thursdays 4:00-6:30 p.m., NAH 302
This seminar will focus on the rise of slavery in the United States until its destruction during the Civil War. We will study slavery as a political and economic institution as well as a day-to-day lived experience. Within this historical framework, the emphasis will be on broad themes and interpretations such as the construction of race and racism, the debate origins of slavery, the nature of slave communities and culture, gender and slavery, slavery in a comparative perspective, slave resistance, and the politics of slavery.

AFROAM 652. Literature of the Harlem Renaissance, 4 credits
Professor Tracy
Tuesdays 1:00-3:30 p.m., NAH 302
An intensive study of the literature and orature associated with the Harlem Renaissance, from the philosophical underpinnings supplied by Du Bois, Johnson, Locke, Garvey, and Randolph to the varied poetic visions of Hughes, Spencer, Brown, Cullen, and McKay to the fictional explorations of Toomer, Hurston, Fisher, Larsen, Fauset, and Thurman to the inspiration supplied by blues, jazz, and folklore of the African American tradition. Journals connected with the movement and the contributions of interested patrons such as Van Vechten, Cunard, and the Spingarns, and the relations of the Harlem Renaissance to other contemporary American literary currents (realism, naturalism, and modernism.)

AFROAM 691F. Black Political Struggle and the American Political System, 4 credits
Professor Losier
Thursdays 1:00-3:30 p.m., NAH 302
An historical examination of the Black political struggle for equality and citizenship in America—the obstacles placed in the path of that struggle by the American political system in general and by the American state in particular—and the countless ways in which racial politics have shaped the system that is called American Democracy.

AFROAM 693R. Race, Caste and Capital, 3 credits  (Meets with WGSS 693R)
Professor Shah
Tuesdays 4:00-6:30 p.m.
The seminar will examine the co-constitutive historical formations of race and caste in relation to the expansion of capitalism and European high colonialism in the 18th and 19th centuries. Rather than seeing this as a period for the 'origins' of race or caste, the course will examine the ways in which race and caste were discursively mediated in the period of high colonialism to shape the kind of racialized hierarchies that we are familiar with today. The course puts the urgent concerns of African American Studies, South Asian Studies and heterodox economics, with an emphasis on questions of political economy, together in a semester-long inquiry into how racialized hierarchies have been essential to producing and maintaining class stratification and geopolitical power. We will primarily draw from the American Black Radical tradition and the South Asian Dalit Radical tradition for our readings in this course. These readings will focus on how European colonial and imperial regimes of power necessitated and furthered racialized hierarchies through regimes of chattel slavery, indentured servitude and bonded labour. We will also aim to understand how these regimes elicited some of the most radical and revolutionary struggles for liberation in the world. While our readings will be wide ranging in scope, our discussions will focus on the fairly specific question of what relation we can postulate, based on historical evidence and historiographical critiques, between contemporary instantiations of race and caste in different parts of the world? We will necessarily pay close attention to axes of gender and sexuality throughout the seminar, drawing on examples and critical work from authors working in the Caribbean, South Asia, North America, South Africa, East Africa, and the UK.