

## **Africana Studies Summer 2012 Courses**

### **SUMMER SESSION I**

#### **AAS 198 (GS/SSP 198) Global Hip Hop and Social Change (SS) CRN 21373**

This is a course that examines at the relationship between music, politics and social change. Global Hip Hop and Social Change: Brazil, is an online course.

Professor: Tanya Saunders

On-line Course

#### **AAS 295 (WGSS 295 ) Gender and Black Popular Culture (HU) CRN 21528**

This course will critically examine the role of the media in enabling, facilitating, or challenging the social constructions of "Blackness." Paying particular attention to images of race, culture and gender, this course will examine historical and contemporary representations of women and men of African descent (Continental African/Diasporan African/American African) in the various mediums that serve to construct what is known as "popular culture" (television, cinema, advertising, music, fashion, etc.). We will explore the historical relationship of people of African descent to mainstream culture through a critical examination of "popular" representations of "Blackness," and more specifically, "popular" representations of the "Black masculine" and the "Black feminine." We will analyze the production and consumption of such representations, and further explore the ways these processes influence basic assumptions about social roles, expectations, and "norms" for women and men of African descent. Although much of our course readings focus on the U.S./American media, our treatment and discussion of topics will engage issues of "Blackness" in transnational contexts and from transnational perspectives. Considering the media one of the United States' largest exports, we will further examine the various ways in which "Blackness," as constructed in the U.S. context, affects the apperception of "Blackness" in transnational contexts. Finally, and most importantly, students will be encouraged to develop a critical and political consciousness about gendered issues of "Black" identity, their own participation in embracing and/or resisting "Black" representations and the impact of "Black" popular culture on their lived experiences. (HU)

Professor: Yaba Blay

Tuesday/Thursday 10:00 a.m.-12:50 p.m. - MG 518

### **SUMMER SESSION II**

#### **AAS 196 (GS/JOUR 196) History and Contemporary African American Mass Media (HU) CRN 21353**

The course assumes that mass media and the industries that produce media products play significant cultural and political roles in contemporary societies. African Americans have regularly encountered negative images of themselves in American mainstream mass media. This course traces the history of African Americans' production and development of their own mass-media products to counter black stereotypes and to fight for social justice. For the purposes of this course, African American mass media refers to forms of communication completely or mostly produced by Blacks reaching large numbers of African Americans including films, newspapers, radio, and television. The course also examines and reflects on

the impact that African American mass media has had on audiences and their perception of African Americans.

Professor: Kim Gallon

Tuesday/Thursday 4:00 p.m. - 6:50 p.m. - MG 103