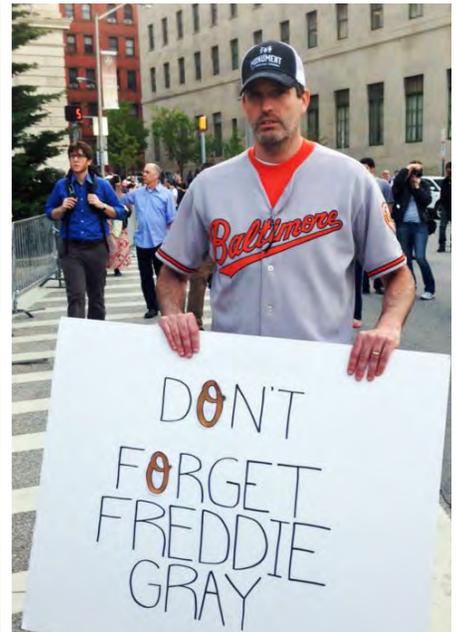


# BLACK LIVES MATTER & BEYOND

WITH  
DR. NIKKI LANE

AFAM-396-002/AMST-396-002  
THUR | 5:30-8:00pm



## #Seminar Statement

The movement sparked by the Twitter hashtag #BlackLivesMatter is one of the most important in the history of Black life in the United States. Its meaning, that Black people's lives are significantly undervalued, has been used to call out the ongoing anti-Black racism, white supremacy, and violence against people of color at the hands of law enforcement that has plagued the United States before and since Emancipation. This course uses Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor's book *From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation* as the central text, and offers an interdisciplinary exploration of Black activist movements and struggles from slave revolts, Fredrick Douglass, and Ida B. Wells-Barnett to the Black Panther Party; on to the Black Arts Movement and the Combahee River Collective; to the formation of the Congressional Black Caucus, and to the eruption of the #BLM Movement. The course steeps students both in the horrors that Black people have faced in the United States, as well as their triumphs and victories, despite their continued oppression.

## #Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify key figures in Black social movements in the United States.
2. Critically interrogate racial inequality in the U.S.
3. Engage in critical discussion about the significance of historical and contemporary struggles for racial equity in the U.S.
4. Describe how race, gender, sexuality, and class inform the lived experiences of Black wo/men in the U.S.

## #Professional Competencies

Below are professional competencies that you will be able to practice and/or develop in this class:

1. Oral and written communication skills
2. Distilling complex ideas and theories into "everyday" language for non-expert audiences
3. Critical thinking
4. Advanced problem solving skills
5. Teamwork and working collaboratively
6. Talking comfortably and competently about complex issues of race, gender, and sexuality.

# #Assessment

Assignment	Point Value	Due Date
Attendance/Participation	15 pts	Weekly
Homework	10 pts	As assigned
Annotated Bibliography of Black Activist/Intellectual (4 sources)	20 pts	Mar 8
...and Beyond Essay or Short Story (4-5 pgs)	20 pts	Apr 5
Black Struggles Project	35 pts	
Topic Statement	5 pts	Feb 8
Final Draft	25 pts	May 3
Comments on colleagues' presentations	5 pts	May 3
Extra Credit	Up to 10 pts	As assigned
<b>Total 100 pts</b>		

Unless otherwise indicated, I will return your work with commentary and rubric scores within 7 business days.

## #Late Work Policy

All late assignments will incur an automatic 25% reduction in score. If they are more than 72 hours late, then a 50% reduction in score will be assessed.

After checking schedules for travel, work, and other courses, if there are conflicts or potential conflicts, please bring this to the attention of the professor immediately so that alternative arrangements can be made.

If you require more time for any assignment, I am happy to provide you an alternative due date, however, you must make arrangements with me no fewer than 7 days PRIOR to the due date.

## #Attendance &

## #Participation Policy

- You are required to attend all scheduled meetings of this class during the term. One excused absence is permitted.
- Students are required to participate in lively, critical discussion of course materials in-class either during class or on the course online discussion board hosted on Piazza. Piazza is an easy to use, Web 2.0 online discussion board that you can access on your mobile devices as well as through the web interface. See Blackboard for instructions on using Piazza.



## #Assignment Details

Listed below are assignments that must be completed in order to earn a passing grade in the class. Each assignment will have a detailed assignment sheet and rubric that lays out their requirements and expectations. Below are short descriptions of the assignments along with their associated point values.

### Homework (10 pts)

Throughout the semester, you'll be given brief assignments to be completed throughout the week. Details for these assignments will be made available when assigned.

### Annotated Bibliography of a Black Activist/Intellectual (20 pts)

You will select a black activist/intellectual and prepare an annotated bibliography of their work. You must select at least 4 sources (speeches, books, pamphlets, articles, archival footage, FBI files, etc.). For each source, you will provide a 200-250 word (~1 page double spaced) annotation of the source.

### ...and Beyond Essay or Short Story (20 pts)

In this class, we spend a considerable amount of time discussing the past and present struggles of Black people in the United States. For this assignment, you are tasked with considering the "beyond." You will imagine a future where Black people are free. What would it look like? You will respond by writing either a short story or a creative non-fiction essay. The challenge will be to incorporate the ideas of the activist or intellectual whose work you researched for the Annotated Bibliography.

### Black Struggles Project (35 pts)

In pairs and relying on the Critical Race Theory learned in class, you will produce a 5-7 minute media rich video or PowerPoint (that includes audio/narrating text) that critically engages the historical, cultural, and/or social dimensions of a specific black figure, group, or black cultural/political struggle in the United States (or abroad). You will share the project with the class and offer thoughtful, engaged comments on the work of colleagues. **You must turn in a Topic Statement (1-2 pgs) detailing your project by Feb 8th.** A Self and Peer Evaluation will factor into your final grade for this assignment.

## #Grading Scale

Letter	Value
A (Excellent)	Greater than 95
A-	90-94 pts
B+	86-89 pts
B (Good)	83-85 pts
B-	80-82 pts
C+	76-79 pts
C (Satisfactory)	73-75 pts
C-	70-72 pts
D (Poor)	65-69 pts
F (Academic Fail)	Less than 65 pts



Bobby Seal and Huey P. Newton, co-founders of The Black Panther Party for Self-Defense



1831 woodcut purporting to illustrate various stages of Nat Turner's rebellion.



Ida B. Wells-Barnett



A white gang hunting African Americans during the Chicago Race Riot of 1919.



Angela Davis enters Royce Hall at UCLA for first lecture 10/7/1969

# #Tentative Course Schedule

Subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Check the course Blackboard regularly for the most up-to-date list of required and suggested material, as well as homework assignments.

## #Required Texts

Keeanga-Yahmatta Taylor, *From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation* (2016) Haymarket Books. \*KYT in syllabus

All other required material will be made available on course's Blackboard site.

### Week 01 | Jan 18 | Introduction: Studying Black Freedom Dreams

- Du Boise, W.E.B. "Of our Spiritual Strivings"
- Stay Woke: The BLM Documentary (BET)

### Week 02 | Jan 25 | Escaping Enslavement

- Underground (WGN) S1Ep1 & S2Sp6
- Hartman, Saidiya. "Innocent Amusements: The Stage of Sufferance"
- The Fugitive Slave Act

### Week 03 | Feb 1 | "Emancipation" & Reconstruction

- Wells-Barnett, Ida B. "Southern Horrors"
- Nelson, Marilyn "A Wreath for Emmett Till"
- Sprull, Larry H. "Slave Patrols, 'Packs of Negro Dogs' and Policing Black Bodies"

### Week 04 | Feb 8 | Negroes, New Negroes, and Jim Crow | **Topic Statement Due**

- Davis, Angela "Introduction" *Blues Legacies of Black Feminism*
- Hurston, Zora Neale "Sweat"
- Hughes, Langston "Weary Blues"

### Week 05 | Feb 15 | Desegregation, Education and the Congregation

- Martin Luther King, Jr. "Letter from a Birmingham Jail".
- Bell, Derrick "Plessy's Long Shadow" & "Brown's Half-Light" in *Silent Covenant*

### Week 06 | Feb 22 | Black Nationalism, Black Power, and Black Art

- Malcolm X, "The Ballot or the Bullet"
- Legum, Colin "The Roots of Pan-Africanism"
- Screen: The Black Power Mixtape

### Week 07 | Feb 29 | War on Drugs & Post-Industrial Cities

- Alexander, Michelle. "Introduction"
- "The Rebirth of Caste" In *The New Jim Crow*

### Week 08 | Mar 8 | Post-Racialism & the Age of Obama | **Annotated Bibliography Due**

- Obama, Barack "The Race Speech"
- Intro, Chpt 1, 2 KYT

### Week 09 | Mar 15 | Spring Break

- Chpt 3, 4, and 5 KYT

### Week 10 | Mar 22 | Uprisings & Policing Black Bodies

- Aliza Garza "A Herstory of the Movement"
- The Black Lives Matter Statement
- Chpt 6 in KYT

### Week 11 | Mar 29 | Baltimore & Walter Scott

- Butler, Paul. 2017. *Chokehold: Policing Black Men*. (Selections)

### Week 12 | Apr 5 | #SayHerName | **And Beyond Essay/Story Due**

- African American Policy Forum, "Say Her Name: Resisting Police Brutality Against Black Women"
- Lorde, Audre. 1984 "The Uses of Anger" in *Sister Outsider*

### Week 13 | Apr 12 | #BLM to Liberation

- Chpt 7, KYT
- Davis, Angela. 2003. *Are Prisons Obsolete?* (Selections)

### Week 14 | Apr 19 | ...Beyond

- Ferla, Ruth. 2016. "Afrofuturism: The Next Generation"
- Ta-Nehisi Coates & Barack Obama. 2016. 'Better Is Good': Obama on Reparations, Civil Rights, and the Art of the Possible

### Week 15 | April 26 | Course Review

- Bring notes.

### Final Exam Period | May 3 | **Struggles Project Due**

- No In-Class Meeting; turn your final project in on the discussion board.



Course and Syllabus Designed By  
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