Brookhaven College
Cultural Studies HUMA 2319-23202

ONLINE COURSE
Spring, 2015

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HUMA 2319 American Minority Studies
This interdisciplinary survey examines the diverse cultural, artistic, economic, historical, political, and social aspects of American minority communities. Topics may include race/ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, and religion. Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 45.1101.53 25.

THEME: African Diaspora in the Americas
The theme of this course focuses on topics related to African American and Caribbean art, music, and history within the context of European and American Colonization and the African Diaspora. Topics will include the visual and performing arts, history, literature, religion, politics and economics as they relate to the African Diaspora cultural experience.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
1. Analyze the history, culture, and struggles for equality of American minority groups.
2. Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works by minorities in the arts and humanities.
3. Demonstrate awareness of multiple cultural perspectives representative of diverse minority groups.
4. Describe the impact of discrimination on the everyday life of minority groups in the context of social, political, and economic circumstances.
5. Analyze minority group interactions in the United States focusing on immigration and migration patterns, assimilation processes, and adjustments to American life.
6. Formulate an understanding of shifting societal perceptions and self-identifications of minority group cultural identities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. To explore the geographical structure of the Caribbean and its rich indigenous native Taino and Carib history.
2. To understand the role of European colonization and the West African Slave Trade in terms of the overall cultural impact on Africa, the Caribbean, and the Americas.
3. To explore the rich ethnic, cultural, and historical heritage of the Caribbean and to encourage students to explore and examine their own family backgrounds, cultural traditions, and practices.
4. To discuss the role of religion and worship of the Caribbean, Africa, and North America and to explore the importance of maintaining religious traditions and practices for the people of African descent.
5. To explore themes in the visual and performing arts and literature of Caribbean, African, and African American cultures and to articulate an informed personal reaction to these themes.
6. To evaluate the portrayal of Caribbean, African, and African American culture in film and video by examining general themes as well as issues of race, class, gender differences and stereotypes.

CORE CURRICULUM INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCIES (CCIC) *Humanities 2319 satisfies the following Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
1. *READING: the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials - books, documents, and articles - above 12th grade level.
2. WRITING: the ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience - above 12th grade level
3. SPEAKING: the ability to communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience - above 12th grade level.
4. LISTENING: analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication, possess sufficient literacy skills of writing, reading - above 12th grade level.
5. *CRITICAL THINKING: think and analyze at a critical level.
6. COMPUTER LITERACY: understand our technological society, use computer based technology in communication, solving problems, acquiring information.
Exemplary Educational Objectives (EEO)

Humanities 2319, as part of the Core Curriculum, satisfies the following Exemplary Educational Objectives set forth by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

EXEMPLARY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES WITH EQUIVALENCIES FOR COURSE OBJECTIVES.

1. *To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities. (EEO1 = CO A/E/F) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)
2. *To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context. (EEO2 = CO C/D/G/H) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)
3. *To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities. (EEO3 = CO D) (CCIC = 5)
4. To engage in the creative process or interpretive performance and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands required of the author or visual or performing artist. (EEO 4 = CO D/F/H)
5. *To articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities. (EEO5 = CO B/D) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)
6. *To develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern the humanities and arts (EE06 = CO A/I) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)
7. *To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences. (EEO 7 = CO A/C/E) (CCIC = 1, 2, 4, 5)

*Required by District Humanities Discipline Committee

MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Microsoft® Windows® Operating System

Internet Explorer® 8 Internet Explorer 7 Firefox 3.5 Firefox 3.0
Windows® XP (32-bit)
Windows Vista® (32-bit)
Windows Vista (64-bit)
Windows 7 (32/64-bit)

Apple® Mac OS® Operating System

Safari® 4.0 Safari 3.x Firefox 3.5.x Firefox 3.0.x
Mac OSX 10.4 "Tiger®"
Mac OSX 10.5 "Leopard®"
Mac OSX 10.6 "Snow Leopard®"

The Following are not supported:

Sun Java™ Runtime Environment 5 (JRE™ 5) is no longer supported. It may continue to work but Java 6 Update 13 is the only supported JRE.

- Internet Explorer 6 and Internet Explorer 5 are not supported.
- Firefox 1.x and 2.0 are not supported.
- Safari 2.0 is no longer supported.
- Internet Explorer 8 is only supported in Standards Mode.
- Google Chrome is not supported.

Windows Media player and Macromedia Flash player links are provided free of charge for you on the "Announcements" page, the first page you see when you enter the course. It is advisable to update these when the computer tells you one is available. It is necessary to have speakers or earphones. If you are experiencing any technical problems, contact ecampus@support.edu or call them at 972 669-6402. Operators are standing by for your calls.

GRADING CRITERIA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Assignments – 5 at 5 points each for 25 points</th>
<th>COURSE GRADING SCALE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board – 5 topics at 5 points each for 25 points</td>
<td>90 – 100 = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postcards from the Edge Photo project – 25 points</td>
<td>80 – 89 = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper – 25 points</td>
<td>70 – 79 = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total – 100 points</td>
<td>60 – 69 = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Below 60 =F</td>
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

I. UNIT ASSIGNMENTS – 5 points each
Each Unit Assignment is worth 5 points for a total of 25 points toward your final grade. You will be prompted at the end of each Unit to complete an assignment, or short quiz, based on the lecture material and information from the textbook.

II. DISCUSSION BOARD – 5 points each
Each Discussion Board Assignment is worth 5 points for a total of 25 points toward your final grade. You will be prompted by the instructor to discuss a particular topic for each unit as the semester progresses.

II. POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE PHOTO PROJECT - 25 points
Create a series of three postcards that relate to the cultural content of the course. Research your assigned topic, collect imagery, and organize information. The collective data will form a foundation for understanding a sample of influences that have shaped cultures of African descent. When designing the postcards, view them as correspondence from one language to another, from one location to another, from one time period to another. Provide imagery and text to imply place, time, history, and meaning. You can utilize a variety of mediums from print, using digital imaging software, to multimedia using PowerPoint. Each student is also required to write an MLA formatted, two-page, typed, 12 point font, double-spaced paper on their project.

IV. REFLECTION PAPER – 25 points
Following the course evaluation prompts below, write a 750-word (minimum) reflection paper on what we have studied in this class. Discuss the following three areas in the context of the course content and theme. Be sure to use specific examples to support your claims and mention examples from at least 3 units you have studied. Put the number of the unit in parentheses next to the example.

- Describe how the course has enhanced your understanding of the term “culture.”
- Explain how historical and social contexts have helped to shape human belief systems and values.
- Evaluate how your own cultural perspective has influenced your intercultural experiences.

SAFEASSIGN – Prior to handing in any written papers, you will need to submit your papers to SafeAssign for evaluation. Go to the eCampus website and look for the ASSIGNMENT tab. You will see EVENT REVIEW, click on VIEW/COMPLETE and you will see a space where it lets you browse your paper. Click ENTER and the assignment will be submitted. After a few minutes, you can log back into eCampus, click on the ASSIGNMENT tab, VIEW/COMPLETE, and it will show your report. NO PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THIS PROCESS. You must have submitted your paper before the due date. Follow these guidelines in writing your papers: For proper writing format consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 5th ed., by Joseph Gibaldi, or you can go to http://www.mla.com.

You are required to submit all written materials to SAFEASSIGN for analysis. No paper will be accepted with a score above 10%. You need to READ your papers before you turn them in. Do not rely on the spell/grammar check program to check your mistakes. We do count off for grammar and spelling errors.

INSTRUCTOR’S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
The instructor reserves the right to establish the guidelines for the ONLINE setting. The instructor reserves the right to maintain ONLINE decorum and to remove from class anyone who behaves in a manner that disturbs the instruction process.

The instructor is charged by the college with the responsibility for maintain the online environment and the instructor's decision is final. Any student having problems with a course should consult the instructor. Rudeness, disrupting the class, or disrespecting other students or the instructor will result in the student being removed from the online class. If that occurs, the student will be required to have a personal conference with the instructor. You are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. See ACADEMIC HONESTY below.

The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.

PLEASE CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING LINK TO VIEW THE COLLEGE POLICIES AND CALENDAR:

Important Brookhaven College Institutional Policies and Calendar
ATTENDANCE POLICY
Just as in a face-to-face course, attending your online course is important. In fact, it may be even more important. In a face-to-face course, sometimes a student is physically there, but mentally "somewhere else." In an online course, there is little social pressure to be there or pretend to be there, but if you don't visit the course site regularly, you won't get much from the course and will find it difficult to get a good grade.

Here are some ideas to keep in mind.
Check the course site regularly.
Even if you don't have specific assignments to complete, check the course site and your email regularly. Your instructor will make announcements, new postings will appear in discussion forums, and other plans may undergo subtle changes. Regular checks will help you remember all that you need to get done.

Plan on spending at least two hours of work time for every credit hour that the course receives.
As a general rule of thumb, a course assumes that you will attend for as many hours are listed in the credit hours, then do homework and prepare in an equivalent number of hours during each week. In an online course, the distinction between attendance and study hours is removed, but the same amount of time is necessary. This is a minimum amount of time. In actual practice, many courses will take many more hours of study.

Your instructor can tell if you are visiting the course site.
There are tools in Blackboard Course Info that allow your instructor to get general statistics about how often you visit the course site. Sometimes, they can even tell you have visited specific parts.

You will have to show your instructor the quality of your participation.
Statistical tools in Blackboard won't let your instructor know if you understand what you read, if you enjoy or dislike aspects of the course, or if you are succeeding as a student. That is up to you. Your assignments, postings, and instructor communication will show the quality of your work.

You are expected to communicate with both the instructor and your classmates.
Don't wait to be asked to communicate. Send your instructor questions. Post messages to other students. Ask questions and share your ideas.

DROPPING THE COURSE
If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans, you must begin attendance in all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay financial aid funds.

If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar's Office by the date listed for your section in the WHAT TO DO LIST and under CRITICAL DATES. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an "F."
If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop-withdrawal deadline, you will receive a "W" (Withdraw) in each class dropped. Students often drop courses when help is available that would enable them to continue. I hope you will discuss your plans with me if you feel the need to withdraw.

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP
For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a "W". Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges.

FINANCIAL AID
Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester.

Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.
YOU SHOULD FILL OUT THE STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM AS YOUR FIRST PARTICIPATION IN THE CLASS.
TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI)
The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a statewide program designed to ensure that students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities have the basic academic skills needed to be successful in college-level course work. The TSI requires assessment, remediation (if necessary), and advising of students who attend a public college or university in the state of Texas. The program assesses a student's basic academic skills in reading, writing, and math. Passing the assessment is a prerequisite for enrollment in many college level classes. Students who do not meet assessment standards may complete prerequisite requirements by taking developmental courses in the deficient area and passing them with a grade of C or higher. Additional information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/admiss/tsi_requirements.cfm.

ACADEMIC HONESTY
Academic honesty is expected, and integrity is valued in the DCCCD. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog. More information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat/0406/ss/code.cfm.

ADA STATEMENT
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.

ONLINE CLASSROOM POLICIES
Discussion Board responses, emails, and all other correspondence among faculty and students enrolled in this class are expected to conform to the level of conduct that would be expected in a regular classroom. Students should feel free to express disagreement with the instructor and other students but it must be done in a manner which is not verbally abusive, threatening, or harassing. Communication among students is encouraged but must end if one of the parties requests that it be terminated. Students will not send unsolicited email espousing a cause, religion, or activity to other class participants and will not add other class participants to any listserves or other entity which distributes unwanted email or material. Violation of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action against the offending student. This action can include termination of the student's participation in the class and a grade of F.

DISCUSSION BOARD POLICIES
COMMENTS BY USERS ARE NOT ENDORSED BY DCCCD: DCCCD does not necessarily endorse, support, sanction, encourage, verify, or agree with the comments, opinions, or statements posted on the Discussion Board. Any information or material placed online, including advice and opinions, are the views and responsibility of those who post the statements.

USE OF THE DISCUSSION:
In this online course, your right to use the Discussion Board is limited to class activities. You may not give or supply your password or ID to others to use. You may not authorize others to use the Discussion Board, and you are responsible for all use of the Discussion Board in your name. You agree not to use any obscene, indecent, or offensive language or to place on the Discussion Board any material that is defamatory, abusive, harassing, or hateful. Further, you may not place on the Discussion Board any material that is encrypted, constitutes junk mail or unauthorized advertising, invades anyone's privacy, or encourages conduct that would constitute a criminal offense, give rise to civil liability, or that otherwise violates any local, state, national or international law or regulation. You agree to use the Discussion Board only for lawful purposes of this online course and you acknowledge that your failure to do so may subject you to academic, civil and criminal liability. You are responsible for ensuring that any material you provide to or post to the Discussion Board, including but not limited to text, photographs, and sound, does not violate the copyright, trademark, trade secret or any other personal or proprietary rights of any third party or is posted with the permission of the owner(s) of such rights. Music files etc. may not be distributed in this Discussion Board or within this course. Material on the Discussion Board is for your academic course use only. The Discussion Board contains copyrighted and other proprietary information. You may not in any way make commercial or other unauthorized use, by publication, re-transmission, distribution, performance, caching, or otherwise, of material obtained through the Discussion Board, except as permitted by the Copyright Act or other law. You agree neither to disrupt or interfere with the Discussion Board, nor to alter or tamper with any information or materials on or associated with the Discussion Board. You acknowledge that your Instructor may review and archive the content of all discussions and sites linked to and from this Discussion Board and that you are responsible for the content or actions of any other sites linked to or from this Discussion Board. Your linking to the Discussion Board is restricted to sites pertinent your online course assignments.

5
USE OF MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY YOU:
Postings to and communications with the Discussion Board are not private. You grant BHC the unrestricted right to use, reproduce, archive, translate, transmit and distribute any material you supply or communicate to the Discussion Board.

MATERIALS POSTED BY OTHERS:
You agree that the Instructor is not responsible, and shall have no liability to you, with respect to any information or materials posted by others, including defamatory, offensive or illicit material.

INDEMNIFICATION:
You agree to indemnify BHC and its affiliates, agents and representatives, and to hold them harmless, from any and all claims and liabilities (including attorney’s fees) which may arise from your submissions, from your unauthorized use of material obtained through the Discussion Board, or from your breach of this Agreement, or from any such acts through your use of the Discussion Board.

EDITING AND DELETIONS:
Your course Instructor reserves the right, but undertakes no duty, to review, edit, move, or delete any material provided for display or placed on the Discussion Board, in its sole discretion, without notice.

DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:
You acknowledge that you are using the Discussion Board at your own risk. Your Instructor and BHC and its affiliates do not represent or warrant that access to the discussion board will be uninterrupted or that there will be no failures, errors or omissions or loss of transmitted information, or that no viruses will be transmitted on the Discussion Board. You should have a virus check program installed on your computer.

TERMINATION:
Your Instructor has the right to terminate your ability to access the Discussion Board, for any just reason, without notice. Contact your instructor immediately if this occurs.