COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a survey of the African-American experience from the Civil War to the present day. As a social history of Black America, this course focuses on the life experiences of individual African-Americans and the black struggle for racial justice. It begins with an examination African-American responses to the abolition of slavery and the black experience during the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Redemption. Subsequent weeks consider the rise of Jim Crow segregation in the late nineteenth-century South and various forms of African American resistance to it. Our lectures and readings on twentieth-century African-American history will cover the Great Migration to northern cities that began at the turn of the century, the African-American experience during both of the World Wars, and the rise of organized black resistance to segregation and discrimination. The final weeks of the course will be devoted to material on the Civil Rights and Black Power Movements, and a brief consideration of recent issues in African-American history.

BOOK LIST


