

**AP African American Studies**

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| **Sarah Jordan** | |  | **Course Overview:** | |
| Room 334S |  |  | AP African American Studies is an interdisciplinary course that examines the diversity of African American experiences through direct encounters with varied sources. Students explore key topics that extend from early African kingdoms to the ongoing challenges and achievements of the contemporary moment. Given the interdisciplinary character of African American Studies, students in the course will develop skills across multiple fields, with an emphasis on developing historical, literary, visual, and data analysis skills. This course foregrounds a study of the diversity of Black communities in the United States within the broader context of Africa and the African diaspora. | |
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| **Contact Info:** |  |
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| **Course Goals:** | | | | |
| 1. Apply lenses from multiple disciplines to evaluate key concepts, historical developments, and processes that have shaped Black experiences and debates within the field of African American Studies. 2. Identify the intersections of race, gender, and class, as well as connections between Black communities, in the United States and the broader African diaspora in the past and present. 3. Analyze perspectives in texts, data, and visual sources to develop well-supported arguments applied to real-world problems. 4. Demonstrate understanding of the diversity, strength, and complexity of African societies and their global connections before the emergence of transatlantic slavery. 5. Evaluate the political, historical, aesthetic, and transnational contexts of major social movements, including their past, present, and future implications. 6. Develop a broad understanding of the many strategies African American communities have employed to represent themselves authentically, promote advancement, and combat the effects of inequality and systemic marginalization locally and abroad. 7. Identify major themes that inform literary and artistic traditions of the African diaspora. 8. Describe the formalization of African American Studies and new directions in the field as part of ongoing efforts to articulate Black experiences and perspectives and create a more just and inclusive future. 9. Connect course learning with current events, local interests, and areas for future study. | | | | |
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| **Course Outline:** | |  |  | **School Expectations:** |
| Theme 1: Migrations and the African Diaspora  Theme 2: Intersections of Identity  Theme 3: Creativity, Expression, and the Arts  Theme 4: Resistance and Resilience | | | | 1.Be in your assigned seat/area, logged on and ready to work when class is scheduled to start.  2.Have paper, pencils/pens, books, technology and all needed supplies to be successful.  3.Keep focused by removing all possible distractions.  4.No profanity, rude gestures, teasing, or put downs.  5.Follow directions of the Student Discipline Handbook and all school adults unless the request is illegal, immoral or unsafe. |
| **Teams Information:**  *Type the following links into any web browser or click on the black boxes below.* | |  |  |  |
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| [8th Period](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a8tFvms6fxJlnMaBKmBhmfg1biAs1BcpCHJ2zEdVk9DM1%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=0cfbd1f1-0fd3-417c-82de-641b12edb8bf&tenantId=08e33d6b-a654-486a-80e3-20b190ae22d7) | |  |  |  |
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| **Daily Work:** | | | | |
| Daily work completed both in class or out of the classroom counts as part of your formative grade. There will be daily work--reading and writing assignments that are very important as a foundation for our class. **It will be your responsibility to get all missed assignments that need to be made up.** Student work will be posted to teams on a weekly basis.  Homework: Per unit, you will be assigned daily videos/topic questions for each section of our online resource, AP Classroom. These resources are carefully cultivated by the AP College Board to prepare you for the AP Exam. At the beginning of each unit, you will have access to these assignments. These homework assignments must be completed before the unit exam. Completion of homework assignments will be included in your formative grade. | | | | |
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| **Summative Assessments:** | | | | |
| These will comprise 60% of your grade and can include quizzes, chapter or unit tests, projects, presentations and portfolio completion.  Tests may be given at the end of each chapter or at the end of each unit. The test date will be announced well in advance, and we will review them in class. Test format will consist of multiple choice and free response. The material will cover lecture, textbook, and other materials used in class discussions/activities. Each unit you will have a study guide that corresponds to the reading of the textbook. All of these can be found on our Microsoft Teams page. These are due the class period before the unit test. Research/Free Response will consist of discovery, application, and analysis of information in a written report for each unit. Quizzes MAY be given at any time without warning. Your semester final examination will be comprehensive and count as 10% of your grade.  **REMEMBER: Your performance in this class is entirely up to you!!**  **Final Exam:** Will count as 10% of your grade and be comprehensive, covering the entire semester’s material. Our final will be 50 cumulative multiple-choice questions and individual student project. **You will be exempt from the second semester final if you take the AP exam.**  **AP Exam**: 100 multiple choice questions and individual student project. This AP Exam is currently scheduled for May 2025, beginning at approximately 12:00pm. Please note that the exam typically takes 2.5-3 hours and transportation is not provided. | | | | |
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| **Grading** | | | | |
| It is important to remember that I do not pass or fail you in this class**. YOU are entirely responsible for your performance in this class. Failure to do the work and study for tests may result in your EARNING a failing grade.** Likewise, completion of the work can most likely result in your EARNING a passing grade. Grades will be issued as follows:  **Summative Assessments 60% A-90%-100% B-80%-89% C-70%-79%**  **Formative Assessments 40% D-60%-69% F- 1%-59%**  **Formative Assessments** include: daily work, projects/quizzes, “do now exercises” and 21st century skills which represent initiative & self-direction/productivity and accountability. Semester grades are calculated by accumulating all points throughout the entire semester’s grade to total 90%. The remaining 10% is the comprehensive semester final exam. REMEMBER: **Your performance in this class is entirely up to you!!** | | | | |
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| **Late Work Policy** | | | | |
| All assignments are due at their set date/time. However, sometimes stuff happens. At the latest, assignments must be turned in before its unit test. After the test has passed, no assignments from that unit will be accepted. | | | | |
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| **Academic Integrity** | | | | |
| Plagiarism, cheating on an exam, copying of homework or test answers, and/or arranging for others to do schoolwork or exams are all considered to be dishonest, wrong and in opposition to the purpose of learning. Students found committing academic dishonesty (cheating on an exam, copying homework, plagiarism) can receive a grade of “F” or “0” and could face disciplinary action. Your parent/guardian will be notified. This includes final exams. Teachers have the option to provide the student with another opportunity to test with less credit offered. Repeated offenses will lead to more serious consequences, potentially including course failure. We are here to learn, please maintain your academic integrity accordingly and do not copy nor allow anyone to copy your work.  **Supplemental Reading Assignments:**  From time to time throughout the semester, additional readings from both primary and secondary sources will be assigned. These readings will be provided by the teacher and may be included in examinations. | | | | |

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| **Course Outline** | | | | |
| **Unit** | **Approximate number of class periods** |  | **Topic:** | |
| Unit 1 | 18 |  | Origins of the African Diaspora | |
| Unit 2 | 39 |  | Freedom, Enslavement, and Resistance | |
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| Unit 3 | 28 |  | The Practice of Freedom | |
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| Unit 4 | 30 |  | Movements and Debate | |
| **May** | **AP Exam & Projects** | | |
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| **\*This syllabus and course outline are subject to change at any time. Students will receive notice if any changes occur.\*** | |
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| **Advice From Former Students** | |

* **“Pay attention to class. Do all your work because once you start taking tests and exams, it’s actually going to help a lot.**
* **“Pay attention and do your work.”**
* **“Make sure you study a lot.”**
* **“Make sure you pay attention and do your work in class.”**
* **“The assignments were really fun. Make sure you do all of the assignments.”**
* **“Stay caught up on all assignments!”**
* **“It’ll get easier, just make sure to study a lot if you want to pass!!!”**
* **“Pay attention to things you learn in this class. Also, Ms. Larson, which that will not be her name anymore is the best. Just had to throw that in there.”**
* **“Stay focused.”**
* **“Don’t make it hard on yourself. Just listen to the teacher and the class will be easy.”**
* **“Trust her. She’s the best history teacher I’ve ever had. She can help you educationally and emotionally.”**
* **“Participate and ask questions.”**
* **“Pay attention to the notes and don’t just write them down.”**
* **“I think the students should cherish the time they have with you!”**
* **“Do your best and ask for help if needed.”**
* **“Just pay attention and you might actually enjoy the class.”**