

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## AMCS 209: African American Humanities I: Roots

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

This course offers a survey of selected aspects of the arts and humanities of African Americans from multidisciplinary perspectives. Beginning with the fundamental cultural resources of African traditional roots and American slave experiences, we trace their cultural legacies through the historical, cultural, artistic, expressive and aesthetic dimensions of the lives of Black people in the U.S. through the Civil War. Students will be expected to recognize and understand the critical links between Blacks' experiences as Americans and their aesthetic and cultural expressions. They will be required to critically integrate information from readings with classroom presentations and discussions. MnTC Goal 6.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 08/25/2008 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Explore aspects of the traditional arts, humanities and aesthetic traditions of Africans prior to European contact through an interdisciplinary approach
2. Examine the aesthetic and humanistic traditions of Africans in the Americas from late 15th century to 1865, the end of slavery in the U.S from the perspectives of African Americans themselves
3. Critically analyze stereotypes and cultural images and the racialization process for African Americans
4. Demonstrate the diversity of perspectives within the African American community
5. Examine the causes, manifestations and impacts of prejudicial exclusion, structured inequalities, and systemic oppression as they impact African Americans
6. Understand African American efforts to resist systemic oppression

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Comprehend the arts and humanities as areas of scholarship and the contributions of African American studies to them
2. Explore the diversity of experiences within African American cultures from their African roots and first presence in the Americas through the Civil War.
3. Analyze the aesthetic dimensions and breadth of creative cultural expressions emerging from people of African descent within the contexts of their social and historical circumstances
4. Evaluate the causes, manifestations and impacts of slavery and systemic oppression on African Americans
5. Investigate African American traditions of resistance and resilience as creative expression.

## **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
5. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

## **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted