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CS 625 Black History, Theology and Mission

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CS625 BLACK HISTORY, THEOLOGY AND MISSION

Dr. Richard L. Gray

DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to examine the African-American religious experience and expression in America. To this end, facts and insights will be explored to assist the general community in gaining a better understanding of the place and role of the African American and his Church in the greater American society.

Learning objectives of the course are as follows: The student will be able . . .

1. To articulate the historical growth and development of the African-American Church and community within the United States.
2. To understand and evaluate the religious contributions of African Americans to American society.
3. To identify historical and current routes which African American leadership have used in order to advance the African American people.
4. To recognize those key issues which continue to effect the African American people living in the United States.

RELEVANCE FOR MINISTRY:

African Americans have played a significant role in the development of what is now the United States. Where did this people come from? Why were they brought to this continent? What is their present role and function? What of their future? These questions are but a few of the areas into which this course will delve as it seeks to prepare students to better understand a unique people. Understanding the history of African Americans is essential for any one seeking to minister in the urban communities of the United States.

COURSE FORMAT:

This course is being offered in an intensive format over a two-week period during January Term. A Lecture and discussion format will be utilized as the primary means of instruction.

REQUIRED READING:

Bennett, Lerone., *Before the Mayflower*. New York: Penguin Books, 1982.

Robinson, Randall., *The Debt*. New York: Dutton Books, 2000.

Wilmore, Gayraud S., *Black Religion and Black Radicalism: An Interpretation of the Religious History of Afro-American People*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1986.

RECOMMENED READING:

Evans, James., *We Have Been Believers*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1992.

Young, Henry J., *Major Black Religious Leaders 1755 - 1940*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1977.

Young, Henry J., *Major Black Religious Leaders Since 1940*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1977.

(See the selected bibliography at the end of this syllabus)

ASSIGNMENTS:

Each student is required to produce a research paper, not to exceed 10 pages in length. Additionally, unless serving in a ministry capacity that would be prohibitive, each student must attend a Black Church for a Sunday morning worship experience and discuss that experience in a small group setting. Each student must produce a biographical study of a significant Black religious leader chosen from the listing provided. This study should not be less than 10 pages and should not exceed 15 pages. Finally, each student will write a reflection paper on the “Wonders of Africa” video series to be shown in class. This reflection should not exceed three pages.

FINAL EXAMINATION:

Yes.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

The following papers are due during the semester.

1. Research Project that addresses the historical relationship between the American Black community and the Methodist Church (United or Wesleyan).
2. A biographical study of a significant Black Religious leader (to be chosen from the listing provided).
3. Unannounced objective quizzes
4. Reflection Paper on “Wonders of Africa” series

GRADING:

20% Quizzes and writing assignments

40% Research Projects

40% Final Exam

Black Leaders for Biographical Study

Edward Wilmot Blyden
Henry McNeal Turner
Martin Delany
Henry Highland Garnett
Alexander Crummell
Simeon of Cyrene
Nathaniel Paul
Richard Allen
David Walker
Nat Turner
Daniel Alexander Payne
James W. C. Pennington
Samuel Ringgold Ward
Marcus Garvey

W. E. B. DuBois
Mordecai Wyatt Johnson
Benjamin Elijah Mays
Howard Thurman
Adam Clayton Powell
Elijah Muhammad
Malcolm X
Albert B. Cleage, Jr.
C. Eric Lincoln
Charles Shelby Rooks
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Jesse Louis Jackson
James H. Cone
J. Deotis Roberts, Sr.

BLACK HISTORY, THEOLOGY AND MISSION
COURSE OUTLINE

Day One (Mon) January 7, 2002
Orientation and introductions.
Focus Introduction: (The Beginnings)
Reading: Class Video (Henry Louis Gates, *Wonders of Africa* Series)

Day Two (Tues) January 8, 2002
Focus The Beginnings (Cont.)
Reading: Class Video (Henry Louis Gates, *Wonders of Africa* Series)

Day Three (Wed) January 9, 2002
Focus Class Video (Henry Louis Gates, *Wonders of Africa* Series)
Reading: Begin readings in Bennett and Wilmore

Day Four (Thru) January 10, 2002
Focus Class Video (Henry Louis Gates, *Wonders of Africa* Series), cont.
Reading: Bennett and Wilmore

Day Five (Fri) January 11, 2002
Focus Africans to America
Reading: Begin incorporating Moses into your reading

Turn in Reflection Paper "Wonders of Africa"

Day Six (Mon) January 14, 2002
Focus A Brief journey through the Black experience in America

Day Seven (Tues) January 15, 2002
Focus The Black Church and the Age of Jim Crow

Day Eight (Wed) January 16, 2002
Focus The Black Church and the Golden Age of Black Nationalism

Turn in Biographical Study

Day Nine (Thur) January 17, 2002
Focus The Black Christian Leaders and a Divine Redemptive Mission

Day Ten (Fri) January 18, 2002
Focus Review and Final Exam

Turn in Research Paper

A Selected Bibliography

- Angell, Stephen Ward
1992 Bishop Henry McNeal Turner and African - American Religion in the South. Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press.
- Asante, Molefi K. and Mark T. Mattson
1992 Historical and Cultural Atlas of African-Americans. New York: MacMillian Publishing Company.
- Banks, William L.
1972 The Black Church in the U.S.: Its Origin, Growth, Contribution, and Outlook. Chicago: Moody Press.
- Berry, Mary Frances and John W. Blassingame
1982 Long Memory: The Black Experience in America. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Blyden, Edward Wilmot
1966 "The Call of Providence to the Descendants of Africa in America." Negro Social and Political Thought. Edited by Howard Brotz. New York: Basic Books.
1994 Christianity, Islam and the Negro Race. Baltimore, MD: Black Classic Press.
- Bracey, John, August Meier, and Elliot Rudwick, eds.,
1970 Black Nationalism in America. Indianapolis: Bobbs Merrill.
- Brotz, Howard ed.,
1966 Negro Social and Political Thought, 1850 - 1920: Representative Texts. New York: Basic Books.
- Carlisle, Rodney
1975 The Roots of Black Nationalism. Port Washington, NY: Kennikat Press.
- Cone, James H.
1969 Black Theology and Black Power. New York: Seabury.
1984 For My People: Black Theology and the Black Church. MaryKnoll, NY: Orbis.
- Crummell, Alexander
1966 "The Relations and Duties of Free Colored Men in America to Africa." Negro Social and Political Thought. Edited by Howard Brotz. New York:

Basic Books.

- 1991 "The Regeneration of Africa." Afro-American Religious History: A Documentary Witness. Edited by Milton C. Sernett. Durham: Duke University Press.
- 1992 "Civilization, The Primal Need of the Race." Destiny and Race: Selected Writings, 1840 - 1898. Edited by Wilson Jeremiah Moses. Amherst: The University of Massachusetts Press.
- Cruse, Harold
1967 The Crisis of the Negro Intellectual. New York: William Morrow & Co.
- Davis, Allison
1983 Leadership, Love and Aggression. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich.
- Delany, Martin
1966 "Official Report of the Niger Valley Exploring Party." Negro Social and Political Thought. Edited by Howard Brotz. New York: Basic Books.
- Delany, Martin
1988 The Condition, Elevation, Emigration, and Destiny of the Colored People of the United States, Politically Considered. Philadelphia: Self Published.
- Dittmer, John
1988 "The Education of Henry McNeal Turner." Black Leaders of the Nineteenth Century. Edited by Leon Litwack and August Meier. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Felder, Cain Hope
1991 "Race, Racism, and the Biblical Narratives." Stony The Road We Trod. Edited by Cain Hope Felder. Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- Fitts, Leroy
1985 A History of Black Baptists. Nashville: Broadman Press.
- Foner, Philip S.
1983 History of Black Americans: From the Compromise of 1850 to the End of the Civil War. London: Greenwood Press.
- Franklin, John Hope
1980 From Slavery to Freedom. New York: Knopf.
- Franklin, John Hope and Alfred A. Moss, Jr.
1994 From Slavery to Freedom. New York: Knopf.

- Frazier, E. Franklin
1974 The Negro Church in America. New York: Schocken.
- Garnet, Henry Highland
1966 The Past and Present condition and the Destiny of the Colored Race. Negro Social and Political Thought. Edited by Howard Brotz. New York: Basic Books.
- Hall, Raymond L.
1978 Black Separatism in the United States. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England.
- Hudson, Winthrop S.
1970 Nationalism and Religion in America. New York: Harper and Row, Publishers.
- Huggins, Nathan
1978 "Afro-Americans." Ethnic Leadership in America. Edited by J. Higham. New York: The Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Jones, Howard O.
1966 For This Time: A Challenge to Black and White Christians. Chicago: Moody Press.
- Levine, Lawrence W.
1982 "Marcus Garvey and the Politics of Revitalization." Black Leaders of the Twentieth Century. Edited by John Hope Franklin and August Meier. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Lincoln, C. Eric
1974 The Black Church Since Frazier. New York: Schocken.
- 1989 Race Religion and the Continuing American Dilemma. New York: Hill and Wang.
- Lincoln, C. Eric and Lawrence H. Mamiya
1990 The Black Church in the African-American Experience. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Litwack, Leon F.
1961 North of Slavery: The Negro in the Free States, 1790-1860. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

- Long, Richard A. and Eugene W. Collier
1986 Afro American Writings: An Anthology of Prose and Poetry. University Park: The Pennsylvania State University Press.
- Lynch, Hollis R.
1970 Edward Wilmot Blyden: Pan-Negro Patriot, 1832-1912. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Martin, Sandy D.
1989 Black Baptist and African Missions: The Origins of a Movement 1880 - 1915. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press.
- Meier, August
1968 Negro Thought In America: 1880 - 1915. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Meier, August and Elliot Rudwick
1988 From Plantation to Ghetto. New York: Hill and Wang.
- Miller, Floyd
1977 The Search for a Black Nationality: Black Emigration and Colonization 1787 - 1863. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Moses, Wilson Jeremiah
1978 The Golden Age of Black Nationalism, 1850 - 1925. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 1982 Black Messiahs and Uncle Toms: Social and Literary Manipulations of a Religious Myth. University Park and London: The Pennsylvania State University Press.
- 1992a Alexander Crummell: A Study of Civilization and Discontent. Amherst: The University of Massachusetts Press.
- 1992b Alexander Crummell, Destiny and Race: Selected Writings 1840 - 1898. Amherst: The University of Massachusetts Press.
- Moss, Alfred
1988 "Alexander Crummell: Black Nationalist and Apostle of Western Civilization." Black Leaders of the Nineteenth Century. Edited by Leon Litwack and August Meier. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Myrdal, Gunner
1944 An American Dilemma: The Negro Problem and American Democracy.

New York: Harper and Row.

- Ofari, Earl
1972 Let Your Motto Be Resistance: The Life and Thought of Henry Highland Garnet. Boston: Beacon.
- Parvin, Earl
1985 Missions USA. Chicago: Moody Press.
- Paris, Peter J.
1985 The Social Teaching of the Black Churches. Philadelphia: Fortress Press.
- Pinkney, Alfonso
1969 Black Americans. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, Inc.
- Ponton, Mungo M.
1917 Life and Times of Henry M. Turner. Atlanta: A.B. Caldwell.
- Quarles, Benjamin
1987 The Negro in the Making of America. New York: Macmillian Publishing Co.
- Raboteau, Albert J.
1980 Slave Religion: The "Invisible Institution" in the Antebellum South. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 1988 "Richard Allen and the African Church Movement." Black Leaders of the Nineteenth Century. Edited by Leon Litwack and August Meier. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Redkey, Edwin S., ed.,
1971 Respect Black: The Writings and Speeches of Henry McNeal Turner. New York: Arno.
- Sernett, Milton C.
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- Scruggs, Otey M.
1977 "We the Children of Africa in this Land." Africa and the Afro-American Experience. Edited by Lorraine A. Williams. Washington, DC: Howard University Press.
- Stuckey, Sterling, ed.,
1972 The Ideological Origins of Black Nationalism. Boston: Beacon.

- Stuckey, Sterling
1988 "A Last Stern Struggle: Henry Highland Garnet and Liberation Theory." Black Leaders of the Nineteenth Century. Edited by Leon Litwack and August Meier. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Turner, Henry McNeal
1986 The Voice of Missions. February 1,; Atlanta: A.M.E. Church. In Black Religion and Black Radicalism. Gayraud S. Wilmore. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.
- Ullman, Victor
1971 Martin R. Delany: The Beginnings of Black Nationalism. Boston: Beacon Press.
- White, John
1986 Black Leadership in America: 1895 - 1968. New York: Longman Group, Inc.
- Williams, Walter L.
1982 Black America and the Evangelization of Africa: 1877 - 1900. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.
- Wilmore, Gayraud S.
1986 Black Religion and Black Radicalism: An Interpretation of the Religious History of Afro-American People. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.
- Witvliet, Theo
1987 The Way of the Black Messiah. Oak Park, IL: Meyer Stone Books.
- Young, Robert Alexander
1972 "The Ethiopian Manifesto". Ideological Origins of Black Nationalism. Edited by Sterling Stuckey. Boston: Beacon Press.