This course is intended to provide a survey of the literature and analyses of African American politics. It is primarily oriented toward the development of concepts and theory in the study of black politics. The readings in the course are divided into political science categories such as ideology, electoral participation, movement politics and public policy. In addition, major periods in black political history are examined in the light of the behavioral and theoretical concerns prominent in political science.

Students are expected to participate regularly in class discussions. Grading will be based primarily on (a) 4 examinations out of 5. (b) some credit may be awarded for regular contributions to class discussions (5 points). Extra credit will be granted for (c) evidence (eg. reports or presentations) of participation in special seminars selected by the professor. Some (d) extra credit may be available for approved written proposals and presentations of individual student research. For optional student research, an informal proposal for the topic is required in the second week of class. The final grade is based on a 100 point scale for the semester unless otherwise indicated. Any one of the 5 exams serves as a make-up. There is no other make-up.

Readings

(*) Means the book may be available in the H. U. bookstore. Most other articles are photocopied in the library reserve or available through the library on-line.

[Weeks 1 & 2] OBJECTIVES: Identify major concepts in the history of race relations and black movement politics as well as distinguish between research concepts and perspectives of political actors.

I. Overview of Black American Politics
A. General Perspectives:
*Hanes Walton and Robert Smith, American Politics and the African American Quest for Universal Freedom, Ch. 3 & 4.

Marguerite Barnett & J. Hefner, Public Policy for the Black Community, Ch.1: "Theoretical Perspectives..."


**B. Political Science Concepts**
Walton and Smith, *American Pol. and African Amer. Quest*, Ch. 1

Michael Dawson, *Black Visions*, Chap. 1


[Week 3] OBJECTIVES: Understand persistent differences in concepts of black politics and diverse interpretations of racial group representation among black leaders concurrently and overtime.

**C. Concepts of Race in Political Behavior and Ideology**
Robert Smith, *We Have No Leaders*, Ch.1.


**Auxiliary**


John Gwaltney, *Drylongso*, pp. 3-23


II. The Emergence of Continuing Issues and Patterns of Behavior in Black Politics

Week 4. OBJECTIVES: Understand historical changes in the forms and impact of political participation such protest, movement, rebellious and electoral politics among African Americans

A. Historical Political Development of Black Institutions

Anti-bellum Political Organizing:


*Sterling Stuckey, *Slave Culture*, Ch.3, "Garnett..." and Ch.4, "Identity"

Reconstruction and Interracial Organizing:


John Hope Franklin, *From Slavery to Freedom*, Chs.17&18 in 3rd ed. (or two chapters on post-Civil War period in more recent editions).


Browne-Marshall, G. *Race, Law and American Society*, Chap. 1 & Timeline (xxiii-xxxii)

Auxiliary


Eugene Genovese, *Roll Jordan Roll*.


John Hope Franklin, *Reconstruction After the Civil War*.

Derek Bell, *And We Are Not Saved*, Ch. 1.
B. The Emergence of Nationalist-Integrationist Controversy


S. Stuckey, Slave Culture, Ch.5, "DuBois..."


M. Marable, Black Leadership, Ch.3 & 4.

Auxiliary


John White, Black Leadership in America, Ch.3 & 4.


Eugene Genovese, In Red and Black, Chapter 9.

F. Broderick and A. Meier, Negro Protest Thought in the Twentieth Century, "Booker T.,” and "Monroe Trotter..."

III. Twentieth Century Black Nationalism

[Week 6] OBJECTIVES: Identify the organizational and ideological characteristics of the UNIA. Understand the socioeconomic and political factors associated with the movement’s success and failures as well as factors associated with other nationalist groups.

A. The Garvey Movement


Walton and Smith, Amer. Pol. and African Amer. Quest, Ch. 8, pp. 125-133.
B. Modern Nationalists and Afrcentrists

Manning Marable, "Black Nationalism in the 1970s" in Socialist Review (reserve) or in Blackwater.


Lorenzo Morris, "The Million Man March..." (reserve).

Clarence Lusane, Race in the Global Era, Ch.11.


Auxiliary, A & B

C. Elaine Brown, A Taste of Power, Ch. 1.

Tony Martin, Marcus Garvey . . .

"Farrakhan...," Emerge (August 1990) (reserve)

Vincent Franklin, Living Our Stories.., "Malcolm X.."

Theodore Vincent, Black Power and the Garvey Movement, Ch. 1.

IV. Civil Rights Movement and Voting Rights Politics

[Week 7 & 8] OBJECTIVES: Understand the leadership and organizational characteristics of the civil rights movement as well as the socioeconomic factors associated with its emergence and decline.

A. The Organizing of the Movement and Protest

Aldon Morris, The Origins of the Civil Rights Movement, Chapter 1,2,3 and 6.

Manning Marable, Black American Politics, Ch. 2, “The Marches…”.

Robert Smith, We Have No Leaders, Ch. 2, "National Black Political Convention."


Auxiliary

Martin L. King, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," in Why We Can't Wait.

S. Carmichael and C. Hamilton, Black Power, Chapter 4 & 6.

F. Broderick and A. Meier, Negro Protest Thought in the Twentieth Century.

Claybourne Carson, The Struggle..., on M.F.D.P.


Andrew Hacker, Two Nations, Ch. 1.

[Week 9] OBJECTIVES: Identify the legal and political constraints historically imposed on black voters and the political-legal tactics used to attack voting rights discrimination.

B. Voting Rights

Chandler Davis, Minority Vote Dilution, Chapters 1 & 2.

Browne-Marshall, G. Race, Law..., Chap. 2


Auxiliary


William Keech, The Impact of Negro Voting, "Conclusion."

Frank Parker, Black Votes Count, Ch. 1.


Derrick Bell, Race and Racism in American Law.

Leon Higginbotham, In a Matter of Color.

Hanes Walton, Black Political Parties, Ch. 4.
VI. Voting Behavior and Electoral Politics

[Week 10] OBJECTIVES: Understand the effect of party and interest-group politics on black voting and organizing. Understand independent and coalition politics of black voting behavior

A. Patterns of Black Voting

Katherine Tate, Black Faces in the Mirror, Ch. 1.

Melissa Harris-Lacewell, Barbershops, Bibles and BET, Ch. 3, “Black Talk…”

Walton and Smith, Amer. Pol. and Af. Am. Quest., Ch.10.

Norman Nie, Verba and Petrocik, The Changing American Voter, Ch. 2 & 3.


[Week 11 & 12] OBJECTIVES: Understand changes in black historical presidential politics and the significance of the Obama presidency (additional readings to be announced).

B. Presidential Politics

Ronald Walter, "The Issue Politics of Jesse Jackson Campaign..," in L. Morris, The Social ..., Ch. 2.

Manning Marable, Black American, Chapter 5, "Rainbow Rebellion."


Michael Dawson, Behind the Mule, Ch.

[Week 13] OBJECTIVES: Identify and explain diverse cases of black mayoral leadership and urban politics

D. Local Political Participation

Georgia Persons, "Black Mayoralities....," in Persons, Dilemmas..., Ch. 10.


M. Davis and A. Willingham, "Andrew Young....," in Persons, Dilemmas..., Chp. 8.
**Auxiliary**


[Week 14] OBJECTIVES: Understand current ambiguities and debates about race-specific public policies

VII. Race and Interest Group Politics

A. Desegregation and Affirmative Action in Education

Hanes Walton, *African American Power*, Ch. 5, pp.77-86 and Ch. 9, pp.154-75.

Martin Carnoy, *Faded Dreams*, Ch. 7.


Bowles and Bok, *The Shape of the River* Introduction & Conclusion.

**Auxiliary**

Derrick Bell, *Race and Racism in American Law*.

Gail Thomas, ed. *Black Students in Higher Education*.

[Week 15] OBJECTIVES: Understand the persistent overlap of racial and economic inequality in public policy analysis.

III. Race and Social Class

A. Empirical of Analysis of Race and Class Factors

Melissa Harris-Lacewell, *Barbershops, Bibles and BET*, Ch. 1.


T. David Boston, Race, Class and Conservatism, Ch. 1 & 2.

**Auxiliary**

Donald Harris, "The Black Ghetto As an Internal Colony," Review of Black Political Economy (Summer 1972) pp. 3-33.

Richard Allen, Black Awakening in Capitalist America.


Oliver C. Cox, Caste, Class and Race, pp. 567-583.


**Note:** Any misrepresentation of work, including plagiarism and cheating, as indicated for students in the University’s “Academic Code of Conduct” is unacceptable and will result in failure and/or other sanctions.