

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: HUM 220 **Credits:** 3

Course Title: Introduction to African American Studies

Course Description:

Presents an interdisciplinary approach to the study of African-American life, history, and culture. Examines specific events, ideologies, and individuals that have shaped the contours of African-American life. Studies the history, sociology, economics, religion, politics, psychology, creative productions, and culture of African-Americans. The assignments in this course require college-level reading, analysis of scholarly studies, and coherent communication through properly cited and formatted written reports. Lecture 3 hours. Total 3 hours per week. 3 Credits.

General Course Purpose:

HUM 220 will broaden understanding and awareness of people and cultures specifically within the cultural and historical contexts of social groups throughout the world which may draw upon such fields as art, literature, religion, philosophy, social sciences, and music.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites:

None

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

Communication

- Through written, visual and/or oral presentations, describe and construct responses to themes from events in the arc of African American experiences.

Critical Thinking

- Analyze, discuss, and research topics in western and non-western cultures linking overarching questions through examining the humanities and related fields.

Cultural and Social Understanding

- Demonstrate understanding of cultural encounters, interactions, and negotiations between different societies and African American life.

Visual Arts

- Identify and classify various art forms and their stylistic relationships to the culture from African American life with an emphasis on architecture, music, dance, sculpture, and the fine and decorative arts.

Literature

- Recognize and critique key works of literature and their cultural importance, both to their original time and to their historical influence, with an emphasis on drama, poetry,

History, religion, politics, and sociology

- Summarize and evaluate the central beliefs, positions, and practices of the most prominent religious and philosophical systems, historical and economics events and their impact and development within African American life.

Major Topics to be Included:

- Visual Arts
- Literature
- History, religion, politics, and sociology

Effective Date/Updated: January 1, 2023