

HISTORY 227  
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

---

P. Albert Lacson  
Department of History  
Grinnell College

Office: Mears 201  
Phone: x3229  
E-mail: [lacson@grinnell.edu](mailto:lacson@grinnell.edu)

Course time and location: M,W 10-11:20 a.m., HSSC N1118  
Office hours: by appointment

---

Description

1. Ta-Nehisi Coates,



## Learning Accommodations

If you require specific physical, psychiatric or learning accommodations, please let me know at the beginning of the semester so that we can formulate a plan to address your

Monday, February 3

- 1) The Brownies' Book Encourages Black Children to Know Their History, 1920
- 2) Carter G. Woodson on His Goals for Black History, 1922
- 3) Mary McLeod Bethune Outlines the Objectives of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History
- 4) John Hope Franklin Explains the Lonely Dilemma of the American Negro Scholar, 1963
- 5) Vincent Harding on the Differences Between Negro History and Black History, 1971 (All 5 are in one PDF, entitled "African American History Over Time")

Short Assignment #3, due before class. This assignment compels you to ~~write~~ <sup>write</sup> explain how the meaning of African American history for African Americans has changed over time. In one paragraph, explain what you see as the most ~~signi~~ <sup>significant</sup> difference between the early twentieth century and the latter part of the twentieth century in the role of African American history for African Americans.

Wednesday, February 5

- 1) Walter Rodney, "African Societies Were Transformed by the Slave Trade" (PDF)
- 2) John Thornton, "African Societies Voluntarily Participated in the Slave Trade" (PDF)

Monday, February 10

Reading:

- 1) John Thornton, "African Participation in the Slave Trade" (PDF)
- 2) Job Ben Solomon account (PDF)

Short Assignment #4, due at the ~~begin~~ <sup>beginning</sup> of class: Does the Job Ben Solomon document support Rodney or Thornton's argument about the role of African in the slave trade?

Wednesday, February 12

- 1) Stanley Elkins, "Slavery and Personality" (PDF)
- 2) Michael Gomez, "Talking Half African" (PDF)

Monday, February 17

NO CLASS

3) "Petition of an African slave, to the legislature of Massachusetts." ~~Free~~

Monday, April 6

Reading:

- 1) Margaret Garner, a Slave Mother, Kills Her Child Prevent Reenslavement, 1856  
(Documents 25 are in one PDF)
- 2) Description of Two Women Outlaws, c. 1850s
- 3) Descriptions of Love and Courtship in Slavery
- 4) Letters

Monday, April 27

Reading:

- 1) Danielle L. McGuire, *At the Dark End of the Street*, Prologue, Ch. 1-3

Wednesday, April 29

Reading

- 1) McGuire, *At the Dark End of the Street*, Ch. 4, 6, and Epilogue

Monday, May 4

Reading: Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part I and II

Wednesday, May 6

Reading: Ta-Nehisi Coates, "The Case for Reparations," *The Atlantic* 2014.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/features/archive/2014/05/the-case-for-reparations/361631/>

RESEARCH PAPER DUE: Thursday, May 14, 5 p.m., via email PioneerWeb

TAKE HOME FINAL EXAM DUE: Friday, May 15, 5 p.m., via PioneerWeb