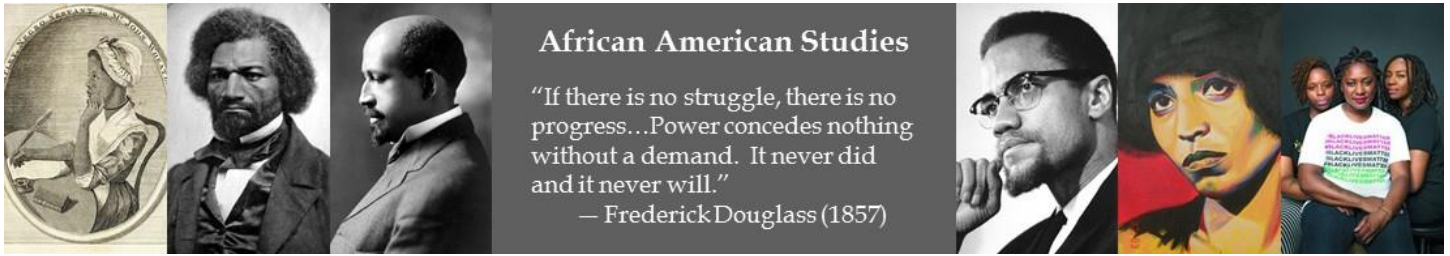


Introduction to African American Studies



EGST 203-501
Spring 2018 **Online**
Professor Erin Judge

Course Description:

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the interdisciplinary field of African American Studies. Historical, literary, theoretical and political perspectives within many African American traditions will be explored. The social construction of race, the history and legacies of slavery and Jim Crow and the fight for racial justice and freedom will be central to the course. Texts will include primary sources such as slave narratives, historical and literary sources as well as more contemporary theoretical and artistic works. The course will also investigate the complex experience of multiple kinds of African peoples in the Americas over the past 500 years.

The course seeks to provide the kind of education that students went on strike for in California in 1968 where they called for a curriculum that spoke to their needs and their histories and concerns – the number one demand was for the focus of such a curriculum to “tell the truth” about history. Those demonstrations resulted in the founding of the first Black Studies department at San Francisco State University. While only so much can be covered in one class, the course’s aim is to provide a solid foundation of the history and culture of African Americans in the United States.

Fulfills U.S. Diversity Core Requirement