

## **MARTIN & MALCOLM**

AFA 3930 – Section 05F5

REL 3938 – Section 2445

Fall 2017

Mondays 7<sup>th</sup> period (1:55-2:45 PM)

Wednesdays 7<sup>th</sup> period (1:55-2:45 PM)

Fridays 7<sup>th</sup> period (1:55-2:45 PM)

### **Anderson Hall 13**

#### **Course Description**

##### **COURSE GOALS:**

- Learn both Malcolm X's and Martin Luther King's histories through reading their autobiographies, what others have written about them and looking at films and documentaries about them.
- Learn how their personal histories shaped their views of America: A *Nightmare* for Malcolm X and a "possible" *Dream* for Martin.
- Learn about the two main resistance traditions in African American history – **Integration** and **Black Nationalism** that these two men symbolize.
- Learn about these men's religious traditions: Christianity and Islam and the role it played in their lives and their missions.
- Learn about the Movements these two men began or expanded and those Movement's goals and aspirations for black people, for the United States of America and people of African descent around the world.
- Learn about role of the CIA, FBI and other intelligence agencies in the harassment and possible death of these two leaders.
- Learn about the national and international impact these two men have had on the US and world-wide movements against oppression.

##### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND PERCENTAGES OF YOUR GRADE:**

1). Attendance and **active** participation in class discussion. We are going to cover a lot of ground in a concentrated amount of time. Therefore each class meeting is very important. Therefore roll will be taken at each class. You are allowed **three unexcused absences without penalty**. Each unexcused absence after three will take 2 points off of your final grade for the semester. Please keep track of your absences in your calendars on

your phones or elsewhere. Excused absences include: 1). illness with a note from the infirmary or your private doctor on stationary saying that you were too ill to attend class on the day you were absent. 2). Death or serious illness of a close relative with documentation. 3). Member of a UF Sports Team, Band, Choir, Dance, Drama, Debating Team or other activity that required your attendance (please let me know at the beginning of the class that you are a member and will need to be absent on certain dates), Job Interviews, etc.

## 2). **Reading and Writing Assignments**

2-A). **REQUIRED: Content Queries** - Each person is expected to read each assignment and be able to actively participate in our discussions of these readings. To motivate your reading of each assignment, each student is to **prepare two written questions, quotes with a brief explanation on why these quotes were significant to you or your Reactions to each of the readings assigned for that class.** You are to post these Content Queries on the Canvas site set up for you to post your CQs and to e-mail these to the instructor on the day before the class meets by 9:00PM. [We meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays this semester, therefore, please post on Sunday by 9:00 PM, on Tuesday by 9:00PM, and on Thursday by 9:00 PM.. Each student is to review the list on canvas before class. These Content Queries will not be graded but read for content. These Content Queries represent **30% of your grade.**

2- B). **REQUIRED: Reaction Papers** - Each student will write **4 Reaction Papers** to 4 of the assigned readings during the course of the term.

Additionally each student will do one oral presentation of the assigned readings that they have written a reaction paper on. You will basically lead the class discussion with the instructor for that class period. An outline or synopsis of your oral presentation is to be distributed to the class when you make your oral presentation of the assigned reading for that day. It can be done as a Power-Point presentation, or as a lecture with either a printed or an on-line hand-out. In other classes students have used YouTube clips or other video or audio materials during their presentations. Please make your oral presentations as interesting and thought provoking as possible. Each student will select the **four** readings from the **Course Assignment List** that you

want to write your **four reaction papers** on and select **one** of those four dates for your **oral presentation/class facilitation date** also. I will ask you to give me in writing your four dates on the 3<sup>rd</sup> class of the semester. I will compile and circulate the master list of dates when each of you will write your Reaction Papers and the date on which you will facilitate our class discussion. The **four papers** and **your oral presentation** with handout will account for **40% of your grade.**

2-C). **REQUIRED: Research Paper** - Each student is to write an end of the term **10 page minimum Research Paper** on some aspect of the life, thought and activities of Malcolm X or Martin Luther King, Jr or Both. You can select one or the other or you can contrast and compare their lives or their movements to one another. We will discuss your papers and appropriate titles as we get further into the semester. This paper & an oral presentation of your paper topic with handouts) will count for **30% of your grade**

Recap of Requirements:

- 1) **Content Queries:** Two in depth questions, quotes with explanations, reactions to each of the readings for that day are to be posted on our class Canvas site and e-mailed to me on the day before our class meets by 9:00 PM. Please put the page number and book title that you have taken your questions or quotes from on your Content Queries and the e-mail of them that you send to me. We will discuss these in class. This will count for **30% of your grade**
- 2) Each student will write **four** reaction papers during the term, which will be graded and returned with written comments during the term. **One of these four papers will be presented in an Oral Presentation/Class Facilitation. Your oral presentation can be your Reaction Paper, a Power Point Presentation or a synopsis of the chapter in a format of your choosing: Your handout can be either a hard-copy to be distributed in class or to be pulled up on the screen in our classroom.** The **four** reaction papers and your oral presentation with handout will count for **40% of your grade.**

3) Each student will **write a 10 page (minimum) research paper.** Each student will make an oral presentation in class with a 2 page synopsis of your research to be handed out at the time of your oral presentation **in either hard-copy to be distributed in class or to be pulled up on video screen. 30% of your grade.**

Summary of requirements and percentages of your final grade:

Content Queries	30%
Four Reaction Papers	40%
Research Project and Paper	30%
Total	100%

Students with disabilities:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to me with your requests for specific accommodations.

Policy on Absences

Because of the importance of class attendance, **Roll will be taken at each class. Only three unexcused absences are permitted before it impacts negatively upon your grade. All unexcused absences above three will decrease your grade by 2 points. Being late repeatedly can cause you to be recorded as absent for that day unless you have alerted me in advance that you will be late for a valid reason.** Roll will be taken soon after class begins. Students who leave class without prior permission and a valid excuse to be determined before class by the instructor as valid will be marked absent even if your name appears on the role taken that day. I will note on the role sheet that you left class before we dismissed officially.

Excused absences include:

a). **Serious illness.** You must have a note from your doctor **written on her or his stationary or** from the **University's Infirmary** saying that you were too ill to attend class on the **specific date (s)** that you missed. Also serious illness of a close family member (mother, father, child, sibling, grandparents) that requires your assistance verified on a doctor's stationary will be considered as an excused absence.

b). **Death of a close family member** whose funeral or other service you attend that is certified by a letter from the funeral director or religious official who handled your family member's service. **This must be on official stationary from the funeral home or the religious official.**

c). **Attendance and participation in university activities**, i.e. choirs, debating teams, sports teams, etc. Please inform the instructor at the beginning of the term of your membership in these activities and your expected days of absence. I need official documentation of your membership and confirmation from the university official advising the group of your scheduled absence on official stationary with a phone number. Also graduating seniors who have interviews for jobs, internships and the like will be excused with official papers confirming such meetings.

Please be responsible and let me know about other problems not on this list that might have caused you to be absent. Let's discuss any problems with your assignments early in term before they become big problems. I am here for you and want to be helpful in any way that I can. TALK TO ME AND LET ME KNOW IF THERE IS A PROBLEM! I WANT TO HELP!!!!

### Required texts

(These are available at the University of Florida Bookstore)

- 1). Malcolm X, with Alex Haley, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, New York, Random House Publishers, paperback, 1967. ISBN: 9780345350688.
- 2). Clayborne Carson, *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.* New York, Time Warner Books, paperback 2001, ISBN: 0446676500.
- 3). James Cone, *Martin & Malcolm & America*, Maryknoll, NY, Orbis Books, paperback, 2000, ISBN: 0883448246.
- 4). Cornell West, editor & Introduction, *The Radical King: Martin Luther King, Jr.*, Boston: Beacon Press, 2015, ISBN: 9780807034521.
- 5). Herb Boyd & Ilyasah Al-Shabazz, *The Diary of Malcolm X –El Hajj Malik El-Shabazz*, Chicago: Third World Press, hardback, 2013, ISBN: 9780883783511.

There will be additional readings posted on our Canvas site and sent as pdfs via our Class List.

We will also view numerous videos of Malcom X & Martin Luther King, Jr. during the term.

Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons, Ph.D. Instructor

[Zoharah@ufl.edu](mailto:Zoharah@ufl.edu)

Office Hours: Tuesdays: noon – 3:00PM

& By Appointment

Office Address: 107-A Anderson Hall/

Office Number: 273-2940