

Introduction to African American Religion
COURSE OUTLINE
Religion 3139/062H - AFA3356/059H:
Undergraduate - Introduction to African American Religions

Spring 2015

Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons, Ph.D.	Instructor
Class Meeting Times	Mondays 8 th & 9 th Period (3:00 – 4:55pm) Wednesdays 9th Period (4:05 -5:00 pm)
Class Location	Matherly 119 - Mondays Matherly 119 - Wednesdays
Office Location	107 Anderson Hall
Office Phone Number	(352) 273-2940 /Fax 392-7395
Office Hours	Mondays 10:00 -1:00 & by Appointment
e-mail Address	Zoharah@ufl.edu

1.) January 7th

Introduction of Syllabus & Course Outline, introduction of class members

2.) January 12th

View Segment One of the Documentary Film: *This Far by Faith*
& View documentary film segment of: *Africans in America with*
Discussion

3.) January 14th

Reading from: *This Far by Faith*, Introduction, Chapter 1, (pp. 1-42) & *Down By The Riverside*, Introduction, Part I: ***Thematic, Contextual Prisms for Understanding African American Religion***, Chapter 1, (pp.9-20)

4.) January 19th

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. HOLIDAY – No Classes - I Hope that each of you will make this a day ON and not a day OFF. Please sign up for a service project. Check with the Institute of Black Culture (IBC) for more information.

5.) January 21st

CLASS CANCELLED

I will be giving the Adams University Dr. Martin Luther King Lecture
In Alamosa, Colorado

But you are to read the Assigned Reading (listed below) and write a minimum **two page Reflection Paper** (this is separate from the Four Reaction Papers you will select dates for that you will write this semester) to be turned in on **January 26th**. Readings from *Down By The Riverside*, Introduction, Part II: ***From the Motherland to Another Land ...: Chapter 4, The Religious***

Dimension: “The Black Sacred Cosmos.” (pp. 32- 40), & Chapter 5 (pp. 41-48).

- 6.) January 26th** Discussion of your two page papers written on the readings for January 21st & Assigned Readings for today: *This Far by Faith*, “Introduction” & Chapter 1: (pp.1-42) “God Has a Hand in It,” & *Down by the Riverside*, Part I: ***Thematic, Contextual Prisms for Understanding African American Religion***, Chapter 2 (pp. 20-25) & Chapter 3 (pp. 26-32).

The Dates for your Four Reaction Papers to be type written & turned in today

Select the four dates on which you want to write your reaction papers
Also pick the two dates on which you want to lead the class discussions

- 7.) January 28th** Readings from *This Far by Faith*, Chapter 2, “The Prince” & *Down By the Riverside*, Part II: ***From the Motherland to Another Land ...***: Chapter 8, (pp. 69-80) Pre-Twentieth Century Islam.

February is Black History Month. There will be many events on campus and in the city related to this month. Announcements of events will be sent to the class.

- 8.) February 2nd** *African Muslims in America in Antebellum America*, Chapter 2, “Glimpses of Seventy-Five African Muslims in Antebellum North America” & Chapter 3, “Job Ben Solomon. (These Readings will be sent to you via our List Serve.) View Film “*The Prince*.”
- 9.) February 4th** *Down By the Riverside*, Chapter 6 (pp. 49-58), Chapter 7 (pp.59-68) & *This Far by Faith*, Chapter 3, (pp.75-100).
- 10.) February 9th** *Down By the Riverside*, Chapter 9 (pp. 81-84), Chapter 10 (pp. 85-96) & Chapter 11, (pp.97-108). View Documentary: Segment two – *This Far by Faith*.
- 11.) February 11th** *Down By The Riverside, Part III: “Slavery’s Chain Down Broke At Las’”* Chapter 12 (pp. 109-121) & *This Far by Faith*, Chapter 4: (pp.101-124) “God Is a Negro.”
- 12.) February 16th** *This Far By Faith*, Chapter 5, (pp.125-148) “The Business of Religion,” & Chapter 6 (pp.149-170) , “Saved, Baptized and Holy Ghost Filled.” View documentary on the *Underground Railroad* .
- 13.) February 18th** *Down By The Riverside*, Chapter 19, (pp.189- 202), Chapter 13 (pp.122-132), Chapter 14 (pp.133-140), & Chapter 15, (pp.141-154).
- 14.) February 23rd** *Down By The Riverside, Part IV: A Shift of Locus and Focus....*: Chapter 16

(pp. 155-159), Chapter 17, (pp. 160-174), & Chapter 18 (pp. 175-189). View Documentary on *Reconstruction*.

15.) February 25th View Documentary – Remainder of Reconstruction film

Turn in your Draft Research Paper Proposal with beginning Bibliography

**Mid –Term Break
February 27th –March 9th
ENJOY YOUR BREAK!!!**

- 16.) March 9th** *The New Black Gods* (book), Introduction & Chapter 1, (pp.1-30), *Slavery by Another Name* (book) Introduction (pp. 1-12) (This material will be sent via e-mail) View Documentary, *Slavery by Another Name*.
- 17.) March 11th** *The New Black Gods*, Chapter 2 (pp. 31-48) & Chapter 3 (pp. 49-69).
- 18.) March 16th** *The New Black Gods*, Chapter 4 (pp. 70-90) & Chapter 5 (pp. 91-115) & *This Far by Faith* (book), Chapter 7 (pp.171-198)
View documentary, *This Far by Faith*, Segment Three.
- 19.) March 18th** *Down by The Riverside*, Chapter 18 (pp. 175-188), Chapter 29, (pp.289-293).
- 20.) March 23rd** *Down by The Riverside*, Chapter 20 (pp.203-207), Chapter 21 (pp. 208-220), Chapter 22 (pp. 221-224), Chapter 23 (pp.225-231), & View Documentary *This Far by Faith*, Segment Four.
- 21.) March 25th** *Down by The Riverside*, Chapter 24 (pp. 232-242), Chapter 25 (pp. 243-255) & Chapter 27 (pp. 260-272).
- 22.) March 30th** *The New Black Gods*, Chapter 7 (pp. 145-170), *Down by The Riverside*, Chapter 30 (pp. 293-302) & Chapter 31 (pp. 303-316) & View Documentary Title TBA.
- 23.) April 1st** *Down by The Riverside*, Chapter 32 (pp.317-328), Chapter 33 (pp. 329-338) & *This Far by Faith* (book), Chapter 8 (pp. 199-230).
- 24.) April 6th** *Down by the Riverside*, Part VIII: Chapter 37 (pp.389-413, Chapter 38 (pp.414-416), Chapter 39, (pp. 417-422), *This Far by Faith* (book), Chapter 10, (pp.255-282), View Documentary, *Eyes on the Prize*, Segment 8.
- 25.) April 8th *Down by the Riverside*, Chapter 40 (pp. 423-433), Chapter 41, (pp. 434-446), *This Far by Faith*, Chapter 9, (pp. 231-254).
- 26.) April 13th *The New Black Gods*, Chapter 9 (pp. 192-208), Chapter 11, (pp. 226-249), *This Far by Faith*, Chapter 11 (pp. 285-300) & Conclusion (pp.301-304). View Documentary, *Eyes on the Prize*, Segment 9.
- 27.) April 15th *Down by the Riverside*, Part IX: Chapter 42 (pp. 447-468) & Chapter 43 (pp.469-

481).

28.) April 20th Cont'd discussion of Readings from April 15th. View Documentary, *This Far by Faith*, Segment 5 & Discussion

29.) April 22nd Last Day of Class – **PARTY**

April 27th

RESEARCH PAPER DUE IN MY OFFICE BY 5:00 PM

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER VACATION !!!!!!!

Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons, Ph.D.
January 12, 2015