Course Format and Goals:

This course uses an ethnographic approach to examine the psychological experiences of African Americans and other peoples of African descent around the world. Historical and cultural phenomena are discussed with specific attention given to understanding the Afrocentric world view and issues of mental health, personality, identity development, racism, oppression and psychological empowerment. Discussions of contemporary issues and concerns within the African American community will be a major part of the course. Upon completion of this course the student will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the historical roots of psychology from an African-centered perspective and be able to identify the development of "Afrikan (Black) Psychology" as a distinct system of psychological thought, research and practice.
- Display knowledge of the "Afrocentric world view" and its role in the psychological study of African peoples.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how "Lived Experience" can assist in the understanding of the African American experience and provide a frame of reference for which to study the psychological experience of other peoples throughout the world.
- Demonstrate the ability to conduct a critique of at least one of the primary areas related to psychology and the African American experience.
- Explore his or her own world view and thought patterns as they relate to psychological and social experiences.

Course Requirements (unless otherwise indicated all written assignments will be submitted on WebCT Vista):

1. Student should COME PREPARED TO EVERY CLASS having read daily class readings.
2. There will be ONE Initial Student Survey, FOUR Video/Film Response Papers, a project paper outline, a thoughtful Reaction Paper to “47,” Two external reaction papers, seven Online Quizzes, a Final Exam., one Final Project Paper, and one Project Paper Presentation.
3. Students must go online to WebCT Vista and complete the “Initial Student Survey” assignment. This assignment requires students to successfully navigate the WebCT Vista system including uploading an MSWord attachment. 5 points will be received for successful completion.
4. The VIDEO/FILM RESPONSE PAPERS will be either freelance or in response to questions created and distributed by the instructor. They will be non-graded (points will be given for ON-TIME submissions).
5. The THOUGHTFUL REACTION PAPER on the “47” novel will be in response to specific questions provided by the instructor and also non-graded (points will be given for ON-TIME submissions).
6. **Two EXTERNAL THOUGHTFUL REACTION PAPERS.** Students are required to attend **TWO** activities or events external to the class that can be connected with the course material. Once attended, a thoughtful reaction paper should be submitted. No external reaction papers will be accepted after the final day of class. If you are unsure if a particular event will qualify for this assignment, seek approval from the instructor.

7. Students will be required to take seven (7) **ONLINE QUIZZES** on the supplemental web page (WebCT Vista – vista.ncsu.edu) designed for this course. The quizzes will primarily be multiple choice, true/false and short answer and primarily cover the readings from the primary text. Students will be notified in advance of when the quiz will be uploaded and have approximately one-week to take the quiz before it is removed from the web page.

8. The **FINAL EXAM** will also be **ONLINE** and the format will be multiple choice, true/false, short answer and a couple of essay questions. The essay questions will require students to adequately integrate the course material with authentic social and psychological issues as they relate to the African American experience.

9. A **PROJECT PAPER** (Due December 3rd) & **GROUP PRESENTATIONS** (Time to be determined) will be due at the end of the semester. **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**
   - Time for Presentations (going over the limit will lose you points…so practice!)
     - Individual presentations = 10 minutes
     - 1-2 people presentations = 15 minutes
     - 3 or more people presentations = 20 minutes
   - Best Practices
     - Come early to make sure the “technology” works so that you are not fumbling with it when it is your time and you can upload it to the computer beforehand.

### Overall Class Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Class Attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Class participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Initial Student Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Responses to four Video/Film (some will have discussion questions) @ 5 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Project Topic Submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Paper project outline &amp; supplemental references (late submissions will lose points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>“47” Thoughtful Reaction Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Two External Thoughtful Reaction Papers @ 10 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Seven (7) Online Quizzes @ 5 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Project paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Group presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>285</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As per University policy, +/- grades will be given for this course according to the criteria provided below. In general, however, the scale will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>% of Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 - 96%</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>79 - 76%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95 - 92%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>75 - 72%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>91 - 90%</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>71 - 70%</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<td>89 - 86%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>69 - 66%</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 - 82%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>65 - 62%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81 - 80%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>61 - 60%</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Policies

**Attendance and Participation:** Africana Studies values student attendance in courses and expects attendance in all courses from the very first day of class. One point is given for class attendance each week and an additional point is provided for student engagement and participation in the class. You may lose points for participation if the instructor judges your presence to be unattentive (sleeping, checking cell phone, etc.) or disruptive. **There is a 5 minute grace period after the start of the class for late arrivers. If you arrive after that 5-minute period you will lose one point for attendance by may still receive 1 participation point.** You will be allowed two unexcused absences without penalty. Students will lose both attendance and participation points for all subsequent unexcused absences. This policy is enforced even for students who register in the course late. If you miss the first or second day of a course, these absences will count in your overall total of absences.

**The only exceptions** to this policy will be for excused absences as defined by university regulations. Per university regulations excused absences include sanctioned anticipated situations and documented emergency situations. Anticipated situations (participating in an official university function, court attendance, religious observances, or military duty) must be submitted in writing at the beginning of the semester or within one week of the anticipated absence. Emergency absences (student illness, injury or death of immediate family member) must also be documented by Parents and Family Services (515-2441). It is your responsibility to obtain the appropriate documentation for your professor on excused absences. If you have further questions on university regulations, consult the following web page:


Please also take note of the following:

- Turn off all cellphones and MP3 or other music players prior to entering the classroom. Remove earphones from ears as well.
- There should be NO checking cellphones for time or messages during the class.
- Laptop computers are welcome but should not be connected to the internet.

**Academic Integrity:** Strict standards of academic honesty will be enforced according to the University policy on academic integrity. I expect that student’s signature on any test or assignment means that you have neither given nor received unauthorized aid. Consult the following website for further details:

http://www.fis.ncsu.edu/ncsulegal/41.03-codeof.htm

**ADA Statement:** Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. For more information, see http://www.ncsu.edu/provost/offices/affirm_action/dss/

For the policy, see:

Http://www.ncsu.edu/policiesacademic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php
**Africana Studies Equity Statement:** All persons, regardless of age, race, religion, gender, physical disability or sexual orientation shall have equal opportunity without harassment in Africana Studies courses and programs. Any harassment should be reported immediately to either the classroom instructor or the program director.

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### REVISED Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date (week of)</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Week 1**  
August 22nd | Introduction and Overview |  |
| **Week 2**  
August 27th | "Isms" (Gender, race, class, etc.) |  |
| **Week 3**  
September 5th | History of traditional and Afrikan Psychology | Thoughtful Reaction 1 |
| **Week 4**  
September 10th | Conceptual Framework - Afrocentricity  
Video: “Race: Power of an Illusion – The House We Live In” |  |
| **Week 5**  
September 17th | Conceptual Framework - Optimal Psychology | Thoughtful Reaction 2  
**Project Topic Due 9/19th** |
| **Week 6**  
September 24th | African Roots  
Video: "The Primal Mind" | Thoughtful Reaction 3 |
| **Week 7**  
October 1st | The Psychology of Oppression | “47” Reading to be completed |
| **Week 8**  
October 8th  
(*Fall Break*) | “47” Discussion | 47 Reaction Paper Due  
**Project Outline Due (October 10th)** |
| **Week 9**  
October 15th | Afrikan Personality and Identity Development |  |
| **Week 10**  
October 22nd | African American Mental Health  
Video: *James Baldwin: The Price of the Ticket* |  |
| **Week 11**  
October 29th | Ecological Perspectives – Community Psychology | Thoughtful Reaction 4 |
| **Week 12**  
November 5th | Microsystem Issues, Psychology & the African American Experience |  |
| **Week 13**  
November 12th | Psychology & the African American Community |  |
| **Week 14**  
November 19th | Future Directions | Thanksgiving Break 21st – 23rd |
| **Week 15**  
November 26th | Student Presentations | Final Project Paper Due  
(December 1st) |
| **Week 16**  
December 3rd | 12/3 = Video: *TBA*  
12/5 = Student Evaluation of Teaching Wrap-Up |  |
| **December 12th** | Student Presentations  
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
G123 Tompkins Hall |  |
Required Text & Readings:

3. Readings found on WebCT, ELECTRONIC RESERVE in D.H. Hill Library and Learning Resources Library. Electronic Reserve can be accessed at: http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/reserves/

Course Readings Schedule:

(*=text, **= paper and electronic reserve, ***=video to be seen in class)

Week 1


Week 2

*Belgrave & Allison (2006). Chapter 1

Week 3


Week 4


Week 5

*Belgrave & Allison (2006). Chapter 4

Week 6


Week 7


**Week 8**


**Week 9**

* Belgrave & Allison (2006). *Chapters 9 & 10*


**Week 10**

* Belgrave & Allison (2006). *Chapters 11 & 12*

**Week 11**

* Belgrave & Allison (2006). *Chapter 5*

**Week 12**


- Hilliard, T. O. *Applications of psychology and the criminal justice system,* (p. 693-704).
- Jones, F. *The black psychologist as consultant and therapist,* (p. 653-666).

**Week 13**


- Brookins, C. C. *African/Community psychology: Exploring the foundations of a progressive paradigm,* (p. 27-50).


**Week 14**