



Black Freedom Movement, 1955-Present

AAST 4000 [CH,D<>{none}]

This course presents the struggle of African Americans for self-definition, self-development, and self-determination from the inception of the modern civil rights movements to the contemporary period. *Prerequisite:* 3 hours of AAST courses.

The Black Freedom Movement, 1955-Present, will dedicate attention to providing an analysis of America's current race relations crisis and social atmosphere, including an in-depth examination of the BLACK LIVES MATTER movement. As an overarching theoretical perspective, this course will examine contemporary social movement historiography utilizing the Standpoint Theory. The Standpoint Theory argues that knowledge stems from social positioning. In societies stratified by gender and other categories, such as race and class, one's social position shapes their worldview. Often ignored by mainstream research, people at the bottom of social hierarchies possess a unique standpoint that represents a vital starting point to create and define essential research topics that challenge the status quo. The Black Freedom Movement, 1955-Present, will examine and highlight the voices of the most marginalized populations to widen the dominant discourse within contemporary social movement research.