

## **African American Internationalism**

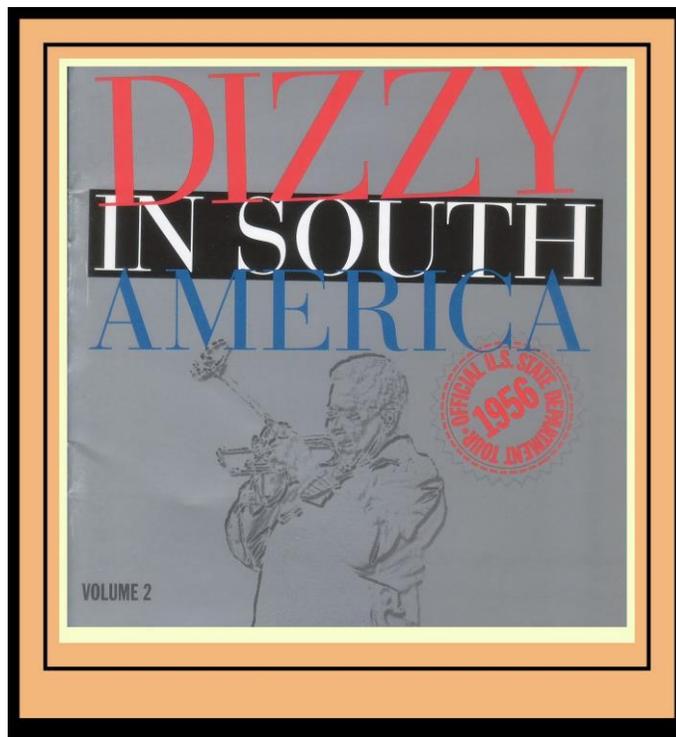
### **INTL 190**

Professor Jessica Graham

Wednesday, 12pm-2:50 pm, Robinson Building Complex (RBC), Rm. 1328

Office Hours: Wednesday 5-6 pm, HSS 6016

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In this course we will explore the ways in which African Americans have influenced and been influenced by international movements, ideologies, events, and leaders. African Americans have long attempted to understand racial conditions in a global context, looking outside of national borders for solutions, ideas, and partners in the fight for equality. Although the African Diaspora and Pan-Africanism played a major role, U.S. black internationalism has by no means been limited to the black experience, as many African American intellectuals, leaders, and average citizens have admired and/or sought to engage with countries like Japan and Russia. African American internationalism was also not a one-way street, for U.S. blacks often had a powerful impact on changing social, political, and cultural conditions in other nations.

Our inquiry will be driven by the following questions: What did African Americans have to gain from using a global perspective in tackling racial oppression? What did they have to lose? How and why have blacks in the U.S. organized and formed alliances with activists/leaders in other countries? How has the gaze of the world affected racial politics in the U.S.? How have African Americans affected social,

political, and cultural movements abroad? What has caused other international governments, organizations, and groups to ally with or be drawn to U.S. blacks?

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

Presentation (15%): Students are required to give one 15-20 minute group presentation during the quarter. Students in each group will work together to present on the reading assigned for that day. **Please email the professor with your two preferred presentation dates by 5pm on Friday, 1/11.** (First come, first served.) Every presentation *must* answer the following three questions: What is the author's argument/thesis? How does the author try to prove his/her argument? Do you buy it? You may decide to focus merely on these three questions for your presentation, but you can also address any of the questions stated in the description above, and/or other issues that interest you. Each presentation must end with four discussion questions for the class, which **must be emailed to the professor by 4pm the day before the presentation is given.**

Annotated Bibliography and Workshop (20%): Each student must prepare a detailed annotated bibliography of their final paper. The annotated bibliography must include a 3-5 page double-spaced description of the final research project that provides a good explanation of the topic you have chosen. The description should also state the question(s) you are going to ask in the paper, and *why* you think those questions are important.

In addition to the 3-5 page description, the annotated bibliographies must also include one paragraph for *each* of the 5-6 outside sources you are going to use for your paper. In that paragraph you should provide a statement about what that particular source is about and state why you think it will help you answer your question(s).

The **annotated bibliography workshop** will be an opportunity for students to read and comment on one another's bibliographies. Students are expected to carefully read one another's bibliographies (which will be posted on TED) and come to class with prepared comments/suggestions. During the workshop each student will have a turn to present his/her topic to the class, and we will discuss the project at large. Students that have concerns or problems with their own projects should feel free to express their frustrations so that we can brainstorm potential solutions collectively. This is an opportunity for students to get helpful feedback, and thus, part of your grade will depend upon your active participation in the discussions about your classmates' projects.

**Annotated bibliographies are due by 10am on Monday, 2/11.**

Final Paper (45%): Final paper topics are chosen by students, but must somehow be connected to *one* source from the class readings. The final paper must include this reading and at least 5-6 outside sources (any combination of books and articles) that you have researched for the paper. **Students must email 1-2 sentences stating their final paper topic to the professor by 3pm on Friday of Week 3.** As per the requirements for all International Studies seminars, final papers are 20-25 pages double-spaced.

**Final papers are due on Tuesday, 3/19, at 5pm.**

Participation (20%): This class is a seminar, which means that the professor will NOT lecture for the most part, but rather will lead an active intellectual discussion. Thus, participation is key. Students should come to class prepared, having done the reading, and ready for intelligent exchange. A relaxed, yet vigorous atmosphere will be our goal.

**REQUIRED BOOKS:**

All books listed below are required and all have been placed on reserve at Geisel.

**WEEK ONE (1/9):**

Introductions, review of syllabus, book topics, and class requirements, and discuss reading strategies.

**WEEK TWO (1/16):**

Andrew Zimmerman. *Alabama in Africa: Booker T. Washington, the German Empire, and Globalization of the New South*. Princeton, University of Princeton Press, 2010. (Introduction; Chapters 1-3)

**WEEK THREE (1/23):**

Marc Gallicchio. *The African American Encounter with Japan and China*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2000. (ENTIRE BOOK)

**WEEK FOUR (1/30):**

Glenda Gilmore, *Defying Dixie: The Radical Roots of Civil Rights, 1919-1950*. W.W. Norton & Company: New York and London, 2008. (Introduction; Chapters 1-5, and 7)

**WEEK FIVE (2/6):**

Carole Boyce Davies. *Left of Karl Marx: The Political Life of Black Communist Claudia Jones*. Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2007. (Introduction; Chapters 1-5)

**WEEK SIX (2/13): Annotated bibs due by Monday, 2/11 at 10am**

*Annotated Bibliography Workshop*

**WEEK SEVEN (2/20):**

Mary Dudziak. *Cold War, Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000. (ENTIRE BOOK)

**WEEK EIGHT (2/27):**

Penny Von Eschen, *Satchmo Blows Up the World: Jazz Ambassadors Play the Cold War*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2004. (Chapters 1-6)

**WEEK NINE (3/6):**

Robeson Taj Frazier, *The East Is Black: Cold War China in the Black Radical Imagination*. Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2015. (ENTIRE BOOK)

**WEEK TEN (3/13):**

Guest speaker, Susana Durão, Professor of Anthropology at the Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp): Topics will include police, race, and violence in Brazil