

Prof. Daniel Widener Office: Mandeville Coffee Cart <a href="mailto:dwidener@ucsd.edu">dwidener@ucsd.edu</a>  Office Hours: W 11-12 <b>by appointment</b>	Teaching Assistants: Sumeyra Aydemir Samantha deVera Kristian Fabian Aundrey Jones Youngoh Jung Kevan Malone Nicole LeNeave
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***COURSE DESCRIPTION IN CATALOG:***

A lecture-discussion course on the comparative ethnic history of the United States. Of central concern will be slavery and capitalism, racial formation and consciousness, oppression and resistance in modern America. Our course will explore this subject at the local, national and international level.

**A General Note on Communication:**

I will send messages via both campus email and through the triton site. Please be sure to check each at least twice a week [Monday and Friday].

Readings: (All books are sold at the UCSD bookstore)

1. Manning Marable: *Race, Reform and Rebellion: The Second Reconstruction in Black America*
2. Daniel Widener, *Black Arts West: culture and struggle in Postwar Los Angeles*

Additional readings (articles and chapters) will be uploaded to the triton site. Films will be available for streaming.

**GRADES – ALL GRADES ARE DETERMINED BY YOUR TA**

- 25% Section participation [attendance, participation, reading responses]
- 25% Paper
- 25% Midterm
- 25% Non-cumulative final exam

**WHAT YOU SHOULD EXPECT:**

**PAPER**

All papers should have a **unique** central argument and be between **4-6 pages** in length. Please include an original title that reflects your argument, use 12 pt Times New Roman or Times only, and print double-spaced, double-sided. **All papers must be submitted in hard copy AND to turnitin.com.** Students taking this course agree to this requirement. Your essay will be marked 1/3 step down for every day it is late. (Saturday + Sunday = 2 days. After class on the day due = 1 day. A 1/3 step is from an A to an A-, A- to B+, etc.) **Any requests for extensions will be decided by the TA** except in extenuating circumstances.

**Sample Question**

In 1964, the black revolutionary Malcolm X compared conditions in Africa to those in America. He said “Algeria was a police state. Any occupied territory is a police state. Harlem is a police state. The police in Harlem are like an occupying force. The same conditions that forced the noble people of Algeria to resort to terrorist-type tactics...those same conditions prevail in every Negro community in the United States.” Evaluate the historical importance of Malcolm’s claim, using Cabral, Covington, Daulatzai, *The Battle of Algiers*, and *the Spook Who Sat by the Door*.

**What is the purpose of these essays?** We seek an original argument. Please think carefully about what YOU want to say; do not just regurgitate. The second critical component of the essays is to demonstrate your understanding of the readings and to show me you know how to use quotes. Quotes should never be just put into your writing without explanation or discussion; each quote requires scrutiny, analysis.

**Midterm and Final Exams:**

The midterm review will be distributed exactly one week prior to the exam. Final exam review sheets will be distributed on the last day of lecture. You will not be tested on anything that is not on the review sheet. Exams will consist of short answers, fill-in questions, key terms, and images. You should bring a blue book to both exams.

**Policy on lecture notes:**

I will not post or give out my lecture notes. Please do not ask for them. Powerpoint presentations will always be posted 24 hours **AFTER** the lecture.

**Laptop and Cellphone Use and Recording of Lecture:**

No recording of lectures may take place without a written request to the instructor. Cellphones should be off or turned to silent, and may not be used. Laptop use is limited to the first 5 rows of class. Arrive early if you plan to take notes this way.

**Academic honesty:**

Academic honesty is expected at all times. Any instance of plagiarism will be dealt with according to university and departmental policies. The campus policy on academic honesty can be found at: <https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/process/policy.html>

**SCHEDULE****Part I: Do You Remember the Days of Slavery?****WEEK 0**

**Th 9/28** Course intro: Thinking Historically.

**WEEK 1**

**Tu 10/3** Three Worlds

**Th 10/5** The Middle Passage

Read for section:

Wolf, "Europe and the Peoples," [selections]

Smallwood, Saltwater Slavery, ch.5

**WEEK 2**

**Tu 10/10** American Slavery, American Empire

**Th 10/12** The Masters and the Slaves

Read for section:

Sara Johnson, "You Should Give Them Blacks to Eat"

C.L.R. James, The Black Jacobins [selections]

**Week 3**

**Tu 10/17** Between Rebellion and Revolution

**Th 10/19** America's Failed Revolution

Read for section:

Marable, ch. 1 [prologue]

**Part III: All Power to the People****WEEK 6**

**Tu 11/7** WW2: The Forgotten Revolution

**Th 11/9** Cold War Civil Rights

Read for section:

Marable, ch. 2-4

Widener, ch. 1-3

**WEEK 7**

**Tu 11/14** The Youngest Revolution

**Th 11/16** Up Against the Wall, Motherf\*\*\*\*\*r

Read For section:

Daulatz, "To The East," pp.45-88

Covington, "Revolutionary Techniques"

Cabral, "Connecting the Struggles"

Kelley and Esch, "Black Like Mao"

**WEEK 8**

**Tu 11/21** Up Against the Wall, Motherf\*\*\*\*\*r

**Th 11/23** THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Read for section:

Marable, ch. 5-6

Widener, ch. 4-6

**PAPER DUE THIS WEEK.**

**Part II: The Problem of the Global Color Line****WEEK 4**

**Tu 10/24** Midterm #1

**Th 10/26** The Highest Stage of White Supremacy

Read for section:

Alex Lichtenstein, "The Negro Convict is a Slave"

Danielle McGuire, "At the Dark End," [prologue]

Ida B. Wells-Barnett, "Lynch Law in America,"

Nguyen Ai Quoc, "On Lynching and the KKK"

**WEEK 5**

**Tu 10/31** The White Man's Burden

**Th 11/2** Interwar Insurrections

Read for section:

Ernest Allen, "When Japan Was Champion"

Ani Mukherji, "Like Another Planet"

Marcus Garvey, "The Negro's Greatest Enemy"

**Part IV: The Counterrevolution of Property****WEEK 9**

**Tu 11/28** Nixon: Cynicism as Political Art

**Th 11/30** Reagan: There is No Alternative

Read for section:

Marable, ch. 7-8

Widener, ch. 7-8

**WEEK 10**

**Tu 12/5** Obama: 1 Step Forward, 2 Steps Back

**Th 12/7** Trump: The End of Polite Racism

Read for section:

Marable, ch. 10

Mike Davis, "The Great God Trump"

Final exam 12/15 Friday 11:30-2:30pm