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GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY
AAS 3000; SOCI 3162

Fall 2008

Dr. Patricia Dixon
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Office Hours: TR, 1: 300- 2:00 pm
or by appointment
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DESCRIPTION

This course will trace the historical and social transition of the African-American family starting from Africa through slavery, emancipation, urbanization to the present. Special attention will be given to the salient historical, socio-economic, and political and policy issues that have significantly influenced and shaped the African American experience and impacted on the African-American family.

REQUIRED TEXTS/READINGS

Franklin, D. L. (1997). *Ensuring Inequality*. NY: Oxford University Press.
Frazier, F.E. (2001). *The Negro Family in the United States*. NY: University of Notre Dame Press.¹
Hill, R. (1999). *The Strengths of African American Families*. NY: University Press of America.²
Selections from McAdoo and Staples below under recommended readings.

RECOMMENDED

McAdoo, H. P. (2007). *Black Families*. California: Sage Publications. 4th edition.
Staples, R. (1999). *The Black Family*. NY: Wadsworth. 6th Ed.

RECOMMENDED READINGS ON PARENTING

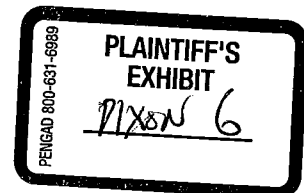
Boyd-Franklin, (2000). *Boys into Men*, NY. Plume
Beal, C., Villarosa, L. & Abner, A. (1999). *The Black Parenting Book*. Broadway Books: NY
Comer, J.P. & Pousaint, A. F. (1992). *Raising Black Children*. NY: Plume
McAdoo, H.P. (2002). *Black Children*. 2nd ed. California: Sage Publications.
Stevenson, H., Davis, G. & Abdul Kabir, S. (2001). *Stickin' to, Watchin' Over and Gettin' With: An African American Parent's Guide to Discipline*. Jossey-Bass: San Francisco: CA

GENOGRAM SOFTWARE (on U-learn)

1. GenoPro - <http://www.genopro.com> & <http://www.genopro.com/beta/> (For emotional ties). Have to download both -Free for 30 days after that purchase for \$39.00 (recommended)
2. Relativity-call 301-942-3254 or website: www.interpersonaluniverse.net -Student version \$39.99
3. Smart Draw-call 800-768-3729 or internet www.smartdraw.com (Down load free version, however it only

¹May use earlier, 1959 version.

²*The Strengths in Black Families*, 2nd Edition may also be used.



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STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) **Attendance/Class/Group Participation (20%)** - Students are expected to attend classes. You will be allowed two unexcused absences. Absences beyond the two unexcused for hospitalization, accident or death must be supported by written documentation. You will lose five points from 100 for each class missed. Coming into class late or leaving early may result in half the points for that day. DO NOT CALL THE INSTRUCTOR when you intend to not attend class. The policy still stands. Five (5) points will be deducted for each class missed.
- 2) **Group Participation/Reaction Papers (15%)** - The purpose of group participation/reaction papers is for students to be actively engaged in the class. You are expected to read the selections prior to class, write a reaction paper for the readings for the week and participate in group discussions. Reaction papers should be typed, double spaced, and at least one page in length and can include but is not limited to: an outline of the readings, summary of the readings, your perspective, critiques, things that you found interesting or that stood out to you, and patterns you see in contemporary families including your own, etc. These papers should be prepared the first class period of the week so that they may be used for group discussions.
- 2) **Midterm Exam (25%)** - Will include material covered in the first half of the class. May include but is not limited to multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, short essay. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS.** If for some reason like accident, death, etc. you are unable to take an exam, it is your responsibility to contact the professor to arrange an alternative testing time. Professor reserves the right to approve or deny a request to take the exam. The highest grade you may be able to receive is a B. If you do not take the exam within a week after the date, the highest grade you may be able to receive is a C.
- 3) **Panel Presentations/Outlines (15%)** - Each student will participate on a panel on African American family issues. Each student will select a chapter from McAdoo, Staples or articles on reserve in the library (In most cases there will be two or more persons per article/chapter). You will then be placed in a group to present your article/chapter to the class using a powerpoint slide show. The selection should be typed in an outline (may use the outline version of powerpoint) and submitted to the instructor by the deadline. The slide show should also be attached to the U-learn discussion section. The cover page should include all member names, title of the article/chapter, author, and date. (*See instructions for attaching a document to ULearn*).
- 4) **Final Project/Final Exam (25%)** - Will consist of two parts **A. Final Project** - You will construct a genogram using a genogram software package (guidelines will be covered in class) and write a report that tells the story of your family (instructions on U-learn). In this report you are expected to trace the origins of your family as far back as you can (you may have to interview family members) and apply the topics covered in student presentations is the second half of the course **B. The Final Exam** will include material covered in the second half of the course. It may include but is not limited to multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, short essay. The rules for the mid-term exam apply to the final exam.

GRADING SYSTEM

A+	98	B-	80	F	55
A	95	C+	78		
A-	90	C	75		
B+	88	C-	70		
B	85	D	65		

Topic	Readings	Date
Introduction/Overview African Background	E-reserves: Mbiti- <u>African Religions and Philosophy</u> , chps. 10-13	Aug 19-21
Slavery	Franklin, <u>Ensuring Inequality</u> , chp. 1 Frazier, <u>The Negro Family in the U.S.</u> , chps. I- IV Reaction Paper due	Aug 26-28
Emancipation	Franklin, chps. 2 & 3 Frazier, <u>The Negro Family in the U.S.</u> "chapters, V-IX Reaction Paper Due	Sep 2-4
Great Migration	Franklin, chps. 4 Frazier, chps. XIII-XVIII Reaction Paper Due	Sep 9-11
AA Family, 40s-70s	Franklin, chps. 5 & 6 , 7; Staples, The Moynihan Report, p. 7 Reaction Paper Due	Sep 16-18
AA Family, 70s to Contemporary Times	Franklin, chps. 8 & 9 Midterm Exam (Ulearn-Sep. 25 -Sep. 29)	Sep. 23-25
Genograms African American Family Strengths	Reserves: McGoldrick & Gerson- <u>Genograms</u> Hill, <u>Strengths in Black Families</u> —chps. 4-8 or <u>Strengths in African American Families</u> —chps. 1-5 Reaction Paper Due	Sep. 30- Oct 2
Socio Demographics Structure/Process	Course Notes (<i>handed out or on U-learn</i>) Outlines due (Oct 9th)	Oct 7-9
Blended Families Theoretical Conceptualizations	<i>handed out or on U-learn Vista</i>) See Websites & Other information on U-learn Vista for articles on Blended families McAdoo,- Sudarkasa, chp.2 p. 9; Staples-Scott & Black, p. 232	Oct 14-16
Mothers/Fathers Children/Parenting	Staples- Collins, p. 157; Staples- Lempert, p. 189 Panel Presentations (Groups 1 & 2) McAdoo- Ferguson Peters; p. 203 Dickerson-Randolph, p.117 Panel Presentations (Groups 3 &4) Power Point Presentation Posted to Discussion Section in U-Learn (Oct. 23rd)	Oct 21-23
-Children/Parenting continue	E-Res-Beal et.al, p. 102; E-Res-Hampton/Lassiter, p. 39 Panel Presentations (Groups 5 & 6)	

	E-Res-Stevenson, Davis & Abdul-kabir, chp. 3, p. 81 E-Res-/Stevenson, Davis & Abdul-kabir, chp. 4, p. 115 Panel Presentations (Groups 7 & 8)	Oct. 28-30
-Children/Parenting continue	Sheras , p.1-17, p. 38-65 E-Res-Stevenson, Davis & Abdul-kabir, chp. 4, p. 143 Panel Presentations (Groups 9 & 10)	
Health and Dieting Stress	E-Reserves-Peters & Massey, p. 193 E-Reserves-(Laila & other articles) Panel Presentations (Groups 11 & 12)	Nov 4-6
Violence	E-Res-Hampton-Asbury; Staples-Williams, p. 265 Panel Presentations (Groups 13 & 14)	³
Black Boys & Girls	E-Res- Articles on Black Girls Library Reserves (or see instructor) Kunjufu, p. 1-20; 31-42 Panel Presentations (Groups 15 & 16)	Nov 11-13
Black Families in White Communities	McAdoo-Tatum, <u>Black Families</u> , p. 214;E-Res-McAdoo, - <u>Black Children</u> , Murray & Mandara, p. 73 Panel Presentations (Groups 17 & 18)	
Alternative Family Lifestyles	E-Res-Knox & Schacht, Chp. 6 E-Res-Dixon, Divine Marriage, pp. Panel Presentations (Groups 19 & 20)	Nov 18-20
	Thanksgiving Holiday Recess	Nov 25-27
Nguzo Saba	McAdoo-Black Families, Karenga and Karenga, p. 7 (Group 21) Final Project Due (Dec 4)	Dec 1-4
	Final Exam	Dec 9 -2:45

¹Reaction papers due on the first day of the week.

²Readings/Assignments on the first line is for the first day of the week and the second is for the second day of class unless otherwise specified.

³See list of Readings on Panel/Group Sign in Sheet handed out in class and on U-learn for more specific detail on readings when groups start to present.

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OUTLINE/PANEL PRESENTATION

Guidelines

Please follow the instructions below for outlining and presenting the chapters/articles to class.

GENERAL RESEARCH (SECONDARY)

Opening/Introduction - Chapters/articles in which there is an opening or introduction:

- Identify the major argument, thesis or purpose of the chapter (should be able to find in the first 2-3 paragraphs).
- Identify sub-arguments/thesis/purpose (should also be able to find in the first 3 paragraphs).
- For each paragraph in the opening/introduction pull out **all important notes, points, other research and information including statistics** that the author provides

Subheadings:

- Identify the major point/argument(s)
- For each paragraph under each subheading pull out **all supporting notes, points other research, and information** that supports the major points of the subheading.

Discussion/Conclusion:

Identify:

- Major and important points.
- Conclusions the author comes to with regard to what was discussed in the chapter
- Solutions the author offers and suggestions for future research (if applicable)

PRIMARY RESEARCH

Identify:

- **Purpose** of the Study-- Why was the study initiated: What did the research expect to find. What arguments does the research make to justify why the study was necessary. As above, report **all important notes, points, other research and information including statistics**
- **Method** used to conduct the study. Include the subjects and instruments, e.g. whether it was interviews, surveys, etc. and other pertinent information.
- **Findings** - What did the researchers find or discover as a result of the study?

You will be graded on the following:

1. Outline --how well you outline the article/chapter/research

- It is important that you show a clear, logical and explicit understanding of the thesis/arguments/purpose (If this is not done it will throw off your entire presentation)
- It is also important that you show an understanding of supporting notes, points other research and information including supporting statistics that the author(s) provide
- The outlines should be extremely detailed.

2. Enhancements (At least one of the following)

a. **Updated Statistics**-- statistics (for the research in which the statistics report information in the eighties or older, you are required to find the latest statistics-by going to the various government and other agencies. Some agencies include:

- U.S. Census Bureau- www.census.gov - Subject A-Z, African American (*marital status, household, income, poverty*)
- US. Department of Labor - www.dol.gov (*employment, consumer behavior, etc.*)

- Justice Department - www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bis/ (*incarceration, crime, violence*)
- Center for Disease Control - www.cdc.gov/ - FactSTATS A-Z.H--Health of Black or African American Population (*Birth, death rates, diseases, etc.*)
- The Sentencing Project - www.sentencingproject.org/ (*Incarceration*)

b. Video Enhancements - clippings from various tv family shows e.g. (The Cosby show, All of us, Bernie Mac, My Wife and Children, Chris Rock etc.) & other supporting clipping much of which can be found in you tube on internet.

c. Support Services Information-Can include additional information including websites and organizations.

3. Powerpoint - All presentations should be done via powerpoint, You may turn in the powerpoint slide show for your outline.

4. Team Work -Includes how well you work as a team as well as how you present which includes and posture, voice projection (See evaluation form)

5. U-learn- All presentations should be posted to discussion section in U-learn by a date designated by instructor.

Overall, your presentations are expected to be thorough. You are expected to provide all the critical information that the authors provide. **DO NOT LEAVE OUT IMPORTANT INFORMATION.**

All outlines should be in 12 pitch font (unless use powerpoint slide show), and include a cover page with title of the article/chapter and author, group member names, professor name, class name and date.

GROUP MEMBERS SHOULD 1. PARTICIPATE IN PREPARATION OF THE OUTLINE AND, 2. BE PRESENT WHEN THE GROUP MAKES THE PRESENTATION TO THE CLASS. IF YOU FAIL ON EITHER OF THESE REQUIREMENTS YOU WILL RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE

**AAS 4030, 3000
Electronic Access Instructions
FALL, 2008**

Library Reserve Readings (Eres)

Your new password for AAS4030 is: twc3zvfvF
Your new password for AAS3000 is: 23kqmws3F

To review your page:

- 1) Go to <http://reserves.gsu.edu>
- 2) Click on "Electronic Reserves and Course Materials"
- 3) Click on the tab at the top that says "Course Reserve Pages by Instructor"
- 4) Arrow down to find your instructor's name
- 5) Click "View" beside your instructor's name
- 6) Click on the course page that you would like to view
- 7) Enter the password [Passwords are case sensitive and are in all caps. Get the password from your instructor.
- 8) Agree to the copyright
- 9) Your page will come up

(Can also access through ULearn—instructions below)

Please contact the library reserves staff or reply to this email with questions or concerns. libreserves@langate.gsu.edu

Adding a Presentation to the Discussion Section in U-Learn

Adding a File

- 1. Click on Discussion at top of page**
- 2. Click all topics**
- 3. Create message**
- 4. In subject line type the name of your Chapter/Article**
- 5. Add attachment**
- 6. Upload file from browser**
- 7. Save**
- 8. Add selected file**
- 9. Select a topic-default**
- 10. Post it**

Opening a File

- 1. Open all topics**
- 2. Click on file**
- 3. Create a printable view**
- 4. Save as file (go to all files and make it a Powerpoint/word file vs. a zip file depending on file type, e.g. ppt., doc.)**
- 5. Open Powerpoint/Word**
- 6. Open the file**

PANEL/PRESENTATION EVALUATION

Group/Article Title _____ Group No. _____

Evaluation Category	Points	Score
<i>Typed-Written Outline</i>	75	
1. Comprehensive/comprehension--detailed and thorough overview of the article/chapter <i>(Should include exactly what you will say in presentation)</i> 2. Comprehension--understood clearly the thesis, arguments being made 3. Followed guidelines according to handout		
<i>Presentation</i>	15	
1. Use of powerpoint		
2. Addition of supporting information, materials, surveys, etc. if applicable		
3. Other enhancements, e.g. video, audio, etc.		
<i>Team Work</i>	10	
1. Group flow and coordination		
2. Presenters were clear <i>(also projected)</i> and articulate & held good posture		
Overall Evaluation*	100	

* Every group member will get the same score for the outline, presentation and team work. For the categories presentation and team work you will be given an overall score based on a scale from 1 to 5 in the following manner :

1 = poor 2 3 4 5 = excellent

Comments: