

UMBC UGC New Course Request: From Black Power to Black Lives Matter: The Black Freedom Struggle in the Post-Civil Rights Period (Course #: HIST 449/649)

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Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2016

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COURSE INFORMATION:

Course Number(s)	449 / 649
Formal Title	From Black Power to Black Lives Matter: The Black Freedom Struggle in the Post-Civil Rights Period
Transcript Title (≤30c)	Black Power to Black Lives Matter
Recommended Course Preparation	HIST 201 or any 300 level Humanities or SS course
Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	none
Credits	3
Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes * <input type="checkbox"/> No
Max. Total Credits	3 This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.
Grading Method(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> * Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words):

This course explores the myriad and changing ways that African Americans struggled for equality in the fifty years after the civil rights reforms of the mid-1960s. It pays particular attention to issues of political economy and structural shifts in U.S. politics in order to situate black activists activism in context.

RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE

a) Why is there a need for this course at this time?

No such course exists on this subject at UMBC. (The Political Science Department offers "African American Politics," "Race and Law," and "Blacks and Public Policy," all of which focus on electoral politics and / or law and policy formation, and cover an undefined period of time, though it appears from course descriptions that the time period is much broader than the post-civil rights period. The proposed course focuses on the post civil rights period exclusively and explores electoral *and* movement politics. It also stresses an exploration of change over time, seeking an understanding of how African American political engagement changes in response to the end of legal segregation, the emergence of a post-industrial economy, and the rise of conservatism.) The proposed course is relevant to contemporary discussions of racial inequality and racial politics, both of which are the subject of significant public and scholarly debate today.

b) How often is the course likely to be taught?

Every other year.

c) How does this course fit into your department's curriculum?

It complements the existing courses in Post World War II United States history (HIST 347) by allowing students to explore a specialized topic within the period covered therein. It also complements the Civil Rights Movement (HIST 447) course by exploring the African American activism that came after the time period covered therein (and attempted to fulfill the promise of the legislative reforms secured by said civil rights activism).

d) What primary student population will the course serve?

History, Africana Studies, and American Studies.

e) Why is the course offered at the 400 level?

The course requires strong writing and research skills and a willingness to tackle a high volume of reading.

f) Explain the appropriateness of the recommended course preparation(s) and prerequisite(s).

We recommend HIST 201 or a 300 level humanities course because they equip students to 1. conduct historical research and writing which are required in the course, and 2. students who have taken such courses tend to be acclimated to a high volume of reading.

g) Explain the reasoning behind the P/F or regular grading method.

It is customary in our department to offer students the full range of grading methods.

h) Provide a justification for the repeatability of the course.

N/A

ATTACH COURSE OUTLINE (mandatory):

See attached Syllabus