

MARYGROVE COLLEGE

HUM 335-51: Caribbean Studies, 3 credits, Winter 2004, M/W 4:30-5:45 PM, 236 LA

Karen F. Dimanche Davis, Ph.D., 313-927-1352 or 313-831-1409 home
Office: Library Lecture Hall, L207, M-W, 3-4 PM, T-Th, 2-4 PM, or by
appointment
kdavis@marygrove.edu , fax: 313-927-1345

Required texts:

- 1) Hubron, Laënnec. Voodoo: Search for the Spirit (1995)
- 2) Kincaid, Jamaica. A Small Place (1988)
- 3) Hebdige, Dick. Cut 'n' Mix (1987)
- 4) Montero, Mayra. In the Palm of Darkness (1997)

** Other required readings will be distributed in class**

Catalog Description: Cultures of the Caribbean, focusing on the African diaspora.

The culture and expressive arts of the people of the Caribbean draw on cultural traditions throughout the world. The primary cultural influences are European (British, French, Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese) and West African (Yoruba, Igbo, Ashante/Akan, Ewe, Fon, Mandingo, Hausa, Fulani, BaKongo, Ejagham, et al.). Even earlier migrants to the area were the Arawak-speaking (Taïno) and Carib peoples from South America; other immigrants included indentured servants from the British Isles, China and India as well as from Europe and Africa. Although the Taïnos and Caribs were almost completely killed out during early Spanish conquest and settlement, their presence is still strong on the mainland (Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana, Brazil). Their culture and history have also created important symbols for Caribbean regional identity. The overwhelmingly defining structure of Caribbean society, however, is the artificial, incomplete, and dehumanizing institution of plantation slavery.

Massive emigration to other Caribbean lands and to Europe, Africa, and North America (especially to Freeport, London, Brooklyn, Toronto, and Miami) has led to strong cultural influences in both directions. Since the 19th century, and especially in the past 35 years, Pan-Africanism, Negritude, Pan-Caribbeanism, Calypso, Carnival, Reggae, and Rastafari have formed strong international expressive traditions. The primary emphasis in this class will be on Afro-British, Afro-French, and Afro-Hispanic cultures of the Caribbean and on written expressive culture (prose and poetry). We will also study selections from drama, storytelling, other oral literature, film, dance, other performance arts, music, visual arts and architecture.

Objectives: Students will learn to:

- * Identify geographical locations, major historic events and persons
- * Identify and discuss practitioners, styles, and symbols in expressive arts
- * Analyze symbols representing Carib-Arawak, European, African, and Asian cultures

Grades: Will be based on:

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-----|
| (1) | 3 tests, 15% each | 45% |
| (2) | Final take-home essay exam | 10% |

- (3) Topic paper 15%
- (4) 4 Book Question papers, 5% each 20%
- (5) Oral-Visual Report 5%
- (6) Field trip report 5%

* Class attendance and participation will also increase or decrease your final grade up to 5%

A+=98, A=94, A-=90, B+=88, B=84, B-=80, C+=78, C=74, C-=70, D+=66, D=64, D-=60, E=A+<60
 96-100=A+, 92-96=A, 89-92=A-, 86-89=B+, 82-86=B, 79-82=B-, 76-79=C+, 72-76=C, etc.

Complete all work EARLY! One penalty point per day will be subtracted for late work (ten points is the difference between A- and B-).

NOTE DUE DATES. Professor may choose NOT to accept late work.

- Due Dates:
- * Tests: Feb 11, Mar 3, Apr 7, Apr 28
 - * Final Exam: Submit by 4:30 PM, Monday, April 21
 - * Topic Papers: Mar 29
 - * Oral Reports: Apr 26
 - * Book question papers: Feb 16, Mar 15, Mar 24, Apr 12, Apr 26
 - * Field trip report: Apr 21

Test and exam policy: Tests will consist of matching, multiple choice, mapping, true-false, short identifications, and essay questions, at professor's discretion. No class time will be allotted to study sessions. Students are encouraged to attend all classes, be well prepared with readings, take copious notes, review class notes on a regular basis, and form study groups if possible. Final exam will be take-home essays, distributed in class one week or more prior to due date.

Missing any test, except for an urgent personal medical catastrophe, well-documented and noted in advance, will lower your grade automatically by 10 points or more. Make-up exams are primarily essays, more difficult than normal quizzes or exams, and will be given ONLY at the discretion and convenience of the professor, and ONLY for well-documented personal medical catastrophes.

Papers: Each student will write one Topic Paper, following attached guidelines.

Book Questions: Each student will complete and turn in to professor a copy of the five Book Question papers distributed in class. Keep a copy for your own study notes.

Oral-Visual Report: Each student will deliver an oral report based on the Topic Paper. Come on time and be prepared. If your name is called and you are not present, you forfeit the points for this assignment.

Field Trip Reports: Students will attend one or more class-related events approved by professor, and write a brief analytical report.

Class participation: Learning is a whole-body experience. Attendance will be recorded. The professor will also note which students are asking questions, providing information or commentary, or responding to

questions. Attendance at field trips or other extra-curricular events will be noted.

Academic honesty: Any evidence in class or on papers of either cheating or plagiarism will automatically result in a grade of 0/E for the specific task or assignment or for the entire class. See attached handouts.

Any student with any kind of a disability that might affect the way in which information is learned or tested must inform the professor in the first two weeks of class, to discuss appropriate accommodations.

Class schedule: This class involves discussions, films, slides, lectures, audio, and guest lectures, so students must attend all classes, arrive promptly, and take copious notes. ! Students must complete each reading before date listed for discussion. We might at times meet until 6 or 6:30 PM to view a feature film. Friends & family welcome.

Jan 12-14 Introductions to professor, students, humanities, and Caribbean studies

Jan 21-26 Lecture: Geography, history and major themes in Caribbean humanities

DISCUSSION: Be ready to discuss handouts and Kincaid, A Small Place
Film: Iron in the Soul; Sugar Cane Alley

Jan 28 Lecture: Orality, folklore, Anansi, Br'er Rabbit, Maroons.

Feb 4-9 DISCUSSION: Be ready to discuss handouts
A/V: Slide lectures on Jamaican Maroon archaeology, oral history & cultural traditions.
Film: Jamaican Folk Tales and Oral Histories

Feb 2 Workshop on research, Ms. Linnea Dudley, Marygrove Librarian, Library basement Room L-017

Feb 11 TEST: on geography, history, oral traditions, Maroons.

Feb 16 BOOK QUESTIONS DUE: Orality and Folktales

Feb 16-18-23- Lecture:Haitian Vodou, other Afro-Caribbean religions, & links to history,
25-Mar 1 politics, slavery, cosmology and philosophy
DISCUSSION: Discuss Voodoo: Search for the Spirit.
Film: Divine Horsemen; Rara; Oggun

Feb 16 FINAL DAY TO SELECT TOPICS FOR PAPERS

Mar 3 TEST: Haitian & related Afro-Caribbean religion, philosophy, and visual art

Mar 8-10 SPRING BREAK

Mar 15 BOOK QUESTION PAPER DUE: Voodoo: Search for the Spirit

Mar 15-17-22 Lecture: history & philosophies of resistance & revolution: Pan-Africanism, Negritude, &

Rastafarianism (Marcus Mosiah Garvey, Frantz Fanon, Aimé Césaire, Haile Selassie, Robert Nesta Marley, Walter Rodney, et al.)
DISCUSSION: Discuss handouts and Kincaid, A Small

Place

Film: Marcus Garvey; The Harder They Come

Mar 24 BOOK QUESTION PAPER DUE: A Small Place

Mar 29 TOPIC PAPER DUE

Mar 24-29-31 Lecture: Carnival, Calypso, Capoeira, and Compas:
Caribbean art, music & poetry

Apr 5 and their relationship to socio-political philosophy

DISCUSSION: Hebdige, Cut 'n' Mix

Film & audio: Black Orpheus, Caribbean music,
capoeira, calypso, carnival

Slide Lectures: Caribbean visual arts (Haiti,
Jamaica, Puerto Rico)

Apr 7 TEST: Caribbean ideology and music

Apr 12 BOOK QUESTION PAPERS DUE: Cut 'n' Mix

Apr 12-14-19 Lecture: History and Ideology in Contemporary Life

DISCUSSION: handouts, In the Palm of Darkness

Film: Bitter Sugar; Ana Mendieta; Killing the Dream

Apr 21 FIELD TRIP REPORT DUE

Apr 26 BOOK QUESTION PAPERS DUE: In the Palm of Darkness

Apr 26 4:30-6:30 PM Oral-Visual Reports on Topic Papers

YOU MUST BE PRESENT AT 4:30 PM SHARP, and stay the
whole class period, or lose points.

CLASS EVALUATIONS.

Apr 28 TAKE-HOME EXAM: TURN IN AT OR BEFORE 5:00 PM.

HUMANITIES: Videos and DVDs available for reserve, Marygrove College
Library (2005)

HUM 335 Caribbean Humanities

500 Nations, 1995, 49 min (early colonization), 972.018 F58 1995 The
Art of Haiti (26 min, Haiti), 759.972 Ar7 1982 Bitter Sugar, 1996, 102
min (Cuba), 791.4372 Az84 1996 Black Dawn (20 min), 972.94 B56 1986 The
Caribbean, Gateway Educational Films, 1985 (?) Caribbean Eye, 1991, by
Tony Laird, UNESCO, 927.9 C191 1991 Derek Walcott (with Bill Moyers),
WNET, FFH, 2002, 811 D444 2002 Devil's Daughter, 1939, 65 min, b/w by
Arthur Leonard, Cascadia CCE-622, 791.43 D495 (DVD) Divine Horsemen, 52
min (Haiti), 299.67 D64 Festive Land Carnaval in Bahia by Carolina
Moreas-Liu, DVD Hail Umbanda, 1988 by Jose Araujo (Brazil), 299.672
H125 1988

Haiti: A Painted History (56 min), 972.94 H127 1997 I Am Cuba, 1964,
141 min, 972.91 I12 1996 Jamaica Kincaid, 2001, Thunder Road
Productions, 814.54 L28 J24 2001 Jogo de Capoeira, 1999, 28 min
(Brazil), 792.8 J595 1999 Le Bouillon d'Awara (Guyana), 1995, 71 min,
988.2 B663 1995 Life + Debt (Jamaica), 2001 DVD, Tuff Gong Pictures,
972.9206 L6261 2001 Memories of Underdevelopment, 1968, 97 min (Cuba),
791.43 M51 Mickey Mouse Goes to Haiti, 20 min, Crowing Rooster Arts,

1996, 331.2 M583 A Month for Entertainment of the Spirits (Guyana),
1991, 291.21 M767 1991 Mutabaruka Live at Reggae Sunfest, August 14,
1993, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 1994, Shanachie, 784.54 M98 1996 Orfeu by
Carlos Diegues, 2002 Rio Vermelho Films, 791.4372 Or349 2002 Pantomime,
by Derek Walcott, (Jamaica), 1991, 792.3 W14 1991 People of the
Caribbean, by Video Knowledge, 1990, 972.9 P3901 1990 Portrait of
Teresa, 1979, 103 min (Cuba) 791.43 R31 Rhythms of the World Anthology,
by Peter Gabriel (Los Van Van, Boukman Eksperyans, et al.), 1991,
781.657 R349 Rockers, 1993 (Jamaica), by Theodoros Bafaloukos, 784.54
R59 1993 Roots, Rock, Reggae, 1988, Shanachie Records, 782.42 R67 1988
The Spirit of Samba, Black Music of Brazil 1982 Shanachie (Brazil),
781.63 Sp48 2000 The Sword and the Cross, 58 min (DR & Mexico),
970.015092 C72 pt. 5 Voices of the Orishas, 1993, by Alvaro Perez
Betancourt, 299.674 V87 1993

Available from Karen F. Dimanche Davis:

Barbados, Isle of Enchantments (travelog by Bajans), 30 min, 1986
Barbados: Travelview Intl. travelog, 1996 Black Orpheus (Marcel Camus,
1958, 103 min, Brazil, English subtitles) Buena Vista Social Club, 105
min, 1999 (English subtitles) Depart de Jean-Claude Duvalier/Dechoukaj,
1985-86 (from Jean Alc ) The Divine Horsemen: The living gods of Haiti,
Mystic Fire Video, 52 min, by Maya Deren, 1947-1951 Fi Mi Love: A
musical journey with the Jamaican Folk Singers, 1990, 80 min, by Olive
Lewin The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail (Haiti), World Relief, 10
min, 2000 Haiti Harvest of Hope by Kevin Pina, Haiti Reborn, 2000 Haiti
Waters of Sorrow, by Jacques Cousteau, 48 min, 1986 Haitian Rara, 18
min, by Verna Gillis (purchased from Center for Caribbean Studies, New
York, 1992) The Harder They Come (Perry Henzell, 1972, 93 min, Jamaica,
with some subtitles) Inside Trinidad & Tobago Carnival 2K3 (DVD)
Jamaican Folk Tales and Oral Histories, by Laura Tanna, 1987 (28 min
intro, 76 min of 11 performances) Junction Village-A Delightful
Caribbean Comedy (Jamaica), 58 min, 1990 Krik? Krak! Tales of a
Nightmare (Haiti), 1997, 78 min Miss Lou and Friends: Jamaica's First
Lady of Comedy Louise Bennett, International Theatre Institute, 58 min,
Mar 27, 1990 Nannytown, Jamaica, August 1993, by Dr. Edward Kofi
Agorsah Oggun/Forever Present: Oggun, 60 min, 1991 (Cuba--English
subtitles) (distr. Center for Cuban Studies, NYC) The Orisha Tradition:
An African Worldview, 1991, 30 min (from Caribbean Cultural Center,
NYC) Panorama Finals 2003 (T & T), purchased Brooklyn 2004 The Spirit
of Samba, 1992, Brazil, DVD Sugar Cane Alley (Euzhan Palcy, 1985, 107
min., Martinique) Trinidad and Tobago Carnival 2003, 120 min (bought
Brooklyn 2004) Voodoo Secrets, "In Search of History", History Channel,
1998, 50 min (Haiti)

ALL BOOKS USED AS ASSIGNED READING 1992-2005:

(Numerous reading handouts are also supplied)

Almeida, Bira. Capoeira: A Brazilian Art Form (1986) Bramly, Serge.
Macumba (1993) Campbell, Horace. 1987. Rasta and Resistance Cliff,
Michelle. 1987. No Telephone to Heaven Danticat, Edwidge. Krik? Krak!
(1995) Danticat, Edwidge. The Farming of Bones (1999) Danticat,
Edwidge. The Dew Breaker (2004) Garcia, Cristina. Dreaming in Cuban
(1992) Guillermprieto, Alma. Samba (1990) Guy, Rosa My Love, My
Love, or The Peasant Girl (1985) Hebdige, Dick. Cut 'n' Mix (1987)
Hodge, Merle. 1970. Crick Crack, Monkey Hurbon, Laennec. Voodoo:
Search for the Spirit (1995) Hurston, Zora Neale. Tell My Horse (orig.
1938) Kincaid, Jamaica 1985. Annie John Kincaid, Jamaica. A Small

Place (1988) Lovelace, Earl. The Wine of Astonishment (1982) Manuel, Peter. Caribbean Currents: Caribbean Music from Rumba to Reggae (1997) Montero, Mayra. In the Palm of Darkness (1997) Naipaul, V.S. 1959. Miguel Street Poupeye, Veerle. Caribbean Art (1998) Roumain, Jacques. Masters of the Dew (1978) Schwarz-Bart, Simone. 1974. The Bridge of Beyond (Tr. Barbara Bray from Pluie et vent sur Telumee Miracle 1972) Zobel, Joseph. 1980. Black Shack Alley (Tr. Keith Q. Warner from La rue cases-negres 1959)