

The University of California, Irvine
African American Politics
Political Science 124E/African American Studies 152
Winter Quarter 2010
TuTh 2:00-3:20p, Humanities Hall 143

Professor Katherine Tate

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10-12, or by appointment

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Course Objectives:

In this course, students examine the politics and strategic vision of African Americans in order to gain a broader perspective of the American political process. Topics can vary, and include a review of the major developments in African American politics, including the civil rights movement and Black presidential bids, the continuing problem of racism, American public policy, as well as the responsiveness of key governing institutions, such as the courts and the U.S. Congress, to Black political interests.

Course Format and Requirements:

There are three essay assignments for the course. Topics will be assigned. They are due at the beginning of class on the dates scheduled below. It is expected that students keep regular attendance. Finally, no incompletes will be given except under extraordinary circumstances.

Adding, Taping, and Copyright Notice:

Students will not be added after the enrollment period ends, or if the class enrollment limit is met. Incompletes will not be issued except for extraordinary reasons. This course may not be videotaped or recorded without my written permission. My lectures are copyright protected. Students are authorized to take notes in class from my lectures, but this authorization extends only to their personal use. Reproduction, distribution, and/or publication (electronic or print) of transcribed versions of my lectures are not permitted.

Books for purchase and on reserve at the library:

Kwame Ture and Charles V. Hamilton. 1967. Black Power. New York: Vintage Books. ISBN: 0679743138.

Derrick Bell. 2004. Silent Covenants: Brown v. Board of Education and the Unfulfilled Hopes for Racial Reform. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 0195172728

Richard Valelly. 2004. The Two Reconstructions. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Doug McAdam. 1999. Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 2nd Ed. University of Chicago Press; ISBN: 0226555534

Ronald W. Walters. 2008. The Price of Racial Reconciliation. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

Topics & Reading Assignments:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topics</u>
1: March 30, April 1	The First Reconstruction Read Valelly's <i>The Two Reconstructions</i> , Chapters 1, 2, 3
2: April 6, 8	The First Reconstruction and Judicial Authority Read Valelly's <i>The Two Reconstructions</i> , Chapters 4 through 10
3: April 13, 15	The Civil Rights Movement: Origins and Decline. Read: McAdam's <i>Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency</i> , Chapters 1, 2 and 3 Film Presentation: Spike Lee's <i>Do The Right Thing</i> .
1st paper assignment distributed April 15th and due April 22nd in class.	
4: April 20 th Class Cancelled April 22	The Civil Rights Movement: Origins and Decline. Read: McAdam's <i>Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency</i> , Chapters 4 through 9 Film Presentation: <i>Eyes on the Prize</i>
5: April 27, 29	Black Power Strategies Read: Kwame Ture and Charles V. Hamilton's <i>Black Power</i> , Chapters 1, 2, and 3 Film Presentation: <i>Eyes on the Prize</i>
6: May 4, 6	Plessy, Brown, and Reconstructing Equal Educational Opportunities Read: Bell's <i>Silent Covenants</i> , Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 10, 11 and 12
7: May 11, 13	What If Brown were Ruled Differently? Read: Bell's <i>Silent Covenants</i> , Chapter 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
2nd paper assignment distributed May 13th and due May 20th in class.	
8: May 18, 20	Affirmative Action and School Reforms. Read: Bell's <i>Silent Convenants</i> , Chapters 13, 14, and 15 . Film Presentation: <i>With All Deliberate Speed</i> .
9: May 25, 27	South African Oppression Read Walter's chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4
10: June 1, 3	Black American Oppression and Reparations Read Walters Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.
3rd and final paper distributed June 3rd and due Thursday, June 10th by 3:30 p.m. in Political Science Department Main Office	

Course evaluations weeks 9-10