**BLKS 5521:** The Black Family and Male-Female Relationships  
Section: 0001-LEC (33158)  
Days & Times: Tues/Wed/Thurs: 5:15 pm – 8:30 pm  
Room: TBA  
Instructor: Clovis Semmes  

This course examines the historical evolution and current status of the African American family in the United States. Utilizing the African experience as its starting point, the course conveys a broad understanding of the role of the family in human survival and progress. We investigate such issues as male-female relationships, sexual practices, dating, marriage, single parenting, the education and socialization of children, and so on. We also examine an array of social and economic issues, including institutionalized inequality, that affects the viability of today’s African American family. *Cross-listed with SOCIOL 5580-0002 (33177).*

**BLKS 5580:** African American Migrations in Literature  
Section: 0001-LEC (33162)  
Days & Times: MTWR: 8:00 am – 9:15 am  
Room: TBA  
Instructor: Veronica Wilson-Tagoe  

This course examines representations of two different trajectories of African American migrations in literature: African American journeys from the south to northern and mid-west regions of the United States, and concurrent migrations of Caribbean people to the US in the early twentieth century. How do writers negotiate such relocations in literature? How do interactions of past and present worlds shape new perspectives and values, and how have such representations shaped African American literature and culture? The course focuses on writing by Richard Wright, Langston Hughes, Toni Morrison, August Wilson, Gloria Naylor, and Paule Marshall.

**BLKS 5580:** Film Adaptations of African American Literary Text  
Section: 0002-LEC (33163)  
Days & Times: MTWR: 3:00 pm – 4:45 pm  
Room: TBA  
Instructor: Veronica Wilson-Tagoe  

This course examines transformation of African American literary texts into films through a comparative analysis of techniques in literature and film. We focus not only on how faithfully films reproduce literary texts but also on the pressures and ideologies involved in representing African Americans and their culture in film. Using examples from American and African American film history, we consider the politics of filming and controls over meaning within the changing dynamics of African American film history. We distinguish between film adaptations created and directed by non-African Americans and those written and directed by African Americans. Our overall aim is to study the different processes and aesthetics in literature and film, and determine how each medium grapples with African American experience and identity.
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Individual research and learning projects supervised by a faculty member. *Instructor consent required.*