

Department of African, African-American and Caribbean Studies Course Outline

1. **Title of course and Course Number:** *Caribbean Women, AACCS 262*

2. **Description of Course**

The course is an anthropological and historical study of women in the French Caribbean. The primary focus of the course is an in-depth study of the diversity among the groups of women in the French speaking Caribbean, their social, political and economic status both historically and presents day. Special attention is give to Caribbean women in the Twentieth Century.

3. **Course Prerequisites:** *None*

4. **Course Objectives:**

To Provide students with:

An in-depth study of slavery and its impact on the French Caribbean.

An in-depth study of the French Caribbean after slavery.

An in-depth study of Caribbean women in the Twentieth Century

An in-depth study of the class/color conflict in the Caribbean both during and after slavery

An in-depth study of how cultural factors have impacted the status of women in the Caribbean

An in-depth study of family life, child-rearing, marriage and divorce in the Caribbean

An in-depth study of economic, politics and how these variables impact the lives of women.

5. **Student Learning Outcomes:**

By the completion of the course students should be competent in and capable of discussing the following content areas:

Students have knowledge of the slave experience in the French speaking Caribbean.

Students have knowledge of the impact of slavery on women in the French speaking Caribbean

Students have knowledge of the French Caribbean after slavery

Students have knowledge of Caribbean women in the Twentieth Century

Students have knowledge of the class/color conflict in the French speaking Caribbean and how the conflicts impacted all women.

Students have knowledge of the cultural factors on the various islands and how cultural factors have impacted the status of women.

Students have knowledge of the dating, marriage, and divorce norms in the French speaking Caribbean.

Students have knowledge of the economic situation for many women on the islands and how women cope with the economic problems.

Students have knowledge of how to research and present an oral presentation several aspects of the cultural orientation of Caribbean women.

Students have knowledge of how to write a book review on the required reading.

6. **Course Content**

Women and Slavery in the French Antilles

Black Women and the Early Development of the French Antilles
 The Atlantic Slave Trade
 Women and Slave Labor
 Women and Domestic Labor
 Marriage, Family Life, Reproduction and Assault
 Disciplines and Physical Abuse
 Slave Women and the Law
 Women and Resistance to Slavery
 Women and Manumission

Caribbean Women in the Twentieth Century

Caribbean women and Women's Studies
 Women and Work
 Women and Health
 Women, Law, and Political change
 Women and Popular Culture

7. **Guidelines /Suggestions For Teaching Methods and Student Activities**

Lectures and Discussions
 Research on aspects of Caribbean Culture with a focus on women.
 Presenting an oral presentation of research findings.
 Reading of a novel by a Caribbean women and writing a book review of the novel
 Viewing of one film on Caribbean women

8. **Guidelines/Suggestions For Student Assessment**

Mid-Term Examination

Book Review

Oral Presentation on an aspect of Caribbean culture with a focus on women.

Final Examination

9. Textbooks Required

Bush, Barbara. 1990. Slave Women in Caribbean Society, 1650-1838. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press.

Danticat, Edwidge. 1998. **Breath, Eyes, Memory**. New York: Vintage Books.

Springfield, Consuelo Lopez. **Daughters of Caliban, Caribbean Women in the Twentieth Century**. Latin American Bureau (Research and Action) Ltd. 1997.

10. Bibliography of Supportive texts and Other materials

Aymer, Paula L. 1997. Uprooted Women Migrant Domestic in the Caribbean. Westport, Conn.: Praeger Publishers.

Chancy, Myriam J.A. 1997. **Framing Silence: Revolutionary Novels by Haitian Women**. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press.

Charles, Carolle. (1980-1990). **Gender and Politics in Contemporary Haiti: The Duvalierist State, Transnationalism and the Emergence of a New Feminism**. Feminist Studies Vol. 21 (1).

Cole, Johnnetta B.; Reed, Gail A. 1986. **Women in Cuba: Old problems and new ideas**. Urban Anthropology, 15:3/4, Fall/Winter, p. 321-353.

Danticat, Edwidge. 1996. **Krik? Krak!** Random House.

Finlay, Barbara. 1989. **The Women of Azua: work and family in the rural Dominican Republic**. New York: Praeger.

Pessar, Patricia R. 1987. **The linkage between household and workplace of Dominican Women in the U.S. A Caribbean Life in New York City: socio-cultural dimensions**. Edited by Constance R. Sutton and Elsa M. Chaney. Staten Island, N.Y. : Center for Migration Studies, p. 255-277.

Pessar, Patricia R. 1987. **The Dominicans: women in the household and the garment industry**. New Immigrants in New York. Edited by Nancy Foner. New York: Columbia University Press, p. 103-129.

Sargent, Carolyn; Harris, Michael. 1992. **Gender ideology, Child-rearing and Health in Jamaica**. American Ethnologist, 19:3. Aug., p. 523-527.

11. Preparer=s Name and Date: Dr. JoAnn Cunningham January 24, 2005

