

The University of California, Irvine
African American Politics
Political Science 124E/Afro-American Studies 110
Winter Quarter 2008
M,W,F 11-11:50 SSL 145

Professor Katherine Tate

Office Hours: Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 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:

Students will submit seven (7) of the ten one-page (2-3 paragraphs) single-spaced summaries based on an assigned question on the week's readings. These summaries need to be submitted on their scheduled dates. There is one final paper, which is limited to no more than 7 pages. The final paper assignment is one-half of the course grade. The weekly summaries, averaged, represent the one-half of the course final grade. Class attendance may be recorded. Students are expected to complete the writing assignments at the scheduled times. Late papers are penalized and may not be accepted. Summaries and paper assignments are due at the beginning of class. Finally, no incompletes will be given except under extraordinary circumstances.

Add/Drop Cards, Taping, and Copyright Notice:

NO Add/drop cards will be signed by the Professor after the 5th week of class, except under extraordinary circumstances. A forged add or drop card constitutes grounds for serious disciplinary action according to university regulations. 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:

Richard M. Valelly. 2004. The Two Reconstructions, The Struggle for Black Enfranchisement. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 0226845303.

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

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

Fredrick Harris, Valeria Sinclair-Chapman, and Brian D. McKenzie. 2006. Countervailing Forces in African American Civic Activism, 1973-1994. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 0521615139

Topics & Reading Assignments:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Reading & Writing Assignments</u>
1: January 7, 9, 11	The First Reconstruction Read Valelly's <i>The Two Reconstructions</i> , Chapters 1, 2, 3	Writing Summary due 1/11
2: January 14, 16, 18	The First Reconstruction and Judicial Authority Read Valelly's <i>The Two Reconstructions</i> , Chapters 4, 5, 6	Writing Summary due 1/18
NO CLASS JANUARY 21ST 3: January 23, 25	The Second Reconstruction and the Voting Rights Act Read Valelly's <i>The Two Reconstructions</i> , Chapters 7, 8, 9 and 10	Writing Summary due 1/25
4: January 28, 30, February 1	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, 8 and 9	Writing Summary due 2/1
5: February 4, 6, 8	Black Power	Writing Summary due 2/8

	Strategies Read: Kwame Ture and Charles V. Hamilton's Black Power, Chapters 1, 2, and 3	
6: February 11, 13, 15	Plessy, Brown, and Reconstructing Equal Educational Opportunities Read: Bell's <i>Silent Covenants</i> , Chapters 1, 2, 10, 11 and 12	Writing Summary due 2/15
NO CLASS FEBRUARY 18TH 7: February 20, 22	What If <i>Brown</i> was Ruled Differently? Read: Bell's <i>Silent Covenants</i> , Chapter 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8	Writing Summary due 2/22
8: February 25, 27, 29	Affirmative Action and School Reforms. Read: Bell's <i>Silent Convenants</i> , Chapters 13, 14, and 15 .	Writing Summary due 2/29
9: March 3, 5, 7	Theories on Black Political Participation: Micro & Macro Foundations Read Chapters 1 & 2, 3	Writing Summary due 3/7
10: March 10, 12, 14	Black Political Participation and Structural Forces Read Chapters 4, 5 and 6.	Writing Summary due 3/14
<i>Final paper due Friday, March 21st by 10 a.m. in Political Science Department Main Office</i>		