



COLLEGE *of*
CHARLESTON

AFRICAN AMERICAN
STUDIES PROGRAM

Spring 2019 Newsletter

From the Director



Kameelah Martin,
Director of the
African American Studies
program

Greetings from African American Studies as the Spring 2019 semester gets underway! There is ancient knowledge that recognizes the number 9 as one of transition--and this seems to ring true as Spring 2019 ushers in the winds of change to the College. This semester we welcome President-Elect Hsu and his family to the campus community. We also bid a farewell to Provost Brian McGee as he prepares to transition to a new position. We will also see a change in two familiar faces in the program. Roneka Matheny, adjunct faculty in African American Studies, has announced her plans to return to graduate school to complete her doctoral degree; and long-time lecturer Ajani "Dr. O" Ofunniyin is planning to reduced his time in the classroom as his non-profit organization, The Gullah Society, becomes his full-time passion. We are grateful for their continued contributions and dedication to AAST and wish them the best in their new endeavors.

Another congratulations goes to Dr. Anthony Greene for being honored as a 2019 MLK Humanitarian Award nominee. The MLK Humanitarian Award is an annual award presented to an administrator, faculty, or staff person who embodies the ideals of Martin Luther King, Jr. The MLK Humanitarian Award is presented by the Black History Intercollegiate Consortium, which is comprised of the College of Charleston, Trident Technical College, The Citadel, Charleston Southern University, and MUSC. We are very proud of our colleague and couldn't think of a better way to honor his work on campus and in the community.

Congratulations to Ethan Davis (AAST major) and Malayna Nesbitt (AAST minor) on receiving the Avery Research Center's Race and Social Justice Initiative Student Leadership Award.

The Spring semester will be full of notable speakers and events that highlight African American Studies and African Diaspora interests. Professor Crabtree is hosting the Afro-Futurism Film Festival on Monday evenings at 6pm. Please see flyer for specifics dates. Dr. Greene is hosting a panel on Race and Sports in America with guest, Dr. Jamal Ratchford, on February 18 at 7:30pm. The AAST Book Club will be reading Fran Ross's 1974 novel, *Oreo*. Be on the lookout for that announcement.

Additionally, African American Studies is collaborating with the Office of Institutional Diversity to offer the Black History Program, *Bridging the Divide: Placemaking for Communities of Color in the South Carolina Lowcountry*, on Tuesday February 6, 2019 in Randolph Hall. We're co-sponsoring Halsey Institute's *Southbound* exhibit and look forward to poet, Nikki Finney, coming to campus on February 12. In April, we are co-hosting with the Gender and Sexuality Equity Center a screening of the film *Paradise Discovered: The Unbreakable Virgin Islanders*. Please see the trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-uefsLI-6M>

We hope our community of students, faculty, staff, and friends of African American Studies continue to support our endeavors and we look forward to seeing you at these and other events. Wishing everyone a successful Spring semester!

Faculty News

AAST is excited to congratulate Dr. Anthony Greene, Associate Professor in African American Studies, on his nomination as a MLK Humanitarian honoree by the Black History Intercollegiate Consortium. He will be recognized on January 29th at the MLK Celebration!



Dr. Anthony Greene
Associate Professor,
African American Studies

Black History Intercollegiate Consortium

MLK CELEBRATION

"Living the Dream: Advocacy, Allyship, and a Call to Action"

January 29, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Trident Technical College, Thornley Campus
Building 920, College Center
Free Event, Open to the Public

2019 College of Charleston MLK Honoree
Dr. Anthony Greene
Associate Professor of African American Studies

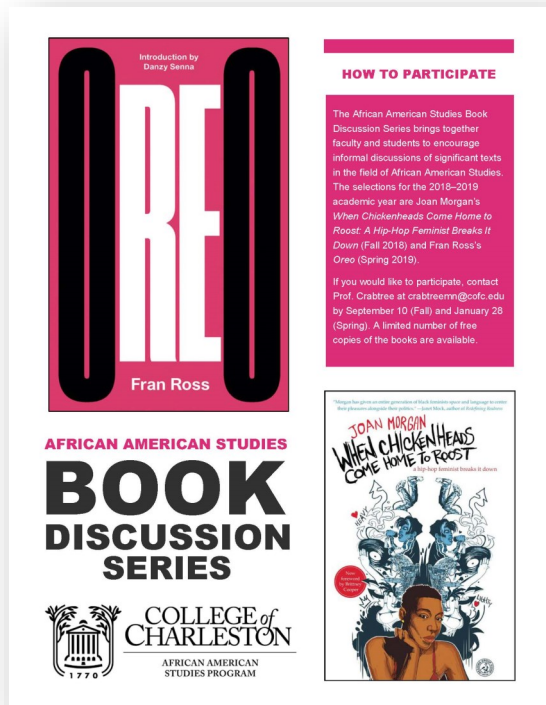
Program Features:

- Performances from the MUSC, College of Charleston, Citadel, and Charleston Southern University Gospel Choirs
- MLK Tributes from Each Member Institution
- Recognition of MLK Honorees
- Reception to Follow

BHIC Member Institutions:

MUSC Medical University of South Carolina
COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
CHARLESTON SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THE CITADEL The Southern Citadel for Women & Men

The Black History Intercollegiate Consortium represents students and staff who are committed to improving cultural and ethnic diversity. It consists of four area colleges and universities — The Citadel, the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), Charleston Southern University, College of Charleston and Trident Technical College.



Spring 2019 Book Club

The African American Studies Book Club brings together faculty and students to encourage informal discussions of significant texts in the field of African American Studies. The selection for Spring 2019 is Fran Ross's *Oreo*



Spring 2019 Film Festival

Afrofuturism on Film

Monday, February 4th: Blade

Monday, February 11th: Beasts of the Southern Wild

Monday, February 18th: PUMZI & Other Shorts

Monday, February 25th: Black Panther

6pm in ECTR 118

Spring 2019 Events

February

- 4th Film Screening of *Blade*
- 5th Bridging the Divide: Placemaking for Communities of Color in the South Carolina Lowcountry
- 11th Film Screening of *Beasts of the Southern Wild*
- 18th Film Screening of *PUMZI & Other Shorts*
- 18th Race & Sports Panel with Dr. Ratchford
- 25th Film Screening of *Black Panther*

March

- 2nd Accepted Students Weekend

April

- 4th World Cultures Fair
- 13th Accepted Students Weekend
- AAST Book Club meetings on-going

AVERY RESEARCH CENTER

The Avery Research Center hosts a wide variety of lectures, brown bag discussions, art exhibits, and other programs exploring African American history and culture. A calendar of Avery's programs can be found at <http://avery.cofc.edu/programs/>.

For more information on these events or the African American Studies Program, Check out the website at <http://african-american-studies.cofc.edu/>.

Spring 2019 Course Offerings

AAST 200	Intro to African American Studies	MWF	11:00 – 11:50am
AAST 200	Intro to African American Studies	MWF	12:00 – 12:50pm
AAST 200	Intro to African American Studies	MWF	12:00 – 12:50pm
AAST 200	Intro to African American Studies	MWF	1:00 – 1:50pm
AAST 200	Intro to African American Studies	TR	9:25 – 10:40am
AAST 200	Intro to African American Studies	TR	10:50 – 12:05pm
AAST 280	Intro to African American Music	TR	10:50 – 12:05pm
AAST 300	ST: Mass Incarceration and Its Roots	TR	9:25 – 10:40am
AAST 300	ST: Africana Women's Migration Narratives	TR	1:40 – 2:55pm
AAST 300	ST: Hip-Hop: Evolution and Impact	MWF	10:00 – 10:50am
AAST 300	ST: Hip-Hop: Evolution and Impact	MWF	11:00 – 11:50am
AAST 300	ST: Voodoo and Visual Culture	Online	
AAST 300	ST: Blacks and Jews: Post War American Strangers	TR	1:40 – 2:55pm
AAST 345	ST: Race and Sports	MWF	1:00 – 1:50pm
AAST 401	Capstone African American Studies	TR	3:05 – 4:20pm
AFST 101	Intro to African Civilization	TR	9:25 – 10:40am
ENGL 313	African American Literature	MWF	12:00 – 12:50pm
HIST 217	African American History since 1865	MWF	1:00 – 1:50pm
RELS 115	Black Religion and Black Nationalism from Slave Rebellions to Black Lives Matter	TR	12:15 – 1:30pm or 1:40 – 2:55pm
THTR 316	African American Theatre	Online	

An exception petition will have to be submitted for any AAST major or minor wishing to take the following courses and have them count towards the major or minor electives:

AFST 202	Diaspora Yoruba Culture and Lowcountry Connections	TR	12:15 – 1:30pm
ENGL 362	Race, Health, and Environmental Justice	MWF	1:00 – 1:50pm
LACS 200	Talking Trash and Wasting Time: A Caribbean Ecology	MWF	3:00 – 3:50pm

ATTENTION: SENIOR CITIZENS

South Carolina residents who are over 60 years old are eligible to enroll in regular College of Charleston courses on a space-available basis for a fee of \$25 for the semester. Permission of the instructor is required for African American Studies courses. Call 843.953.5620 for details.

Resources in AAST @ CofC

[The African American Experience](#)

is a database in The American Mosaic series of databases created by ABC-CLIO, an information services company. The database is a searchable, full-text, online encyclopedia of historical and current information, scholarly essays on contemporary issues, primary sources, and current and historical statistics. Students and faculty can access *The African American Experience* through the library's web site on the [Article Databases](#) page and the [African American Studies research guide](#).



The main content in *The African American Experience* is organized into 14 historical eras beginning with “Africa and the Atlantic, 500-1500” and continuing through “New Millennium, 2001-present.” Each era is further subdivided into shorter time periods and topics of historical significance. Each subdivision contains an overview of the period; encyclopedic articles highlighting the people and events that define the time period; primary source documents; media and visuals; and (sometimes) a glossary of terms. The articles include citations of books and articles for further reading relevant to the subjects covered. Users can browse the database by era or conduct keyword searches. There is a quick search feature and an advanced search interface. Users can print or email documents from the database, and each item comes with exportable citations in MLA, APA, and Chicago citation styles.

Another interesting portion of the database is the Idea Exchange feature. Here users can read essays authored by scholars on a wide range of important questions of today such as “How do African Americans, American Indians, and Latinos challenge racism differently?” and “What are the enduring factors that have led to a persistent overrepresentation of African Americans in crime and incarceration rates?” Each essay is thoughtfully composed and well-documented with footnotes and references and is followed by biographical information about the author.

Moreover, *The African American Experience* is also a source of statistical information. The CLIOView portion of the database allows users to find and compare state and national stats concerning a number of measures including African American population, employment, education, income, marriage, poverty, voting and voter registration, health insurance coverage, and military service. Users can choose to make bar graphs, line graphs, and pie charts based on the statistics found.

For more information about *The African American Experience* database, contact Steven Profit, reference librarian, at profits@cofc.edu.

With the International African American Museum coming to Charleston soon we are excited for the growth of African American Studies in the Charleston area as well as throughout South Carolina. The Museum will serve as a hub for regional heritage, sending visitors out across Charleston and South Carolina to access additional African American sites and experiences.

As we began the start of this new academic year the African American Studies program at the College of Charleston has offered its services as a clearing house for news of events relevant to African American Studies. We have currently created a calendar and listings-service drawing attention to African American-related events happening across the state. The calendar is on our website and will be providing information on events that we are aware of. To keep our calendar up to date with the latest events we invite you to submit events that you believe would be beneficial to this calendar. If you would also like to be added to our African American-related Events email list please contact Casey Smith at smithcn1@cofc.edu.

The **Event Calendar** can be found here:

<http://african-american-studies.cofc.edu/events/index.php>

Where Are You Now?

Let Us Know What You're Up To

For 20 years the African American Studies Program at the College of Charleston has educated students in African American history and culture. We would love to hear what those students are up to now. Let us know about the exciting professional and personal milestones you've reached since leaving the College. You can email Dr. Martin with the details at martinkl2@cofc.edu



not just in february

African American Studies

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