Black Britain: African Diaspora in the UK
Special Topics; ARTH 4030-6030
2nd Summer Session: July 7-19, 2016 (13 Days)

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Course Description
Black Britain: the African Diaspora in the UK is an interdisciplinary travel abroad program based in the Department of Art. The travel program emphasizes the study of African Diaspora arts, cultural institutions, walking tours, and historic sites. It exposes students at the University of Memphis to the expressive cultures of peoples of African descent from a global perspective. It enhances student’s appreciation for the arts as an enduring and powerful tool, both in the past and the present, of resistance, survival, and empowerment.

Designed as an interdisciplinary and comparative travel abroad program, it provides students with an immersive field trip experience that offers the opportunity beyond the traditional structure of the classroom, to learn how arts-cultural-and historical institutions in the African diaspora strive to interpret the global legacy of slavery, colonialism, empire, and race. This travel abroad program is therefore a practical and applied extension of my course, 4184-6184/The Arts of Slavery, Colonialism and Empire, a 3 credit hour seminar normally taught during the spring semester of each academic year.

Black Britain: the African Diaspora in the UK engages the Black presence in Europe, focusing on Great Britain as the primary site of significance. Incredible new museums, art galleries, and exhibits have opened across the UK examining its role in the involuntary and voluntary movement of African peoples throughout Europe, the Americas, the Mediterranean, and Asia. The program includes visits to heritage sites, and vast cultural institutions like the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool, the British Museum in London, and the Institute of Black Atlantic Research in Lancashire.

Students will learn about the Black experience in the UK by studying Black British art, culture, and history. The program will cover first cultural contacts between Africa and Europe during the 15th century, the rise of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and its links to Colonialism and Empire from the 18th-19th centuries, and the Windrush migration that brought people from the Caribbean to work in Britain
during the 1940s-50s, giving rise to important post-colonial sites of African and West Indian community building that continue to make significant contributions to contemporary British society and expressive culture.

**Black Britain: the African Diaspora in the UK** is designed as an interdisciplinary program that will attract students across disciplines: the Arts (visual arts, studio arts, art education, architecture, graphic design, photography), African and African American Studies, Anthropology, Dance, Education, English, History, Honor’s Program, Journalism, Museum Studies, Music, Political Science, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, Theatre, etc.

**Course Format-Requirements-Grades**

Black Britain: the African Diaspora in the UK, is a **1 credit** travel abroad study course. Students enroll under ARTH 4030-6030 as a special topics course Art History.

An intense field trip experience consisting of 13 days, the required written assignments, discussions, and site visits are designed as field trip-research-learning experiences wherein the students are examining what they see and documenting the event during the process:

**Journal**

Students will create a journal that extensively documents their response to the readings, each art gallery, museum, historical site, neighborhood or community, cultural institution or local organization visited throughout their study abroad experience. It should also document class discussions and viewing of any films.

**Readings**

In addition, there will be a variety of reading assignments addressing contemporary issues in the interpretation of this subject matter. Students will be graded on the plus-minus scale.

**Graduate students:**

Graduate students use their journal notes to write a 5 page Essay, (double-spaced, 12 font/Times Roman) focused on one of the themes below:

1. **The Arts:** art galleries, artworks, artists
2. **Cultural Institutions:** museums or historical site
3. **History:** choose one or two of the sites visited to critique how was the history of Blacks in Britain was interpreted

**Monday July 25th:** upon return Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Menson-Furr will conduct one 3 hour seminar session, (time & place TBA convenient for all),

**Friday July 29th, 2016:** all written assignments due.

**Meetings:**

Students will meet daily prior and after the field trips with Drs. Jenkins and Menson-Furr for purposes of preparation and de-briefing

**If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please meet with me as soon as possible.**
All students are expected to participate and make contributions to class discussions. Professionalism is expected in all aspects of student behaviors and academic work.

**Required Readings:**

*Articles: articles available on e-courseware*

**Visual Arts:**


**Black Community Formation:**


**Museums- Interpreting the Black British Experience:**


**Other supplies:**

*Journals*
Students may want to include materials for image-making like pens-pencils, and it is assumed students will have access to cameras in a variety of technology
Academic Integrity
Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. Faculty and students should conduct themselves with personal integrity, respect for other student's dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all participants are supported, achieving a successful learning experience. All participants commit to not to engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception; acts that violate the fundamental ethical principles.

Academic dishonesty
cheating on assignments or exams
plagiarizing the words-ideas of others
claiming authorship of works by another
submitting work completed in a previous class
submitting the same work to multiple classes in which the student is enrolled simultaneously.

Suggested Itinerary (tentative and subject to change)

Day 1 >> Thurs. July 7:
• Flight to London, UK (not included in the package price)

Welcome!

Day 2 >> Fri. July 8: (London)
• Arrival at London Heathrow or Gatwick Airport
• Transportation by private bus from the airport to the hotel in London
• 5 nights in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 3-star London Lodge Hotel in London
• Public transportation pass for the duration of the entire stay in London
• Guided walking tour of London in the afternoon to get a first impression of the British capital
• Welcome dinner at a restaurant in London to kick off the program

Day 3 >> Sat. July 9: (London)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Public transportation during the day
• Entrance tickets to the British Museum in the morning to explore the exhibition at your own pace
• Entrance ticket to the Brixton Art Gallery in the afternoon (to be confirmed)

Day 4 >> Sun. July 10: (London)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Public transportation during the day
• Entrance tickets to the Museum of London Docklands focusing on the permanent exhibition “London, Sugar & Slavery” in the morning
• The remainder of the day is free to explore the exhibition and the Docklands on your own

Day 5 >> Mon. July 11: (London)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Public transportation during the day
• Entrance tickets to the Tate Britain in the morning to explore it at your own pace
• Entrance tickets to the Tate Modern in the afternoon to explore it at your own pace

Day 6 >> Tues. July 12: (Oxford)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Transportation by private bus during the day
• Entrance to the Pitt Rivers Museum in the morning to explore one of the world’s finest collections of anthropology and archaeology, from around the world and throughout human history.
• Enjoy some free time in the university town of Oxford before your return to London

Day 7 >> Wed. July 13: (London - Manchester)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Transportation by private bus from the hotel to the train station in London
• Train tickets from London to Manchester (travel time: approx. 2 hours)
• Transportation by private bus from the train station to the hotel in Manchester
• 5 nights in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 4-star Novotel Manchester Centre Hotel in Manchester
• Public transportation pass for the duration of the entire stay in Manchester

Day 8 >> Thurs. July 14: (Preston - Lancashire region)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Transportation by private bus during the day
• Visit to the Institute for Black Atlantic Research and the local black history group in Preston in the morning to meet with a representative to discuss their cultural programs and activities (to be confirmed)
• Entrance ticket to one of the Lancashire Museums in the afternoon (to be discussed)

Day 9 >> Fri. July 15: (Manchester)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Public transportation during the day
• Entrance tickets to the Manchester Art Gallery in the morning
• Entrance tickets to the Whitworth Art Gallery, which is part of the University of Manchester, in the afternoon

Day 10 >> Sat. July 16: (Liverpool)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Transportation by private bus during the day
• Entrance tickets to the International Slavery Museum in the morning to explore the museum on your own
• Free time in Liverpool before your return to Manchester in the early evening

Day 11 >> Sun. July 17: (Birmingham)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Transportation by private bus during the day
• Entrance to the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery in the morning to work on your course assignments
• Enjoy some free time in Birmingham before your return to Manchester

Day 12 >> Mon. July 18: (Manchester - London)
• Breakfast at the hotel
• Transportation by private bus from the hotel to the train station in Manchester
• Train tickets from Manchester to London (travel time: approx. 2 hours)
• Transportation by private bus from the train station to the hotel in London
• 1 night in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 3-star London Lodge Hotel in London
• Public transportation pass for the day in London
• Farewell dinner at a restaurant in London to wrap up your international experience