

From slavery to #BlackLivesMatter

Michèle BALOUKA

Course type: online course – 18 hours – 5 ECTS

Language of instruction: English

Course description and objectives:

In the wake of the recent deaths of George Floyd and other African American citizens, the Black Lives Matter movement, initiated in 2013, has gained international coverage. This course will help you understand how the movement came about by looking back at the Black American struggle for equal rights. Topics covered will include slavery, the Reconstruction era after the Civil War, Black Codes, Jim Crow laws, lynching and the Ku Klux Klan, the NAACP, the Civil Rights Movement (1954 to 1968) and ensuing legislation, the history of incarceration and other aspects of systemic racism in the USA.

Teacher:

This course will be taught by a native English speaker, specialized in the Civil Rights Movement. Michèle Balouka has studied and taught in both American and French universities.

Online teaching method:

This online course is designed to be interactive. The learning management system Moodle will be used. Mandatory weekly readings will be published on Moodle. All students are expected to read the reading material before attending the online class. Each week different students will be asked present the weekly reading to the class. These students will send in preparatory written work to the teacher prior to their presentation, including personal research on the subject, questions that the text raises and discussion topics they find pertinent to introduce in class. Online classes will begin with the students presenting the weekly reading. Class discussion and input from the professor will follow.

Assessment:

Attendance and participation during the online classes will be assessed, in addition to each student's presentation and the written work sent in prior to their presentation.