

# AFST 2600 - Introduction to Africana Studies 1

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 40002,

Credit hours: 3

## Instructor

Patrick Spearman

Email: ptspearman@ysu.edu

## Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Associate Professor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: B.A. African American Studies (1992); University of Cincinnati; Ed.M Educational Foundations, University of Cincinnati (2000); Ph.D. Urban Education, Temple University (2004);

Instructor Office Location: DeBartolo Hall Rm. 514

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-1934

## Course Description

2600. Introduction to Africana Studies 1. The social-historical and intellectual heritage of black people in Africa and the Americas. 3 s.h.

## Course Readings

| Group    | Title                          | Author                   | ISBN       |
|----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Required | The Autobiography of Malcolm X | Malcolm X and Alex Haley | 1684220408 |
| Required | Before the Mayflower           | Lerone Bennett           | 0345350685 |

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

## Schedule of Topics and Assignments

| Week of | Reading(s)                                   | Proposed Topic                                                 | Due/To Prepare for Class  |
|---------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 8/24    | Syllabus                                     | Course Requirements and Assignments                            | First Day of Class Quiz   |
| 8/31    | Black Studies Article<br>Karenga: pp. 1 - 30 | What is Black/Africana Studies?                                | Reaction Paper 1          |
| 9/7     | Karenga: Chapter 1 cont.                     | What are the major thrusts of Africana Studies?                | Reaction Paper 2          |
| 9/14    | Bennett: Chapter 1                           | What contributions have Africa and Africans made to the world? | Reaction Paper 3          |
| 9/21    | Malcolm X: Chapters 1-2                      | How did Malcolm's parents impact his worldview?                | Reaction Paper 4          |
| 9/28    | Malcolm X: Chapters 3-4                      | How did Malcolm's worldview change in Mason and Boston?        | Reaction Paper 5          |
| 10/5    | Karenga: Black Sociology                     | How is Black Sociology an emancipatory social science?         | Educational Autobiography |
| 10/12   | Malcolm X: Chapter 5-6                       | How did Harlem impact Malcolm's worldview?                     | Exam I                    |
| 10/19   | Malcolm X: Chapters 7-9                      | How did Boston Impact Malcolm's Worldview?                     | Reaction Paper 6          |
| 10/26   | Karenga: Black Religion<br>Malcolm X: 10-12  | What role did religion play in Malcolm's worldview?            | Reaction Paper 7          |
| 11/2    | Karenga: Black Politics<br>Malcolm X: 13-14  | What is Black Politics?                                        | Reaction Paper 8          |



---

|       |                                                                 |                                                 |                         |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 11/9  | Karenga: Black Psychology<br>Malcolm X: Chapters 15-16          | Are Black People suffering from mental illness? | Educational Biography   |
| 11/16 | Karenga: Black Creative Production<br>Malcolm X: Chapters 17-18 | What makes Black Art Black?                     | Reaction Paper 9        |
| 11/23 | Black Creative Production Cont.<br>Malcolm X: 19                | What is the Black Aesthetic?                    | Action Research Project |
| 11/30 | Malcolm X: Epilogue                                             | Where do we go from here?                       | Reaction Paper 10       |
| 12/7  |                                                                 | Final Exam Week                                 | Final Exam              |

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.