

**Department:** Social Studies  
**Course:** African American History  
**Credits:** 5

**Course Description:** This course offers the student a thematic overview of Africa and African American history. Students will explore a variety of topics through an examination of geographic, cultural and social forces that have affected African peoples. A student should expect to be engaged in writing critical and persuasive essays. Class activities involve role-playing, lecture, cooperative learning, historical reenactments and textbook assignments. Students in this course must demonstrate the following skills with a minimum of a 60% average.

Upon completion of the course of study, the students will have completed the following proficiencies:

### **Knowledge**

1. Identify the geography of Africa and explain how and where the human race originated in Africa.
2. Describe the contributions of various civilizations in Africa.
3. Analyze the institution of slavery in terms of its development, resistance and effect on African Americans.
4. Describe the discrimination faced by African Americans after the Civil War and summarize the impact of federal legislation on the implementation of Jim Crow laws.
5. Evaluate the political and social condition of African Americans in the post-Civil War era.
6. Compare 20<sup>th</sup> century strategies for progress as proposed by various African American scholars/leaders.
7. Explore contemporary issues of importance to African Americans.

### **Attitudes**

1. Appreciate contemporary issues of importance to African Americans.
2. Respect the way in which African Americans have been able to challenge institutional discrimination and survive the obstacles they have encountered.

### **Skills**

1. Critically read and analyze primary and secondary resources.
2. Verbally and dramatically portray historical events.
3. Express personal opinions in well-constructed essays.