Women of the African Diaspora  
Women's Studies 410/African American Studies 498D  
Spring 2011-- MW 2-3:15, 2117 Susquehanna

Dr. Lynn Bolles  
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Office Hours: Mon. 10-noon; Tues. 10-noon and by appointment

Course Outline  
This course explores the lives, experiences, and cultures of women of sub-Saharan Africa and the African Diaspora -- African America, the Caribbean and Afro-Latin America, Canada and the UK. A variety of resources and materials will be used providing a distinctive interdisciplinary perspective.

Format  
Lecture/Discussion

Required Texts  


Course Reading materials available on ELMS (elms.umd.edu). This electronic blackboard will be used as major medium for information and updates.

Requirements  
The major task of Diaspora studies is to discover and examine the links between cultures and then come to some understanding of the specifics that make the individual societies distinctive, but still related to the source. Attendance is taken and being prepared for class by doing the reading and participating are critical for success. There are seven written assignments: 1 in-class essay; 2 response papers; outside class event review; an annotative bibliography on materials for final paper; a research paper on a subject of your own choosing; and a self-reporting participation document handed with the final paper. **Handouts will provide details for each assignment (see ELMS.umd.edu).** The independent research element makes this class a personally fruitful one. All written assignments must by TYPED.

Grading  
The possible score for each assignment is based on the following basic criteria:

1. Submitted on time; 2. Meets the goals of the assignment – indicates understanding of the materials under discussion; 3. Good writing techniques (grammar, spelling, correct citation practices); 4) Demonstrate the ability to make a sound analysis/argument; and 5) Use of research skills in assignments where appropriate. Final Grade follows this rubric.

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Assignments
In class essay 15 pts.
2 Response Papers (2-3 pgs. 10pts.) 20 pts.
Annotated bibliography on Final Paper Topic 15 pts.
Research Paper (10-12 pg.) 30 pts.
Outside class Event report (1-2 pg.) 10 pts.
Self-reporting Class Participation 10 pts.

“The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html

1. Introduction, Women of the African Diaspora
Jan. 24 Welcome and Introduction
Where in the World???

Molara Ogundipe-Leslie “African Women”

2. Significance of Slavery in the Americas and Colonization in Africa
Jan. 31 L. Mathurin The Rebel Woman

Feb. 2 M. Ramphele “My Roots”

Feb. 7 FILM “I is a Long Memoried Woman”

Feb. 9 Forward to I Tituba by Angela Davis

Feb. 14 Maryse Conde I Tituba p. 1-86
Feb. 14 Maryse Conde I Tituba p. 89-186

3. Identity of Being Black and Female
Feb. 16 D. Willis and C. Williams “The Colonial Conquest”

Feb. 21 FILM on Saartjie Baartman

Feb. 23 P. Hill Collins “Get Your Freak On”
Feb. 28  S.D. Rosado “No Nubian Knots or Nappy Locks”  
         K.L. Caldwell “Look at her Hair”  
         L. Jones “hair again”  
Mar. 2  FILM “Tree Shade”  

| Mar 7. | In Class Essay |

4. Movements of Black Women -- Immigration  
Mar. 9  C. Boyce Davies “Caribbean women…”  
        Lourdes Casal – Havana/NYC  
Mar. 16  N. Mortley “Nurse Migration”  
         J. Brown “Diaspora and Desire”  

SPRING BREAK  
Mar. 28  J. Burman “Deportable or Admissible?”  

| Discuss Details Final Research Paper |

5. Black Female and Queer  
Mar. 30  C. Clarke “Lesbianism”  
        Catherine Mckinley “Introduction”  
        J. Taylor “Testimony of a Naked Woman”  

| Apr. 4 | G. Wekker “What’s Identity Got to Do with it?”  
        J. Alexander “Remembering This Bridge Called my Back” |

| Apr. 6 | Film Litany for Survival |

| Response Paper #1 Due in Class |

6. Assaults on Well-being and Resources  
Apr. 11  L. Mullings and A. Wali “Race, Class..”  
        C. Mwaria “Biomedical Ethics..”  
        L. Bolles “Terror of Terrorism”  

| Annotated Bibliography Due in Class |

| Apr. 13 | G. Pargass & R. Clarke “Violence Against..”  
         I. Gunning “Cutting through..”  
         N. Kristof & S. WuDunn Half the Sky pgs. 221-229 |

| Apr. 18. | N. Kristof & S. WuDunn p. pg.61-66; 93-122-145  
         “Congo Wounds” |
5. African and African Descent Women's Political Work

Apr. 20  Miriam Tlali *Between Two Worlds*

Apr. 25  Miriam Tlali *Between Two Worlds*

| Sign up for African Diaspora Women Cultural Fest |

Apr. 27  J. Beoku-Betts & W. Ngaruiya Njambi “African Feminist Scholars”
         E. Barriteau “The Relevance of Black Feminist Scholarship”

May 2  L. Williams “The Civil Rights Legacy”
       M. Perkins “Inside our Dangerous.”
       A. Coleman “Michelle Obama on my Mind”

May 4  R. Armstead “Hip Hop in Cuba”

| Response Paper #2 Due in Class |

May 9.  African Diaspora Women’s Cultural Fest –Bring in examples of music, dance moves, food, art – power point, U Tube etc.

**FINAL PAPERS and SELF-REPORTING PARTICIPATION DUE:**

**Monday, May 16 no later than 3:30PM**
Drop off to Dr. Bolles’s Office 2101N Woods Hall