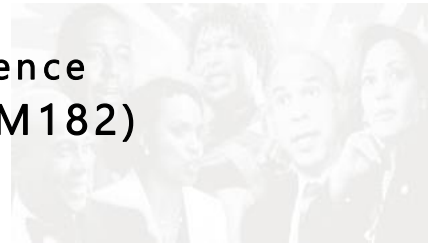




UCLA  
Department of Political Science  
African American Politics (M182)  
Summer 2019  
Session A



Professor: Christine M. Slaughter, MA  
Email: [christine.slaughter@ucla.edu](mailto:christine.slaughter@ucla.edu)  
Office Hours: T 1:30p-3:30p *or by appointment*

Meeting: T/TR 10:45a-12:50p  
Classroom: DODD 161  
Office: Bunche 4262

Office Hours: <https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/mod/scheduler/view.php?id=480632>

CCLE Website: <http://bit.ly/blk-pol19>

### Course Description

This course will explore the historical and contemporary dynamics of Black politics within in the United States. We will follow various threads of the African American experience. Topics include African American political thought (conservatism, liberalism, and nationalism), voting and participation, urban politics, contemporary public opinion, public policy, race and elected office, and issues of gender, class, age, and sexual identity at the intersections of black politics. The format will be a combination of student presentation, lecture and discussion.

### Course Objectives

Students will:

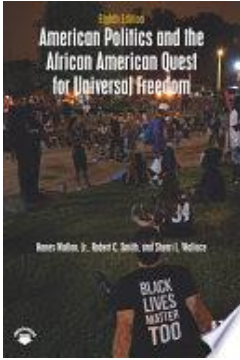
1. Develop a new command of the language for the discussion of history, politics and culture in the Black American experience. The students will become conversant on political issues facing Black Americans and their quest for universal freedom.
2. Provide descriptive information about social, political, and economic conditions of black community and their intersections with gender, age, class, sexual identity. The students will be able to trace the historical fight for political incorporation of Black Americans across these domains.
3. Acquire a new set of skills that will lead the students to become more civically engaged and more responsible citizens.

### Course Requisites

It is expected that students have completed PS 40 Introduction to American Politics (D- or higher). It is encouraged that students have completed PS 6 Introduction to Data Analysis and/or one 140-level course or one upper division course on race or ethnicity from history,

psychology, or sociology.

### Required Reading:

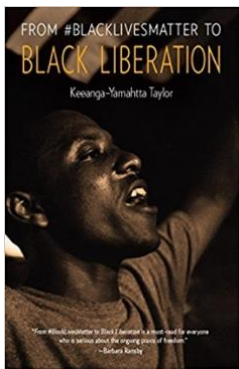


Walton, Hanes, Robert C. Smith, and Sherri L. Wallace. 2017. American Politics and the African American Quest for Universal Freedom. Routledge. 8<sup>th</sup> Edition

ISBN-13: 978-1138658141

A portion of this book may be found here: [bit.ly/wsw-bk](http://bit.ly/wsw-bk)

### Recommended Reading:



Taylor, Keeanga-Yamahtta. 2016. From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation. Chicago, Illinois: Haymarket Books.

ISBN-13: 9781608465620

Talk for the book may be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-vSHicV-e0>

Available in the UCLA Ackerman Bookstore, local and independent bookstores or via online retailers. The books are also on reserve in the UCLA library.

Additional readings (marked with \*) will be posted to CCLE.

### Course Schedule:

Class begins on time. There first 15-20 minutes of the class are student presentations. The second 60-70 minutes of class will include a lecture, and then, following about a 10-minute break, the rest of class will focus on a discussion of the assigned readings.

### Assignments and Assessments:

- 10% participation
- 20% CCLE Posts
- 30% Exam 1 (in class, closed-notes)
- 30% Exam 2 (in class, closed-notes)

**Course Expectations:** Please be on time. Mutual respect is a critical component of the course. Please ensure that your comments are supportive of others, and refrain from demeaning or hurtful commentary. All students should feel comfortable expressing themselves and expect to be heard. The course material is of a racial, ethnic, and gendered, nature. Please know this from the start and expect to participate in course discussions. If the idea of speaking about the content makes you too uncomfortable to speak, then this is not the course for you (Thanks, Mzilikaze Kone, PhD!). If there is not engagement with the readings in course discussion, I reserve the right to implement quizzes for reading comprehension. If you are having difficulty with any aspect of the course, I am available to assist you and discuss your concerns during office hours. Since the course is only 6 weeks – and we only have 11 classes together – reach out sooner than later. I cannot assist you if I don't know what your challenges are. For anything else, refer to the True Bruin Values: <https://truebruin.ucla.edu/>.

**Course Materials:** Course materials prepared by the instructor, together with the content of all lectures, are the property of the instructor. Video and audio recording of lectures and review sessions without the consent of the instructor is strictly prohibited. Students shall not sell notes (or receive remuneration for taking notes) during this course to or by any person or commercial entity without the express written permission of the professor teaching this course. (thanks, Meghan Ming Francis, PhD!)

**Course Webpage:** Course readings and announcements will be posted to the course webpage. I encourage you to subscribe to the CCLE digest so that you are notified when a message is posted. <http://bit.ly/blk-pol>

**Electronics:** You are welcome to use electronics with integrity. Texting, instant Messaging, Facebook and emailing will not be permitted in the classroom. **Please silence your devices before entering the classroom.** I encourage you to actively engage in listening. If use of electronics becomes an issue, I reserve the right to adjust the policy.

**Email correspondence:** Please email [christine.slaughter@ucla.edu](mailto:christine.slaughter@ucla.edu) to get in contact. This is the only email address that I will use to correspond with the class. On weekdays, my goal is to respond within 24 hours of receiving the message. Please update your email filter to prevent class messages from entering the spam folder online so that you can receive all relevant class e-mails. When emailing me, please have an informative email subject.

**Office Hours:** I look forward to speaking with you during office hours and I encourage you to drop in to talk about class material, assignments, and Black politics broadly. In respect of your time, I have set aside 2 hours on Tuesday afternoons to meet with you. The scheduler ensures that you will not have to wait to speak. Note, meetings are limited to 15 minutes per person. The door will remain open during office hours, so I ask if you would like to discuss a more sensitive topic, please be aware. Please do not schedule consecutive meetings and cancel appointments at least 15 minutes in advance if you cannot make it. <https://calendly.com/christine-slaughter>

**Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty** will not be tolerated. Please look to the course webpage for more detailed guidelines. We will be using Vericite, which provides students and faculty with a score indicating what, if any, portions of your paper are not your own. If you receive Vericite score of more

than 50% or higher on any one assignment will result in an automatic 'F' (0%) on said assignment. Use citations to avoid problems with plagiarism. You are not expected to cite class presentations. The UCLA library has resources to assist with avoiding plagiarism: <http://guides.library.ucla.edu/citing/plagiarism>. If there are additional specific questions, please schedule an appointment and we can discuss.

**Late Assignments** are accepted with penalty. Exams may not be re-scheduled, or made up, or retaken under any circumstances. Please check your schedule to prevent conflicts. If you foresee any legitimate challenges to submitting assignments, please reach out to me privately. Vacations do not constitute a legitimate challenge.

**Attendance Policy** To do well in the course, you must attend class. If you arrive to class late, please do so without disruption. One unexcused absence is ok. Anything else will not be considered. After missing 2 classes, students will have a half grade, grade drop in the overall course grade, i.e., and A will become and A-, an A- will become a B+). Doctor's notes will be accepted for a missed class—but please refrain from emailing me about whether your absence is excused or unexcused. It is your responsibility to seek out information on your missed course from peers. Arriving to class more than 15 minutes late, or leaving more than 15 minutes early constitutes an absence.

**Grading Policy** If you wish to dispute a grade on an exam, assignment or quiz, you must submit a statement in writing within 48 hours after the exam/quiz was returned to the class explaining why you're requesting an additional look. We will not discuss grades with students outside of office hours or appointments, and most certainly NOT by email. If an exam is re-graded, the entire exam will be re-graded. Your grade may be raised, stay the same, or be lowered. If you simply want to understand what you can do to improve your next paper, I will be happy to help you in office hours. Once final grades have been submitted (August 8), I will only consider errors in processing.

**Collaborative work** Please note that unless specifically granted by the professor or directly indicated on the assignment sheet otherwise, students should only complete assignments individually.

**UCLA Library** Looking for help with your papers, assignments, and research projects?

You can drop by one of our libraries, schedule a free research consultation at the Inquiry Labs, or get research help online 24/7. See <http://library.ucla.edu/questions> for more information.

**Emergencies.** In an emergency situation, please call UCPD by dialing 911 from an on-campus phone or (310) 825-1491. Anonymous Reporting Line: (310) 794-5824. [Sign up for BruinAlert.](#)

**Title IX** prohibits gender discrimination, sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

- If you have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the CARE Advocacy Office for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Wooden Center West, [CAREadvocate@careprogram.ucla.edu](mailto:CAREadvocate@careprogram.ucla.edu), (310) 206-2465.
- You can also report sexual violence or sexual harassment directly to the University's Title IX Coordinator, 2241 Murphy Hall, [titleix@conet.ucla.edu](mailto:titleix@conet.ucla.edu), (310) 206-3417.

- Reports to law enforcement can be made to UCPD at (310) 825-1491.
- Please note that under University policy, all TAs and instructors are mandated **Title IX reporters**. If any of the teaching team is informed of or witnesses sexual violence or harassment, we are required to report this to UCLA's Title IX coordinator. The coordinator is committed to maintaining anonymity of victims and so are we.
- I am a mandatory reporter.

**Report incidents of BIAS.** UCLA is committed to creating a community free from bias and intolerance. If you have experienced a hostile climate, please file a report at <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Report-an-Incident-of-BIAS>.

**Academic Integrity.** Academic integrity is taken seriously at UCLA. The Dean of Students Office is charged with responding when students are accused of committing a violation of policy. <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Portals/16/Documents/Syllabus.pdf>

UCLA Students may contact the **College Academic Counseling office** for help with any academic concerns via <http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/counseling/contact-us.html>. Non-UCLA students should contact <http://www.summer.ucla.edu/>

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)** at UCLA offers a range of services including individual and group therapy, referrals, psychological testing, crisis consultation, and psychoeducational programs and workshops. CAPS is located at John Wooden Center West and can be reached at (310) 825-0768. Learn more at <http://www.counseling.ucla.edu>. If you need an immediate response after hours or on weekends please call UCLA CAPS 24-hour access line (310) 825-0768 or call the UCPD 24-hour dispatch line at (310) 825-1491 or dial 911 for your local police.

**Accommodations for Students** If you wish to request an accommodation, please contact the Center for Accessible Education (formerly called the Office for Students with Disabilities) as soon as possible at A255 Murphy Hall, (310) 825-1501 / TDD: (310) 206-6083. Website: <http://www.cae.ucla.edu/>

**For many other summer session questions,** go to <http://www.summer.ucla.edu/>, choose "Academic Courses" under the Programs link in the top banner, and then find the category that applies to you on the right side of the page. Click on that, and then on "Important Resources" in the left column of the subsequent page. For questions about deadlines, see <http://www.summer.ucla.edu/academiccourses/UCLAstudent/registrationandenrollment> or [www.summer.ucla.edu/calendar](http://www.summer.ucla.edu/calendar).

Under **FERPA**, you have a right to know how you're doing in the course, but **it is a violation of university policy to discuss grades or any private information via email**, because legally, email is not private communication. Any discussion of your performance in the course, including your grade, must take place in person.

**The Student Writing Center** offers UCLA Undergraduates one-on-one sessions on their writing. The Center is staffed by peer learning facilitators (PLFs), undergraduates who are trained to help at any stage in the writing process and with writing assignments from across the curriculum. PLFs tailor the appointments to the concerns of each writer. To schedule an appointment, visit <http://www.wp.ucla.edu>. UCLA's Student Writing Center is located in A61 Humanities. Telephone:

310-206-1320. Email: [wcenter@ucla.edu](mailto:wcenter@ucla.edu). Hours: Monday to Thursday, 10 am to 6 pm; Friday, 10 am to 3 pm.

## Requirements and Grading:

Grading will be built from the following measures:

- 10% participation/ attendance
- 10% presentation
- 20% CCLE Posts
- 30% Exam 1 (in class, closed-notes)
- 30% Exam 2 (in class, closed-notes)

### **Participation/ Attendance 10%**

Students will need to have completed the reading(s) in advance of the class meeting, miss no more than one class, and participate in class discussions, in order to have active participation in the course. In addition, the professor reserves the right to administer up to 5 reading quizzes if there is lackluster class participation.

### **Presentation 10%**

Students are required to present to the course a recap of the previous class's lecture.

Students are encouraged, but not required, to use power point, video, current events, and other online resources during the class presentation. Presentations should be no longer than 15 minutes. If you fail to present you will not earn credit. The sign-up sheet for presentations will be distributed at the first-class meeting:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/161KTGcNhKQe0EV9saOvwR2BHUIjy34P70kEpGj9i-RA/edit#gid=0>

### **CCLE posts, weekly 20%**

Using CCLE, provide a 500-word reading response to the week's and/or the prior week's readings. Responses must be at least 500 words and no more than 750 words. Each week, the professor will point to a question or 2 for students to respond in the reading. Do not summarize the reading. To receive a check plus, you must include an empirical research question that is answerable through qualitative or quantitative data analysis. **Responses are to be posted by Saturday at 5:00pm PST.** Graded on check minus (80), check (90), check plus (100) scale.

### **Exam 1 – JULY 11<sup>th</sup> (in class, closed-notes) 30%**

- Short Answer Essay(s) (25%)
  - Multiple Choice (25%)
  - Matching/Term Identification
  - Fill in the Blank
- { (25%) }

- True or False

## Exam 2 – AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup> - COMPREHENSIVE (in class, closed-notes) 30%

- Short Answer Essay(s)
- Multiple Choice
- True or False
- Fill in the Blank

Each section is 25% of the final grade.

**Supplemental Exam Credit:** There are two opportunities to supplement your exam scores. In order to receive the credit, you must follow directions here. Failure to follow the instructions in their entirety will disqualify from the submission being considered. In order to receive the credit, you must:

News article analysis (5 points towards exam grade—total grade not to exceed 105 points).

Directions:

- Submit 1 CREDIBLE news article accompanied by a 200 word write -up of how and why the CREDIBLE news article relates to the study Black politics (specifically topics that were covered on the exam)
- Submit CREDIBLE news article as a PDF to submit.

Students must submit *before* the exam in order to be considered to the CCLE link. Dates: **July 11<sup>th</sup>** and **JULY 30<sup>th</sup>**

## COURSE SCHEDULE OF READINGS

### Week 1 – Introduction, The Case for Black Politics, Black Faces in White Spaces

**June 25<sup>th</sup>** - CH 1 Universal Freedom Declared, Universal Freedom Denied (WSW)

CH 2 Federalism (WSW)

Supplemental:

CH 1 A Culture of Racism (Taylor)

**June 27<sup>th</sup>** - CH 11 Presidency, Bureaucracy (WSW)  
CH 13 State and Local Politics (WSW)

Supplemental:

CH 3 Black Faces in High Places (Taylor)  
CH 5 Barack Obama: The End of an Illusion (Taylor)

**Week 2 – African Americans in American Institutions: Perils and Pathways**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>** – CH 10 The Congress (WSW)  
CH 12 SCOTUS (WSW)

Supplemental:

CH 4: The Double Standard of Justice (Taylor)  
Brown, Anna, and Sara Atske. 2016. "Blacks Have Made Gains in U.S. Political Leadership, but Gaps Remain." Pew Research Center. <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/06/28/blacks-have-made-gains-in-u-s-political-leadership-but-gaps-remain/> (July 12, 2018).

**July 4<sup>th</sup>** - **No Class Meeting (School Holiday)**

Supplemental:

Roberts, Ethan J. Kytly, Blain. 2018. "When the Fourth of July Was a Black Holiday." *The Atlantic*. <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2018/07/fourth-of-july-black-holiday/564320/> (June 17, 2019).

**Week 3 – Black Folks as Political Actors Across the Political Geography of the US: Cohesive Group Preferences**

**July 9<sup>th</sup>** – CH 7 Interest Groups (WSW)  
CH 8 Political Parties (WSW)

Supplemental:

Ch 6: Black Lives Matter: A Movement, Not a moment (Taylor)

**July 11<sup>th</sup>** - **EXAM 1 – IN CLASS, CLOSED NOTES (MUST BE COMPLETED DURING CLASS PERIOD 10:45a-12:50p) EXAM CANNOT BE ADMINISTERED AT ANOTHER TIME.**

**Week 4 – Shaped by Culture: Black Political Activity and Thinking**

**July 16<sup>th</sup>** - CH 3 Political Culture and Socialization (WSW)  
CH 4 Public Opinion (WSW)

Supplemental:

Harris-Perry, Melissa V. 2004. *Barbershops, Bibles, and BET: Everyday Talk and Black Political Thought*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press\* (CHAPTER 1 & 3)

Banerjee, Neela. 2005. "Black Churches Struggle Over Their Role in Politics" *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2005/03/06/politics/black-churches-struggle-over-their-role-in-politics.html> (July 10, 2018).



**July 18<sup>th</sup>** – CH 6 Social Movements and a Theory of African American Coalition Politics (WSW)

Lopez Bunyasi, Tehama and Candis Watts Smith. 2018. "Get in Formation: Black Women's Participation in the Women's March on Washington as an Act of Pragmatic Utopianism." *The Black Scholar*, 43(3).

Supplemental:

Benjamin, Andrea. 2017. "Coethnic Endorsements, Out-Group Candidate Preferences, and Perceptions in Local Elections." *Urban Affairs Review* 53(4): 631–57. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1078087416644840> (July 10, 2018).

**Week 4 – When Black Politics on the National Stage: Images, Behaviors, and Issues**

**July 23<sup>th</sup>** – CH 5 Media (WSW)

CH 9 Voting Behavior and Elections (WSW)

Supplemental:

"Black Americans Are Over-Represented in Media Portrayals of Poverty." 2018. *The Economist* (Democracy in America). <https://www.economist.com/democracy-in-america/2018/02/20/black-americans-are-over-represented-in-media-portrayals-of-poverty> (July 12, 2018).

"Voting Behavior and The Impact of The Black Vote in 2018 Mid-Term Elections." Advancement Project. <https://advancementproject.org/news/new-polling-voting-behavior-and-the-impact-of-the-black-vote-in-2018-mid-term-elections/> (June 17, 2019).

Newkirk II, Vann R. 2018. "Can Democrats Keep Winning Enough Black Voters?" *The Atlantic*. <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/05/what-black-voters-want/559775/> (June 17, 2019).

**July 25<sup>rd</sup>** - CH 14 Domestic Policy, Social and Economic Justice (WSW)  
-CH15 Foreign Policy (WSW)

WATCH: Ralph Bunche: Hero for Peace

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XN2gJL-ulq4>

Supplemental:

Guo, Jeff. 2016. "America's Tough Approach to Policing Black Communities Began as a Liberal Idea." *Washington Post*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/05/02/americas-tough-approach-to-policing-black-communities-began-as-a-liberal-idea/> (May 11, 2018).

Madrigal, Alexis C. 2014. "The Racist Housing Policy That Made Your Neighborhood." *The Atlantic*. <https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2014/05/the-racist-housing-policy-that-made-your-neighborhood/371439/> (July 12, 2018).\*

Williams, Tonya. 2016. "Why Are You under the Skirts of Women?" In *Distinct Identities: Minority Women in U.S. Politics*, New York: Routledge.\*

**Week 6 – Review & Final Exam**

July 30<sup>th</sup> - Final Exam Review Jeopardy

August 1<sup>st</sup> - EXAM 2 – IN CLASS, CLOSED NOTES (MUST BE COMPLETED DURING CLASS PERIOD 10:45a-12:50p) –

**NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE  
EXAM CANNOT BE ADMINISTERED AT ANOTHER TIME.**

**Note:** This syllabus is subject to change. In the event of a change, the instructor will notify the students. Last Updated 3 July 2019