

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF THE FRASER VALLEY

COURSE INFORMATION

DISCIPLINE/DEPARTMENT: History **IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** January 1997

Revised: November 1998

HIST 370 The American Civil Rights Movement 4
SUBJECT/NUMBER OF COURSE **DESCRIPTIVE TITLE** **UCFV CREDITS**

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: An examination of the African-Americans' struggle for racial justice, from the 1930s to the 1960s. Topics will include major legislative and judicial landmarks, national leaders and organizations, local community struggles, gender dynamics, contribution of labour unions and white "allies" to the movement, role of media, and representation in recent films and documentaries.

RATIONALE: Add to the selection of upper-level courses in American history. Will appeal to a wide audience interested in recent history.

COURSE PREREQUISITES: HIST 242 OR HIST 380 and nine credits of lower-level history (required in fall 2000)

COURSE COREQUISITES: None

HOURS PER TERM FOR EACH STUDENT	Lecture	30	hrs	Student Directed	
	Laboratory		hrs	Learning	hrs
	Seminar	30	hrs	Other - specify:	
	Field Experience		hrs		hrs
	TOTAL			60	HRS

MAXIMUM ENROLMENT: 35

Is transfer credit requested? **9** Yes : No

AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:	
Course Designer(s): <u>Sylvie Murray</u>	Chairperson: <u>(E. Davis) Curriculum Committee</u>
Department Head: <u>B. Huskins</u>	Dean: <u>J.D. Tunstall</u>
PAC: Approval in Principle <u>(Date)</u>	PAC: Final Approval: <u>December 16, 1998 (Date)</u>

HIST 370**NAME & NUMBER OF COURSE**

SYNONYMOUS COURSES:

(a) replaces _____
(course #)

(b) cannot take _____ for further credit
(course #)

SUPPLIES/MATERIALS:**TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS (List reading resources elsewhere)**

Sitkoff, The Struggle for Black Equality (1993 ed.)

Giddings, When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America (1984)

Meier, Rudwick, and Broderick, eds., Black Protest Thought in the Twentieth Century (1971) — a collection of primary documents

Williams, Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965 (1987) — companion to the video series; includes transcripts of interviews with participants

Eyes on the Prize, Part I: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954 to 1965 (1987) — 6-part video series documenting landmark episodes in the civil rights struggle; includes archival footage and interviews with participants

Coursepack — articles and essays from various sources to supplement the core readings

Films (Mississippi Burning, Malcolm X)

OBJECTIVES:

1. To familiarize students with the major events and participants in the history of the modern civil rights movement, as it evolved from the 1930s to the late 1960s.
2. To introduce students to the historiography of the civil rights movement — examine the developments and trends in historians' approaches to the subject.
3. To examine the sources available for the study of recent history (including oral history and television footage).
4. To examine the effectiveness of documentaries and films in presenting a compelling and sound historical analysis of the subject (as compared to written sources, such as historical monographs, autobiographies and memoirs, novels, essays, etc....).

METHODS:

1. Lectures to provide historical and historiographical background.
2. Presentation of films and videos (screening will take place during or outside of scheduled class time)
3. Class discussions of assigned readings and other material (seminars).

HIST 370

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STUDENT EVALUATION PROCEDURE:

Participation	10%
Book review	20%
Film review	15%
Historiographical essay (i.e., review of literature on a specific topic)	30%
Final exam	25%

COURSE CONTENT

This course will examine the history of the American civil rights movement from the 1930s to the late 1960s. We will focus on the dynamics involved in the transformation of racial relations in the United States, including the role of the federal and state governments (legislative and judicial institutions) and organized groups of citizens (African Americans, white "allies," labour unions, etc.).

The course will also introduce students to historiographical debates relevant to the topic: national institutions and/or local community dynamics, role of white "allies," periodization, role of women and gender dynamics in the movement, etc.

Finally, this course will pay special attention to representations of the movement by contemporaries, historians, and film makers. We will look at the influence that national television had on the strategies and outcomes of the struggle in the 1950s and 1960s. We will also assess critically the historical accuracy and effectiveness of some of the recent documentaries and films on the topics (Eyes on the Prize, Mississippi Burning, Malcolm X, etc.).