

STILL STRIVING

BLACK WOMEN'S CONTEMPORARY ACTIVISM IN THE U.S.

AAS 3394-Spring 2013 Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-11:30 AM



This course is an upper-level, undergraduate course that explores Black women's social activism in the United States from the 1960s through the present. Using an interdisciplinary framework, the course examines Black women's struggles for racial justice, environmental protections, political autonomy, reproductive rights, gender parity, and welfare reform. Broadly, the course is designed to provide an overview of the ways in which Black women have worked collectively and independently in order to foster substantive change within their lives, communities, and throughout the nation. Some of the guiding questions include: In what ways do race, gender, class, and/or sexuality inform Black women's realities and their subsequent struggles for social justice? In what ways have Black women's persistent struggles for equal rights contributed to the democratic project? How do the struggles waged by Black women inform our understanding of U.S. social policy? In what ways do Black women's perceptions of themselves challenge and/or reinforce mainstream representations of Black female identity?



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