UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON HISTORY DEPARTMENT PROFESSOR L. REED
HIST 4389 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
***Section #** 22071 ***Phone: 743-3092** ***E-mail: lreed@uh.edu**
Fall 2013 **TTH 1: 00 – 2: 30 P AH 201**

HIST 4389 is an upper level course. It requires that enrolled students in it must have a basic acquaintance with general American history. Even so, the professor will make an effort to place subject matter in proper historical context in lectures and discussions; students have the responsibility to ask questions about chronology and subject matter if these are not understood. Key themes are film, music, and literature. The focus could include so much more: art, food, quilting, performance, dance, and fashion, for example. *A Guide to Further Reading* will be included to illustrate the possibilities of discussions when it comes to African American history and culture.

Learning Outcomes: *How did food shape history & culture? What about music & politics?*

- **Students will attain, through lectures, audio-visual material, discussion and reading, and demonstrate (through exams, papers, and oral presentations) knowledge about the historical significance of African American people to the development of culture in the United States of America in the twentieth century.**
- **Class discussions of primary sources and secondary works of history will help students to read and to think critically.**
- **Writing assignments will enable students to improve their writing skills. Oral presentations will allow students to improve communication skills in general.**

Required Readings

Julie Dash, Daughters of the Dust: The Making of an African American Woman's Film (New York: New Press, 1992).

Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and Nellie Y. McKay, The Norton Anthology of African American Literature (New York: W. W. Norton, 2004, Second Edition).

Isabel Wilkerson, The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration (New York: Random House, 2010).

Learning is fun! At semester's end, students prepare (or have some prepare so that food is edible) a feast (items chosen from a list prepared by Professor Reed) that includes only food items influenced by the African diaspora. Students are required to research their respective selected, prepared item, make an oral presentation on it that is timed and ritiqued by class members. Assignment graded on presentation—staying with allotted time and relevant information shared on African Diaspora dish.