

African American History Guide

Course Description

In African American History, an elective course, students learn about the history and cultural contributions of African Americans. This course aims to develop an understanding of the historical roots of African American culture, especially as it relates to economic, social, and political relationships within the context of United States history. It requires an analysis of important events, individuals, ideas, social and cultural values, beliefs, and traditions.

Possible Topics

- African beginnings
- Africa, Europe, and the Rise of Afro-America, 1441-1619
- African American Slavery in the Colonial Era, 1619-1789
- Slavery and Abolition in Revolutionary and Antebellum America, 1790-1860
- African Americans and the Civil War and Reconstruction, 1861-1877
- The Rise of Jim Crow, 1878-1915
- World War I, Great Migration, Great Depression
- World War II: The struggle for democracy at home and abroad and the Postwar Years, 1940-1953
- The Civil Rights Movement: Gains and Losses, 1954-1970
- Beyond Civil Rights, 1970-present
- Cultural traditions and contributions of African Americans and the influence of the African American experience on American culture and society.

Resources

- [The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition](#)
- [Amistad Research Center at Tulane University](#)
- [Texas African American Studies Course Guide](#)
- [New Jersey African American History Curriculum Guide](#)
- [Louisiana Civil Rights Trail](#)

Assessment

Students enrolled in this course will receive a grade based on teacher-created assignments and assessments and can earn Carnegie credit based on local policies.

Updated May 22, 2025.