Instructor: Dr. Michael Wells, Urban Building 216, 216.687.2106, m.wells@csuohio.edu

Course Description: This course examines the physical, social, economic, cultural, and political dimensions of life in American cities, with an emphasis on minority communities in general and African-Americans in particular.

Course Objectives: Gain a better understanding of the following:
- issues and challenges for urban America;
- public policy and politics relevant to race and ethnicity;
- appreciation of diversity;
- writing, research, critical thinking, and analytical skills through writing assignments.

General Education Requirements: This is an African-American Experience course and a Writing Across the Curriculum course.

Writing Across the Curriculum Requirements: Completion of writing assignments equivalent to 3000 to 5000 words (double-space, 12 point font with 1 inch margins). For this course, this is 3 at least 10-page papers plus in-text citations and bibliographies. Plagiarism may result in a failing grade for an assignment. Plagiarism means another author’s direct quotation has not been set off in quotation marks and/or documented or that another author’s paraphrased work has not been documented. In this course, we use the American Psychological Association style for in-text and bibliographic citations.


Paper Due Dates:

First paper June 4th Kellogg, Introduction and Chapters 1 & 2
Second paper June 18th Kellogg, Chapters 3 & 4
Third paper June 30th Kellogg, Chapters 5 & 6

Paper Expectations: In each paper you will summarize and connect the sections (chapters) under consideration. What is the thesis of each chapter and how do the authors support this thesis? Where were the articles in each chapter first published and what is the readership of the publication? How can you connect the two chapters? Using 3 bibliographic sources from each chapter, supplement or criticize the chapters. A comparison and contrast method of analysis for each of your papers is one way to approach your writing assignment. Note that each chapter consists of several articles. What extra can you bring to your paper?
Each paper must have appropriate in-text citations and bibliography (APA style).

Each paper will be evaluated on style and mechanics and on focus, development, and organization.

I will look at preliminary outlines and drafts, and I will allow rewrites, if necessary.

**Grades:** Each paper is worth 33.33% of the grade.

**Blackboard:** This course is online using Blackboard.

**The Writing Center:** The CSU Writing Center is located on the first floor of the Library. It can assist you with writing challenges. Call: 687.6981 or [http://www.csuohio.edu/academic/writingcenter.html](http://www.csuohio.edu/academic/writingcenter.html).