

**African American Struggles for Freedom and Civil Rights,  
1865-1965**

**2011 NEH Institute for College Teachers  
W.E.B. Du Bois Institute  
Harvard University**

Monday June 27:

- 9-12:           Introductory Session: Desegregating America's Past  
Faculty: Waldo Martin and Patricia Sullivan  
Reading: "The Deforming Mirror of Truth," from Nathan Huggins, *Black Odyssey: The African American Ordeal in Slavery* (introduction to the 1990 reissued edition)
- 2-4:    **The Legacy of Reconstruction:**  
Faculty: Eric Foner  
Readings: Eric Foner, *A Short History of Reconstruction*  
"Reconstructions Deep Imprint," *New York Times*, June 18, 1997

Tuesday, June 28

- 9-11:   **Black Political Struggle in the Rural South: From Slavery to the Great Migration**  
Faculty: Steven Hahn  
Reading: Steven Hahn, *A Nation under Our Feet: Black Political Struggles in the Rural South from Slavery to the Great Migration* (Introduction, chapters 1, 3-5, 7, 9, Epilogue) (entire book is recommended)
- 1-3:       **Marcus Garvey and Black Protest in the World War I Era**  
Faculty: Stephen Hahn  
Steven Hahn, *The Political Worlds of Slavery and Freedom*, Chapter 3:  
Marcus Garvey, the UNIA and the Hidden Political History of African Americans
- Film: Marcus Garvey: Look for Me in the Whirlwind

Wednesday, June 29

11.        **The Age of Terror: 1870-1915**  
Faculty: Waldo Martin  
Reading: Waldo Martin, "Black Life and Culture in the Age of Terror," in *Freedom on My Mind: A History of African Americans with Documents* (forthcoming)

**3. Curriculum Workshop**

Faculty: Steven Hahn, Waldo Martin, Patricia Sullivan

Thursday, June 30

9-11: **The NAACP: “A Crystalizing force of Citizenship”**

Faculty: Patricia Sullivan

Readings: Patricia Sullivan, *Lift Every Voice: The NAACP and the Making of the Civil Rights Movement*

3. Curriculum Workshop: Teaching *Lift Every Voice*

Faculty: Waldo Martin and Patricia Sullivan

Friday, July 1

**World War I and after**

Faculty: Waldo Martin and Patricia Sullivan

Readings:

Paul Ortiz, *Emancipation Betrayed: The Hidden History of Black Organizing and White Violence in Florida from Reconstruction to the Bloody Election of 1920*, Chapter 7-9

Nan Woodruff, *American Congo: The African American Struggle for Freedom in the Delta*, Chapter 3: The Killing Fields

Sullivan, *Lift Every Voice*, chapter 3-4

(additional: TBA)

FILM: The Black Press: Soldiers without Swords – segment on “John Abbot and the Chicago Defender”

Monday, July 4: HOLIDAY

Tuesday, July 5

**11. The Depression/New Deal decade and the “Long Civil Rights Era”**

Faculty: Patricia Sullivan

Patricia Sullivan: *Days of Hope: Race and Democracy in the New Deal Era*, chapters 2, 3

Barbara Ransby, *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement*, chapter 3: Harlem during the 1930s: The making of a Black Radical Activist and Intellectual

Quintard Taylor, *In Search of the Racial Frontier: African Americans in the American West: 1528-1990*, chapter 8: The Black Urban West, 1911-1940

Waldo Martin, essay on Southern Negro Youth Congress

Nikhil Pal Singh, *Black Is a Country: Race and the Unfinished Struggle for Democracy*, Introduction: Civil Rights, Civic Myths

3. Curriculum workshop: Teaching resources

Wednesday, July 6

9-11           **Civil Rights in the Urban North**  
Faculty: Kevin Boyle  
Readings: Kevin Boyle, Thomas Sugrue, *Sweet Land of Liberty: The Forgotten Struggle for Civil Rights in the Urban North*

1-3             Curriculum workshop  
Faculty: Kevin Boyle  
Readings: Kevin Boyle, *The Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and the Jazz Age*, Chapter 5

Thursday, July 7

9-11:           **Black Workers, Labor, and Civil Rights**  
Faculty: Kevin Boyle  
Readings: Bruce Nelson, *Divided We Stand: American Workers and the Struggle for Black Equality*  
Robert Korstad and Nelson Lichtenstein, "Opportunities Found and Lost: Labor, Radicals and the Early Civil Rights Movement, *Journal of American History* 75 (December 1988), 786-811

Friday, July 8

9-11           **The Legacy of the Civil War**  
Faculty: Leon Litwack

Monday, July 11

9-11           **The Age of Jim Crow**  
Faculty: Leon Litwack  
Readings: *Trouble in Mind: Black Southerners in the Age of Jim Crow* (Preface, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, Epilogue)

1-3             **The Black South during World War II**  
Faculty: Leon Litwack  
Readings: Barbara Ransby, *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement*, ch. 4; Sullivan, *Lift Every Voice*, ch. 7-9

Tuesday, July 12

9-11           **The Desegregation of the Armed Forces**  
Faculty: Gerald Early  
Readings: Sherie Mershon and Steven Schlossman, *Foxholes and Color Lines: Desegregating the U.S. Armed Forces*, ch. 8-10; William T. Bowers, et.al., *Black*

*Soldiers/White Army: The 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment in Korea*, ch. 4; Lt. Col. Charles M. Bussey, *Firefight at Yechon: Courage and Racism in the Korean War*, ch. 5-7

**1-3 Film and Hollywood's Portrayal of Black Soldiers**  
Faculty: Gerald Early

Wednesday, July 13

**11. Black Women, Religion, and the Struggle for Justice**

Faculty: Bettye-Collier Thomas

Reading, Betty Collier-Thomas, *Jesus, Jobs and Justice: The History of African American Women and Religion*, selected chapters

**3. Across the Divide: Women and the Interracial Movement**

Faculty: Bettye Collier-Thomas

Readings: Collier-Thomas, *Jesus, Jobs and Justice*, chapter 6

Thursday, July 14

**9-11 Students and the Movement: from the 1930s to the 1960s**

Faculty: Dorothy Burnham, Margaret Burnham and Esther Cooper Jackson

Readings: Esther Cooper Jackson, ed., *The Freedomways Reader*: W.E.B. Du Bois, "Behold The Land." 6-11; Augusta Strong, "Southern Youth's Proud Heritage," 16-20; and Waldo Martin, SNYC, SNCC, Black Student Activism and the Making of the Twentieth Century Black Freedom Struggle"

**1-3 Black Cultural Politics in Postwar America**

Faculty: Waldo Martin

Readings: Waldo Martin, *No Coward Soldiers: Black Cultural Politics and Postwar America*

Friday, July 15

**11. Brown v. Board of Education: History and Legacy**

Faculty: Waldo Martin and Pat Sullivan

Readings: Waldo Martin, *Brown v. Board: A Brief History with Document* Sullivan, *Lift Every Voice*, Chapter 10

Robert L. Carter, *A Matter of Law: A Memoir of Struggle in the Cause of Equal Rights*, Chapters 5 and 7 (posted)

Monday, July 18

- 9-11 How the Movement Caught Up with the Music**  
 Faculty: Peter Guralnick  
 Readings: Selections from: Peter Guralnick, *Sweet Soul Music: Rhythm and Blues and the Southern Dream of Freedom* and  
 Peter Guralnick, *Dream: Boogie: The Triumph of Sam Cooke*
- 1-3 Women in the Movement: The 1960s:** discussion with Martha Norman  
 Readings: *Hands on the Freedom Plow: Personal Accounts by Women in SNCC*
- 4-6** Randall Kennedy: “Reverend Wright and My Father”

Tuesday, July 19

- 9-11 Oral history documentation of Black Life: From Jim Crow to Civil Rights**  
 Faculty: Raymond Gavins  
 Readings: William H. Chafe, Raymond Gavins, Robert Korstad, eds.,  
 Remembering Jim Crow: African Americans Tell About Life in the Segregated South, 89-151, 268-303
- 1-3 The Era of Direct Action Protest**  
 Faculty: Ray Gavins, Waldo Martin  
 Readings, Aldon D. Morris, *The Origins of the Civil Rights Movement: Black Communities Organizing for Change*, 40-76  
 John Dittmer, *Local People: The Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi*  
 Adam Fairclough, *Race and Democracy: The Civil Rights Struggle in Louisiana*, Ch 10-12  
 Barbara Ransby, *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement*, Ch 8-11

Wednesday, July 20

- 9-11 Reassessing Civil Rights Leadership in the 1960s**  
 Faculty: Waldo Martin, Raymond Gavins and Patricia Sullivan  
 Readings: Charles Payne, “Men Led, but Women Organized,” V.L. Crawford, J.A. Rouse and B. Woods, eds., *Women in the Civil Rights Movement: Trailblazers and Torchbearers, 1941-1965*; Chana Kai Lee, *For Freedom's Sake: The Life of Fanny Lou Hamer*, 103-120; Adam Fairclough, *Martin Luther King, Jr.*, Introduction and Conclusion; Martin Luther King, Jr., “Honoring Dr. Du Bois,” February 1968, in Esther Cooper Jackson, ed. *Freedomways Reader*
- 1-3 African Americans and the Military: The 1960s and beyond**  
 Faculty: Kimberly Phillips  
 Readings: Selections from: *War, What is It Good For? Black Freedom Struggles and the U.S. Military from Jim Crow to Iraq* (book to be published fall 2011; copies of chapter will be made available)

- 4 – 6: **FILM SCREENING: Brunswick, Georgia: The Quiet Conflict (1964)**  
Discussion with Andrew Stern (producer) and Lois Cunniff (associate producer)

Thursday, July 21

**Beyond the Civil Rights Movement**

Faculty: Gavins, Martin, Phillips Sullivan

Readings: C. Vann Woodward, “What Happened to the Civil Rights Movement?” from *The Burden of Southern History* (also, printed in *Harpers*, January 1967)

Nikhil Pal Singh, *Black is a Country*, Conclusion: Racial Justice beyond Civil Rights

Vesla Weaver, “Frontlash: Race and the Development of Punitive Crime Policy,” *Studies in American Political Development*, Fall 2007

[http://www.ebonterr.com/site\\_editor/assets/EBONTERR\\_41.pdf](http://www.ebonterr.com/site_editor/assets/EBONTERR_41.pdf)

- 1-3 **The New Black Power History**

Faculty: Peniel Joseph

Readings: Peniel Joseph, *Waiting ‘til the Midnight Hour: A Narrative History of Black Power in American*, Preface, Introduction, 1-95, 122-73, 205-240, 276-304

Friday, July 22

**11. Civil Rights Struggles: Change and Continuity**

Faculty: Bob Moses and Lewis Steel

Considering the work and writings of Civil Rights Movement veterans

Education and Schools: Robert P. Moses, “The Algebra Project: *Organizing in the Spirit of Ella*,” *Harvard Educational Review*. November, 1989. pp. 423-443

Civil Rights, the Courts and the Law: Lewis M. Steel, “A critic’s view of the Warren Court – Nine Men in Black Who Think White”, *The New York Times* (October 13, 1968); “Separate and Unequal – by Design,” *The Nation*, Jan. 18, 2001.

Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project: Margaret Burnham

- 1-3: **Taking it back to our Classrooms:** Major themes, questions, issues

Faculty: Martin, Gavins, Phillips, Sullivan