

Syllabus
BLACK GLOBALIZATIONS (BLST 2)
Global Apartheid, COVID-19 & Black Utopias in an Antiblack World
U of California, Santa Barbara
Department of Black Studies
A/synchronous Remote Instruction
Fall 2021

Instructor: Dr. Jaime A Alves

Department of Black Studies

Email: jaiméalves@ucsb.edu

Office: 3517, 3rd Floor, South Hall

Remote Office Hours: Thursday 11:00AM-1:00PM (PST/PDT). Please, set up

appointment here: <https://calendly.com/jaiméalves/professor-alves-office-hour>

Graduate Teaching Assistant:

Angela Godoy

Department of Education

Email: godoy@umail.ucsb.edu

Note on COVID-19 & Black Studies:

We are all in the same boat! COVID-19 democratized vulnerability to death, and in doing so, it blurred gendered racial lines. Did it? Not quite. What does Global Blackness get to do with COVID-19? It shows that black life is lived under the permanent threat of death. Black life is a life that disrupts the “pre” and “post” temporality of the pandemic.

Imagine, if you can, any place worldwide where black lives are valued and protected? As we reflect on historical and contemporary Black conditions, let's keep in mind how enduring global apartheid enforces differentiated vulnerabilities to death, now severed by COVID-19

Course Description:

This course brings into sharp focus historical, contemporary, social, and political processes that affect Black populations worldwide. Drawing from a range of disciplines, we will investigate how slavery and colonialism continue to shape black living conditions in countries such as Brazil, Colombia, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, Ghana, South Africa, France, the UK, and the United States. What may explain the current deteriorating living conditions in South Africa's post-apartheid rainbow nation? How is antiblackness enacted in Brazil's racial democracy? How does racism play out in Ghana's black nation? What role does the African continent play in the 21st century's global economy? What is the relationship between European colonialism and Europe's cruel immigration policies (pronounced for instance in the drowning of black bodies in the Mediterranean sea)? How might we understand current configurations of global white supremacy under COVID-19? And finally, how does antiblackness in urban America inform broad geopolitics of security in African Diasporic societies such as Brazil, Colombia, and Haiti? The course deals with these questions from an unapologetically black-centered perspective; that means that while we will be open to discuss and consider other experiences of oppression, the course is framed through the lenses of anti/blackness as

both a racial condition and a theory to understand current modes of domination. In that regard, we will read seminal interventions that take the black experience as paradigmatic, no-relational, unique! What are the challenges and possibilities to imagine a world in which black lives truly matter? What is needed to bring about this black(ned) new world in the face of widespread antiblack violence? What can we learn from local struggles for Black liberation in a globalized antiblack world? Let's put political imagination to work!

**YOUR WEEKLY PLAN:
In-person and Asynchronous Instruction**

A) Every week, read over the syllabus and do the required readings; **[asynchronous mode]**

B) By Tuesday (9:30-10:45), participate in the Forum Discussion (Cafe Area Forum) by engaging with the questions/comments posed by your instructors and classmates. Forum discussions open on Monday (midnight) and close on Tuesday (10:45 AM). Forum is mandatory and worth 30% of your grade! **[asynchronous mode]**

C) Attend lecture every week Thursday (from 9:30 - 10:45 AM) at Building TD-W (Theater/Dance West) 2600. Attending lectures is mandatory. Lectures will not be available for asynchronous view. **[in-person instruction]**

D) Attend weekly TA Discussion Session. Weekly, your TA will hold discussion sessions (Building SH 3707) to address questions related to the readings and course logistics. **[in-person instruction]** Sessions: 53371 (T 2:00 - 2:50); 53389 (T 3:00 - 3:50); 53397 (T 4:00 - 4:50)

Teaching Assistant Office Hours:

Angela Godoy: Wednesday, 12:00PM to - 2:00PM / Location (TBA), or by appointment. Email: Godoy@ucsb.edu

Professor Alves' Office Hours: Thursday 11:00AM-1:00PM (PST/PDT). Please make sure you sign up for office hour in advance through calendly.com [<https://calendly.com/jaimealves/professor-alves-office-hour>]. In cases you are not able to attend office hour in-person, you can email me, and we will set up a zoom meeting: jaimealves@blackstudies.ucsb.edu

COVID-19

IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION PROTOCOL *

A) Please complete the [daily symptom survey](#) before coming to class. **Do not come to class if your badge is not green.**

B) Remember that we all must wear masks indoors at all times. If you forget your mask, please take time to get one from your dorm or from one of available distribution spots. You will not be penalized for late arrival if you need to do so.

C) If you are feeling ill or suspect you may have been exposed to someone who is ill, please stay home. Let me and/or your TA know, and we will make arrangements for you.

*From Center for Innovative Teaching, Research and Learning

Academic Etiquette: Be advised: there is a [cell-phone free environment policy](#) for this course. You are absolutely NOT allowed to use cellphone and laptop computer while attending lecture and TA discussion session. **EMAILS:** Email is a formal correspondence and while I am not invested in too formal and at times pretentious academic etiquettes, you must address your professor, Teaching Assistant and classmates in a polite and respectful way. Do not expect getting reply to rude emails, without salutation and signature. They will be ignored. **Check this out!**

Disabilities: Students with disabilities should inform about their needs to the Office of Disability Services, and to inform the instructor during the first two weeks of the semester (unless you are diagnosed afterward). Please read the course requirements and make sure that you can fulfill them. Otherwise, the instructor will expect you to complete with and perform all requirements. There are plenty of resources on campus to assist students with disabilities. Please contact the Disabled Students Program at <https://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu/prospective-students/apply>

Plagiarism: be aware that this course uses plagiarism detector software for cross reference check. Cases of plagiarism will result in failure of the course and will be reported to University administrators. Please, read university's policies regarding plagiarism in the Online Undergraduate Catalog at <https://studentconduct.sa.ucsb.edu/academic-integrity>

Writing Assistance: Understandably, many students struggle with academic writing, a style that requires creativity, critical thinking, intertextual dialogue and....grammar precision. It's hard! You can sign up for an appointment with a tutor at the Writing Lab by enrolling on [MyCLAS](#).

Food Insecurity & Financial Need: are you dealing with financial hardship that is affect your academic performance and path toward graduation?? UCSB Financial Crisis Response Team and UCSB Food Bank are two initiatives aiming to assist members of the Gaucho community under such conditions. Please contact the UCSB Food Bank at ucsbasfoodbank@as.ucsb.edu

STUDENT WELLBEING: There are several sources of support for students during these trying times. For a list of resources to support your health, safe and wellbeing visit <https://wellbeing.ucsb.edu> Also, UCSB provides Counseling & Psychological Services to students going through depression, anxiety, and other personal challenges that can negatively impact their learning experience. If you find yourself in emotional distress, know that we can help! Call CAPS at 805-893-4411 or visit the website <http://counseling.sa.ucsb.edu/>

Grades will be calculated on the following basis:

- 1 - MIDTERM EXAM: Reading Quiz # 1 (30%)
- 2 - FINAL EXAM: Reading Quiz # 2 (40%)
- 3 - Class Attendance & Forum Discussion: 30%

COURSE PROGRAM

Part one: GLOBALIZING BLACKNESS

I - The Crossing/Conceptualizing the African Diaspora

Readings:

- Torres-Saillant, S. (2009). One and divisible: Meditations on global blackness. *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism*, 13(2), 4-25;
- Kelley, R. D. (2000). How the West was one: On the uses and limitations of diaspora. *The Black Scholar*, 30(3-4), 31-35;
- Tiffany R. Patterson and Robin Kelley, "Unfinished Migrations: Reflections on the African Diaspora and the Making of the Modern World," *African Studies Review* 43(1): 2000: 11-35;
- Bogue, A. (2009, Winter). *The African Diaspora Today: Flows and Motions. Radical History Review*. pp. 215-219;
- Hartman, Saidiya V. "The time of slavery." *The South Atlantic Quarterly* 101, no. 4 (2002): 757-777.
- St. Clair Drake, "Pan Africanism: What Is It?," *Africa Today*, Vol. 6, No. 1, (1959), pp. 6-10.

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

II - Queering/Gendering the Black Atlantic

Readings:

- Tinsley, Omise'eke Natasha. "Black Atlantic, queer Atlantic: Queer imaginings of the middle passage." *GLQ: A journal of lesbian and gay studies* 14, no. 2-3 (2008): 191-212;
- Bey, Marquis. "The Trans*-ness of Blackness, the Blackness of Trans*-ness." *Transgender Studies Quarterly* 4, no. 2 (2017): 275-295.
- Silva Santana, Dora. "Transitionings and ReturningsExperiments with the Poetics of Transatlantic Water." *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly* 4.2 (2017): 181-190;
- Hartman, Saidiya. "The belly of the world: A note on Black women's labors." *Souls* 18.1 (2016): 166-173;
- Connie Rapoo (2011) 'Just give us the bones!': theatres of African diasporic returns, *Critical Arts*, 25:2, 132-149;

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

III - Slavery, Blackness, and Placelessness

Readings:

- McKittrick, K. "On plantations, prisons, and a black sense of place." *Social & Cultural Geography* 12.8 (2011): 947-963;
- Knight, F. W. (2008). Slavery in the Americas. *A companion to Latin American History*, 146-169;
- Bledsoe, A., & Wright, W. J. The pluralities of Black geographies. *Antipode*, 51, 2018: 419-437;
- McInnis, Jarvis C. "Black Women's Geographies and the Afterlives of the Sugar Plantation." *American Literary History* 31.4 (2019): 741-774.
- Hosbey, Justin. "Refusing Unliveable Destinies: Toward a Future for Black Life in New Orleans." *Fire!!!* 5.1 (2018): 35-47.
-

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

Parte Two: GLOBAL FORMATIONS OF ANTIBLACKNESS Case Studies

IV - Black Latin America

Pigmentocracy, Settler Violence, and Empire (Brazil, Honduras and Puerto Rico)

Readings:

- Telles, Edward, René D. Flores, and Fernando Urrea-Giraldo. "Pigmentocracies: Educational inequality, skin color and census ethnoracial identification in eight Latin American countries." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 40 (2015): 39-58;
- Costa Vargas, Joao H. "Hyperconsciousness of race and its negation: The dialectic of white supremacy in Brazil." *Identities: global studies in culture and power* 11.4 (2004): 443-470.
- Loperena, C.A., 2017. Settler violence?: race and emergent frontiers of progress in Honduras. *American Quarterly*, 69(4), pp.801-807;
- Bonilla, Yarimar. "The coloniality of disaster: Race, empire, and the temporal logics of emergency in Puerto Rico, USA." *Political geography* 78 (2020): 102181.

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

V - Black Latin America

Plantation Times & Humanitarian Dispossession - Jamaica, Colombia and Haiti

Readings:

- Alves, Jaime, and Tathagatan Ravidran. "Racial Capitalism, the Free Trade Zone of Pacific Alliance, and Colombian Utopic Spatialities of Antiblackness." *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies* 19.1 (2020): 187-209;

- Thame, Maziki. "Jamaica, Covid-19 and Black freedom." *Cultural Dynamics* (2021):
- Mullings, Beverley, Marion Werner, and Linda Peake. "Fear and loathing in Haiti: Race and politics of humanitarian dispossession." *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies* 9.3 (2010): 282-300.

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

MIDTERM READING QUIZ (October 28)

VI - The Time of Africa

Readings:

- Pierre, Jemima. "Race in Africa today: a commentary." *Cultural Anthropology* 28, no. 3 (2013): 547-551;
- Barnes, Sandra T. "Global flows: Terror, oil, and strategic philanthropy." *African Studies Review* 48, no. 1 (2005): 1-22;
- Kimari, Wangui. "The story of a pump: life, death and afterlives within an urban planning of "divide and rule" in Nairobi, Kenya." *Urban Geography* (2019): 1-20;
- Asante, Godfried A., and Gloria Nziba Pindi. "(Re) imagining African futures: Wakanda and the politics of transnational Blackness." *Review of Communication* 20.3 (2020): 220-228;
- Keenan, J. (2008). US militarization in Africa: What anthropologists should know about AFRICOM. *Anthropology Today*, 24(5), 16-20.

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

VII - The Emergence of Afro-Europe & Borders as the Afterlife of Slavery

Readings:

- Blakely, Allison. "The Emergence of Afro-Europe: A Preliminary Sketch," Allison Blakely. *From Black Europe and the African Diaspora*. Darlene Clark Hine, ed. Chicago: University of Illinois Press (2009), pp.3-28;
- Beaman, Jean. "Are French people white?: Towards an understanding of whiteness in Republican France." *Identities* 26.5 (2019): 546-562.
- Lo Presti, Laura. "Terraqueous Necropolitics: Unfolding the low-operational, Forensic, and Evocative Mapping of Mediterranean Sea Crossings in the Age of Lethal Borders." *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies* 18.6 (2019).1348-67.

Weekly Summary:

BE PREPARED TO THE SYNCHRONOUS VIRTUAL CAFÉ ON
[Aime Cesaire. Discourse on Colonialism. New York Press, 2001.](#)

Part Three: COVID-19 &/AS GLOBAL APARTHEID

VIII -Syndemic, Covid-19 & Antirblackness in the US, Africas and Brazil

Readings (these are short essays):

- Beaman, Jean. "Underlying Conditions: Global Anti-Blackness amid COVID-19." *City & Society* (2020): 516-521; (5 pages)
- Roberts, Dorothy E. "Introduction." *Killing the black body: Race, reproduction, and the meaning of liberty*. Vintage, 1999, pp. 10-28; (18 pages)
- Foigt, Kristin, Evrard Nahimana, and Anat Rosenthal. "Flashing red lights: the global implications of COVID-19 vaccination passports." *BMJ Global Health* 6.5 (2021): e006209.
- Kumar, Shashank, and Rubén Gaztambide-Fernández. "Are we all in this together? COVID-19, imperialism, and the politics of belonging." (2020): 195-203; (8 pages)
- Kennedy, Michael J. "On Breath and Blackness: Living and Dying in the Wake of the Virus." *Philosophy & Rhetoric* 53.3 (2020): 286-292; (6 pages)
- Liebman, Alexander, Kevon Rhiney, and Rob Wallace. "To die a thousand deaths: COVID-19, racial capitalism, and anti-Black violence." *Human Geography* (2020): 1-5; (5 pages)
- Gravlee, Clarence C. "Systemic racism, chronic health inequities, and COVID-19: A syndemic in the making?." *American Journal of Human Biology* (2020); 1-7; (7 pages)
- Teixeira JC. Brazilian housemaids and COVID-19: How can they isolate if domestic work stems from racism? *Gender Work Organ.* 2020;1-9. (9pages)
- Canham, Hugo. "Black Death and Mourning as Pandemic." *Journal of Black Studies* 52.3 (2021): 296-309. (15 pages)

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

XIX - Viruscene: COVID-19; Anthropocene and Global Antiblackness

Readings:

- Davis, Janae, et al. "Anthropocene, capitalocene,... plantationocene?: A manifesto for ecological justice in an age of global crises." *Geography Compass* 13.5 (2019): 1-14;
- Fernando, Jude L. "The Virocene Epoch: the vulnerability nexus of viruses, capitalism and racism." *Journal of Political Ecology* 27.1 (2020): 635-670;
- Bledsoe A and Wright W (2019) The anti-Blackness of global capital. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 37(1):8-25;

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

Part Four: BLACK UTOPIAS

X - Black Utopias in Antiblack Worlds

Readings:

- Pleyers, Geoffrey. "The Pandemic is a battlefield. Social movements in the COVID-19 lockdown." *Journal of Civil Society* (2020): 1-18.

- Haritaworn, Jin. "# NoGoingBack: Queer leaps at the intersection of protest and COVID-19." *Journal of Environmental Media* 1.2 (2020): 1-7.
- Freshour, Carrie, and Brian Williams. "Abolition in the time of Covid-19." *Antipode online* 9 (2020): 1-5.
<https://antipodeonline.org/2020/04/09/abolition-in-the-time-of-covid-19/>
- Colebrook, Claire. "Fast violence, revolutionary violence: Black lives matter and the 2020 pandemic." *Journal of bioethical inquiry* (2020): 1-5.
- Bowman, Brett. "On the biopolitics of breathing: race, protests, and state violence under the global threat of COVID-19." *South African Journal of Psychology* 50.3 (2020): 312-315;
- Hartman, S. 2020. The end of white supremacy, an American romance. *Bomb*, June 5. <https://bombmagazine.org/articles/the-end-of-white-supremacy-an-american-romance/>.
- Terrance Wooten and J Alves. White Apocalypse, Global Antiracism and the Art of Living Through and in Death Worlds. *Kalfou: Journal of Critical Ethnic Studies*.

Weekly Summary (Discussion Post) due by Tuesday at 10:45AM

FINAL EXAM: due on December 7

Suggested Readings

Agathangelou, A. M. (2013). Neoliberal geopolitical order and value: Queerness as a speculative economy and anti-blackness as terror. *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 15(4), 453-476;

Bailey, K.D., 2015. Black-Palestinian Solidarity in the Ferguson-Gaza Era. *American Quarterly*, 67(4), pp.1017-1026;

Bashi, V. (2004). Globalized anti-blackness: Transnationalizing Western immigration law, policy, and practice. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 27(4), 584-606;

Bogues, A. (2009, Winter). *The African Diaspora Today: Flows and Motions. Radical History Review*. pp. 215-219

Carneiro, S., 1999. Black women's identity in Brazil. *Race in contemporary Brazil: from indifference to inequality*, pp.217-28.

Collins, Patricia Hill. "New commodities, new consumers: Selling blackness in a global marketplace." *Ethnicities* 6.3 (2006): 297-317.

"COVID Black" (2020) COVID Black : A taskforce on black health and data. Available at: <https://www.cla.purdue.edu/academic/sis/p/african-american/covid-black/>

D'Ignazio, Catherine, and Lauren F. Klein. "Seven intersectional feminist principles for equitable and actionable COVID-19 data." *Big Data & Society* 7.2 (2020):1-5; (4 pages)

De Genova, N. (2018). The "migrant crisis" as racial crisis: Do Black Lives Matter in Europe?. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 41(10), 1765-1782;

avis, D. A. (2019). Trump, Race, and Reproduction in the Afterlife of Slavery. *Cultural Anthropology*, 34(1), 26-33.

FASE Rio De Janeiro. 2020. "Covid-19 and the injustice of life in the favelas and urban peripheries in Rio de Janeiro." *Open Democracy*, April 24.

Gaudio, Rudolf P. "The blackness of "broken English"." *Journal of linguistic anthropology* 21.2 (2011): 230-246; Bassichis, Morgan, and Dean Spade. "Queer politics and anti-blackness." In *Queer necropolitics*, pp. 191-210. Routledge, 2014.

Geggus, David. "The French and Haitian Revolutions, and resistance to slavery in the Americas: an overview." *Outre-Mers. Revue d'histoire* 76.282 (1989): 107-124;

Giles Mohan and A. B. Zack-Williams, "Globalization from below: Conceptualizing the Role of the African Diasporas in Africa's Development," *Review of African Political Economy*, Vol. 29, No. 92, pp. 211-236.

Godreau, Isar. "Changing space, making race: Distance, nostalgia, and the folklorization of blackness in Puerto Rico." *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power* 9, no. 3 (2002): 281-304;

Gordon, Edmund T., and Mark Anderson. "The African diaspora: Toward an ethnography of diasporic identification." *Journal of American Folklore* (1999): 282-296;

Hale, C. R., Calla, P., & Mullings, L. (2017). Race Matters in Dangerous Times: A network of scholar-activists assesses changing racial formations across the Americas—and mobilizes against renewed racist backlash. *NACLA Report on the Americas*, 49(1), 81-89.

Harrisberg, K. (2020, June 12). Coronavirus exposes 'brutal inequality' of South Africa townships. Reuters. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-safrica-housing-tr/coronavirus-exposes-brutal-inequality-of-south-africa-townships-idUSKBN23J2BS>

Hawthorne, C. (2017). In search of Black Italia: Notes on race, belonging, and activism in the Black Mediterranean. *Transition*, 123(1), 152-174;

In Freelon, Deen, Charlton D. McIlwain, and Meredith Clark. "Beyond the hashtags: #Ferguson, #Blacklivesmatter, and the online struggle for offline justice." *Center for Media & Social Impact, American University*.

James Johnson, Jr., et al., "Economic Globalization and the Future of Black America," *Journal of Black Studies*, Volume 38 Number 6 (2008) 883-899.

Maharaj, Brij. "2010 FIFA World Cup™:(South)'Africa's time has come'?" *South African Geographical Journal* 93, no. 1 (2011): 49-60;

Maynard, Robyn. "Black Life and Death across the US-Canada Border: Border Violence, Black Fugitive Belonging, and a Turtle Island View of Black Liberation." *Critical Ethnic Studies* 5, no. 1-2 (2019): 124-151.

McIntyre-Mills, Janet. "The COVID-19 era: No longer business as usual." *Systems Research and Behavioral Science* 37.5 (2020): 827-838.

Moreno Figueroa, Mónica G., and Emiko Saldívar Tanaka. "We Are Not Racists, We Are Mexicans": Privilege, Nationalism and Post-Race Ideology in Mexico." *Critical Sociology* 42, no. 4-5 (2016): 515-533.

Owens, Deirdre Cooper, and Sharla M. Fett. "Black maternal and infant health: historical legacies of slavery." *American journal of public health* 109.10 (2019): 1342-1345; (3 pages)

Penha, M. E. R. (2020). The Pandemic and its Ethno-Spatial Disparities: Considerations from Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*, 1-7.

Penha, M. E. R. (2020). The Pandemic and its Ethno-Spatial Disparities: Considerations from Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*, 1-7.

Pierre, Jemima. "I Like Your Colour!'skin bleaching and geographies of race in urban Ghana." *Feminist Review* 90.1 (2008): 9-29.

Robinson, Cedric J. "In Search of a Pan-African Commonwealth." *Social Identities* 2, no. 1 (1996): 161-168; Abbas, H. Resist and Fight! *Jackson Rising*, pp.287-288.

Rodriguez, D., "Mutual aid" is a people's movement', ASA teach-in, YouTube, 4 May, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZwz7IG_I9U.

Sharpe, C., 2014. Black studies: In the wake. *The Black Scholar*, 44(2), pp.59-69.;

Thomas, Deborah A. "Modern blackness:" What we are and what we hope to be." *Small Axe* 6, no. 2 (2002): 25-48;

Tunde Adeleke, "Black Americans and Africa: A Critique of the Pan-African and Identity Paradigms," *The International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 31, 3 (1998): 505-536.

UN Report on "The International Decade for People of African Descent, pp. 5-20.
https://www.un.org/en/events/africandescentdecade/pdf/African%20Descent%20Booklet_WEB_English.pdf

You Tube-(Hudson-Weems—Emmett Till, 2015, Toronto, Canada; Toni Morrison on *Home*); Africana Womanism presentations at universities

John Henryism Explained. https://www.propublica.org/article/black-men-have-the-shortest-lifespans-of-any-americans-this-theory-helps-explain-why?fbclid=IwAR3TYemVFmZyDfMe1SuvnK9rhwdNE_9kgjsU-c2wDkUqyt8iJ4Yxr7ty-NM