

HAI 3930, Syllabus for Haitian Culture and Society

Spring, 2005

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

University of Florida, Gainesville

Lecturer: Ben Hebblethwaite, hebble@rll.ufl.edu
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Class website: <http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/hebble/>

Class objectives:

The objective of this class is to help develop your understanding of Haitian Culture and Society in a course structured around leading themes in Haitian studies. The class format involves lectures, student presentations and classroom discussions. The class will have 5 quizzes, one midterm, one final, and a 10 page final paper of (the first draft is turned in 4 weeks (5 pages) before the end of the semester and the final draft is turned in on the last day of class). A course packet of readings includes articles that establish the background knowledge needed to follow lectures, participate in discussions, and to perform well on the presentation, examinations and the paper.

Grade distribution:

- (1) 10 % = Class presentation
- (2) 30 % = Paper (first draft: 10%; second draft: 20%)
- (3) 20 % = Quizzes
- (4) 10 % = Participation
- (5) 30 % = 2 Exams

No late or makeup work policy

No late or makeup work accepted **unless** a valid excuse is presented.

Attendance policy

Students are expected to attend class *daily*. Students may take **3 unexcused absences**. Athletes must be excused by the athletics department. Excessive unexcused absences result in a .5% lowering of one's overall grade. Thus if a student accumulates a total of 7 unexcused absences, 4 of which are penalized, a total of 2% will be subtracted from his or her overall grade. Missing class seriously effects a student's ability to perform in other categories of the syllabus.

If a student *is* absent, he or she is expected to contact the instructor **within 24 hours** with the reason for his or her absence. Medical treatment or a personal or a family crisis are grounds for an excused absence, *a note including a contact phone number is required*.

Examinations

Class quizzes and exams are based upon readings, lectures and presentations. Students are expected to review their notes and readings prior to these examinations.

Paper

Students are expected to write a research paper **4000 words** in length. The paper must use **.12 Times New Roman font and be double spaced**. The first draft is due 4 weeks before the end of the semester and the final draft is due on the last day of class.

The paper must include at least **5 references** in its bibliography. Citations must be accompanied by appropriate bibliographical references. Examples:

In the text:

- (a) **Zéphir (1997: 223)** advocates the instruction of Haitian Creole in the United States' secondary education system.
- (b) Misclassifying Creole-speakers as African Americans fails to properly account for linguistic and cultural differences (**Zéphir 1997: 223**).

In the bibliography:

Zéphir, Flore. 1997. Haitian Creole Language and Bilingual Education in the United States: Problem, Right or Resource? Article in *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, Vol. 18, No. 3, pp. 223-37

Book:

Author. Year of publication. *Title of book*. City of publisher: Publisher.

Article in journal, magazine, etc.:

Author. Year of publication. Title of article. Article in *Name of source*, Volume/number of issue, page numbers.

See the bibliography for further examples.

Class web site

A web site is presently available to students. Under the section "Class Notes," you will find class notes available in PDF files. Links to Haitian Creole Internet transmissions, a Haitian Creole comic, translations, and more are available. Students need to make use of the supplemental material. Reviewing class notes is an essential exam review. Point your browser to:

<http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/hebble/>

Academic Honesty Guidelines

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action.

Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines include but are not limited to:

Cheating. The improper taking or tendering of any information or material which shall be used to determine academic credit. Taking of information includes copying graded homework assignments from another student; working with another individual(s)

on graded assignments or homework; looking or attempting to look at notes, a text, or another student's paper during an exam.

Plagiarism. The attempt to represent the work of another as the product of one's own thought, whether the other's work is oral or written (including electronic), published or unpublished. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on written materials or in oral presentations; submitting work produced by an on-line translation service or the translation feature of an on-line dictionary as your own.

Misrepresentation. Any act or omission with intent to deceive a teacher for academic advantage. Misrepresentation includes lying to a teacher to increase your grade; lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic honesty.

Bribery, Conspiracy, Fabrication. For details see below.

The UF Honor Code states:

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

On all work submitted for credit the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action according to the judicial process.

For more details go to: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.htm>

Students with disabilities

Students with disabilities must register with the Dean of Students office. Contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at:

P202 Peabody Hall

Gainesville, FL 32611-5055

Phone (352) 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD)

For stress, emotional and psychological support, please contact the Counseling Center at:

301 Peabody Hall

Phone (352) 392-1575

Or: www.counsel.ufl.edu

If you need this syllabus in an alternate format, please speak to Ben.

HAI 3930, Spring 2005,

Syllabus: weekly readings

- Week I. **Haitian History and Politics. Page count: 49 pages.**
- “What the Slaves Found in Haiti” (Herskovits 1971: 31-46)
 - “The State in Haiti” (Greene 1993: 21-55)
- Week II-III. **Environment and Development in Haiti. Page count: 39 pages.**
- “Family Planning Initiatives and Kalfoundò Peasants: what’s going wrong?” (Smith 1998: 1-25)
 - “The New Environmental Refugees.” (Roper 1996: 1-4)
 - “Haiti: Bringing the sea back to life.” (L’Homme 1999: 7-9)
 - “Rural demand for water services.” (Article in *Environment* May93, Vol. 35 Issue 4, p14, 2/3p)
 - “IICA [coffee] plants for Haiti’s environment.” (Mena 1992: 52-4)
- Week IV. **Sexuality/Marriage/Family/Divorce and Society. Page count: 36 pages.**
- “Birth, Childhood, and Adolescence” (Herskovits 1971: 88-105)
 - “Haiti: Unions, fertility and the quest for survival.” (Maynard-Tucker 1996: 1379-1388)
 - “Conjugal Unions Among Rural Haitian Women” (Williams 1975: 1022-32)
- Week V. **Sexuality/Marriage/Family/Divorce and Society continued. Page count: 40 pages.**
- “Mating and Marriage” (Herskovits 1971: 106-122)
- Medicine and Haiti.**
- “Anthropology, accountability, and the prevention of AIDS.” (Farmer/Yong 1991: 203-222)
 - “Haiti 2000: Results from the Demographic and Health Survey.” (*Studies in Family Planning* 2003: 216-21)
- Week VI **Education & Work; Individual, Family and Collectivity. Page count: 38 pages.**
- “Property, Wealth, and the Family” (Herskovits 1971: 123-136)
 - “The Setting of Haitian Life” (Herskovits 1971: 67-87)
 - “Of worlds seen and unseen: The educational character of Haitian Vodou.” (Michel 1996: 280-295)
- Week VII. **Race, Gender and Social Class. Page count: 30 pages.**
- “Human security and fertility: the case of Haiti” (de Sherbinin, Alex 1996)
 - [“Work and gender in Rara” (McAlister 2002: 89-91)]
- Urban versus Rural Haiti**
- “The Urban/Rural Family” (Rey, K.H. 1970:16-19)
 - “Upper Belair: Setting, Interaction and General Features” (Laguette 1982: 13-32)
- Week VIII. **Language in Haiti. Page count: 25 pages.**
- “Diglossia and language conflict in Haiti” (Valdman 1988: 67-80)

- “Haitian Creole Language and Bilingual Education in the United States: Problem, Right or Resource?” (Zéphir 1997: 223-35)
- Week IX. **Haitian Diaspora. Page count: 30 pages.**
- “Rapper, Hipster, Huckster, Preacher Man, Lover Boy, Thug Angel, Country Aficionado, Wrestling Fan, Global Visionary... Wyclef is all these things and more” (Edwards 2000: 48-53)
 - [**“Rara in New York City: Transnational Popular Culture” (McAlister 2002: 183-207)**]
- Week X-XI. **Haitian Religions. Page count: 60 pages.**
- [**“Rattles and Crosses, Sugar and Pain” (Rey 1999: 30-80)**]
 - “Gods and Spirits in Haitian Voodoo” (82-95); “The Power of the Loa” (95-100); [**“Possession” (Métraux 1959: 120-141)**]
 - “Haiti Sanctions Voodoo As Recognized Religion.” (Church & State May 2003) [Author?] May2003, Vol. 56 Issue 5, p22, 1/4p
 - **“The Catholic Church and the State in Haiti: 1804-1915” (Hurbon 2001: 154-180)**
- Week XII. **Haitian Arts, Crafts and Construction: ironwork, sculptures, flags, painting, basket weaving and architecture. Page count: 32 pages.**
- “Afro-Atlantic Flag Traditions” (Polk 1997: 7-26)
 - “The Arts – Flour, Wood, and Iron” (Courlander 1960: 122-125)
 - “Dancing and Dance Drama (Courlander 1960: 126-136)
- Week XIII. **Haitian Music. Page count: 44 pages.**
- **“The Voodoo [musical] heritage” (Laguerre 1980: 21-38)**
 - “[Haitian] Musical Instruments” (Courlander 1960: 189-202)
 - “Drums, Drummers, and Oungenikon in Haitian Rada” (Fleurant 1996: 34-48)
- Week XIV. **Haitian music continued. Page count: 45 pages.**
- “Songs of Complaint, Recrimination and Gossip” (Courlander 1960: 137-47)
 - “Comments on the mighty: Political Songs” (Courlander 1960:148-62)
 - “Songs of Bravado and Boasting” (Courlander 1960: 163-64)
 - “Secret Society Songs” (Courlander 1960: 166-69)
- Haitian Folklore: kont, timtim bwa chèch, pwovèb**
- “Folk Tales: Bouki, Malice [Malis], and Jean Saute [Jan Sòt]” (Courlander 1960: 170-184)
 - “Children’s World: Gage Songs and Games” (Courlander 1960: 185-88)
- Week XV. **Haitian Holidays and Festivals. Page count: 40 pages.**
- “Mardi Gras and Rara: Jugglers, Maypoles, and Kings” (Courlander 1960: 105-110)
 - [**Selections from: “Rara as Popular Army: Hierarchy, Militarism, and Warfare” (McAlister 2002: 135-188)**]

Bibliography

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