Intro to Africana Studies
Lehman College AAS 166
Prof. Williams

Week 2: Dr. John Henrik Clarke’s Africana Studies Legacy
Zoom wait music: “Maiden Voyage” by Herbie Hancock

- 1965 Blue Note Records *Maiden Voyage*
- Personnel:
  - Herbie Hancock: Piano
  - Freddie Hubbard: Trumpet
  - George Coleman: Tenor Sax
  - Ron Carter: Bass
  - Tony Williams: Drums
Week 2 Agenda: Wednesday February 10, 2021

- Introduce agenda
- College announcements
- Course announcements
- Website review & Q&A
- Listening:
  - REVIEW: “The Challenge of Black Studies” by Dr. Leonard Jeffries Jr. (from last week)
  - BREAK(?): Listening: “Change of the Guard” by Kamasi Washington
  - DISCUSSION: A Great and Mighty Walk documentary on Dr. John Henrik Clarke
- Intro next week’s topic
- END
- Individual Q&A

https://africanastudiesintrocourse.wordpress.com
2/10/2020 Lehman College announcements:

- Technology: loans for laptops, tablets, and wifi
- Food Pantry operating
- College offices operating remotely
  - Counseling
  - (Dis)ability services
  - Logistics: Bursar, Registrar, etc.

https://blackhistorycourse.wordpress.com
Week 2: AAS 166 Section A81: Prof. Williams

2/10/2020 AAS 166 course announcements:

• Course logistics
• Website
  • Website comments open for 14 days
  • lecture notes posted from last class; this week’s up by this weekend
• Text message service run by Remind.com
  • sign-up: text “@aas166” to 608-467-4328 or see link online
• Syllabus
• Get textbook: Dr. Maulana Karenga *Intro to Black Studies*, 4th ed. 2010

https://blackhistorycourse.wordpress.com
Questions:

- According to Dr. J, what is Black Studies?
- What isn’t Black Studies?
- What should it be doing?
- Select 3 important quotes
- Questions? (What don’t you understand here?)

Highlight/ underline/ mark parts of the essay to reference
Reading/ Dr. Leonard Jeffries, Jr: “The Essence of Black Studies”

Black Studies is

• Black world studies (p. 10)
• Attention to value systems (11)
• Attempt to reconcile double consciousness (11)
• An institutional challenge (12)
• Body of knowledge about the Black experience from the Black perspective (12)

Black Studies is NOT

• “Negro studies” (p. 10)
  • i.e. US-centric focus post-enslavement
• A few courses scattered through “white studies”

https://blackhistorycourse.wordpress.com
Perspective: Molefe Asante on Afrocentricity
Africana Studies concepts

• **Worldview**
  • "the way in which a people make sense of their surroundings; make sense of life and of the universe." (Marimba Ani, *Will the Circle Be Unbroken.*)

• **Orientation**

• **Value system**

https://africanastudiesintrocourse.wordpress.com
Listening: “Change of the Guard” by Kamasi Washington

From *The Epic*, Brainfeeder Records 2015

**Personnel:** Kamasi Washington (tenor sax) and a whole lot more! Full lineup: https://Kamasiwashington.bandcamp.com

Approx. 12 minutes

**Break:**

12 minutes

*(Be right back!)*

https://africanastudiesintrocourse.wordpress.com
Neyfi: “I like Dr. Clarke’s point of view on history. He explains that history tells people who they are, what they are, what they are not. Also, he discusses that history tells people where they must go and where they must be.”

Julie: “When defining “history”, Doctor Clarke likens it to both a clock that displays the cultural and political time of day and, more importantly, a compass that shows where a people are, where they now must go, what they have been and what they must now become.”

Melody: “The reasoning for studying ancient civilizations, especially Nile and Kemet is because many concepts came from them and they were never credited for it. The concepts of farming, social order and organized society came from the Nile Valley civilization. In fact they were the blueprint for many civilizations that came up after. The contributions of the Kemet civilization to the Greeks have been erased because the Greeks took credit and Europeanize most of these contributions. The concept of spirituality was altered by the Europeans when they changed Christianity into European Christianity by depicting God and Jesus to be white.”