

## GARVEYISM (W)

Instructor: Dr. Neil Roberts  
Williams College  
Tu/Thurs, 11:20-12:35 PM  
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Spring 2011  
AFR338.01/PSCI338.01  
Office hours: Wed, 2-4:00PM  
Hollander Hall 213, x4772

### **Course description:**

This course explores the life, work, political thought, and activism associated with the Jamaican Pan-Africanist Marcus Mosiah Garvey and the transnational movement—Garveyism—that Garvey ushered into the modern world. We will investigate the founding of Garveyism on the island of Jamaica, the evolution of Garveyism during the early twentieth-century across the Americas and in Africa, Garveyism in Europe in the mid-twentieth century, and the contemporary branches of the Garvey movement in our own late modern times. The implications of Garvey's conflict with W.E.B. Du Bois and the subsequent cleavages in political thought and allegiances among their respective adherents will be addressed, along with various other core issues including: the relationship between race, nation and empire; transnationalism; the meaning of power; the limitations of understanding Garveyism by the phrase "Back-to-Africa"; the moral philosophies of respect, reparation, and redemption; prophetic political theory; Pan-Africanism; the impact of Garveyism on political theological movements such as the Nation of Islam and the Rastafari; women in the Garvey movement; and Garveyite strategies for forging models of political solidarity in dark times.

### **Course requirements:**

Participants are expected to attend class regularly and complete readings for class listed on the syllabus. You must bring to every session the required reading for the day. I will generally begin each class summarizing briefly the previous session's main points, and shall proceed to lecture for a portion of time about the current day's topic. As this is a Writing-Intensive lecture and discussion course, you should be prepared to engage in class discourse and group activities.

The following requirements serve as the basis for course evaluation:

- (1) Attendance and Participation (**15%**)
- (2) Weekly E-response papers (**15%**)
- (3) Two 5-7 -page essays (**40%**)
- (4) One 12-page Final Paper (**30%**)

### **Required readings available for purchase:**

Marcus Garvey, *Message to the People: The Course of African Philosophy*, edited by Tony Martin (Majority Press)

Marcus Garvey, *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey, or, Africa for the Africans*, 2 Vols., edited by Amy Jacques Garvey (Majority Press)

Rupert Lewis and Patrick Bryan, editors, *Garvey: His Work and Impact* (Africa World; henceforth cited as *GHWI*)

Mary G. Rolinson, *Grassroots Garveyism: The Universal Negro Improvement Association in the Rural South, 1920-1927* (UNC)

Michelle Ann Stephens, *Black Empire: The Masculine Global Imaginary of Caribbean Intellectuals in the United States, 1914-1962* (Duke)

Booker T. Washington, *Up from Slavery* (Dover)

*Course Reading Packet* (available from campus printing services; \*2 Parts\*) = [CP]

**Recommended readings available for sale and/or on library reserve:**

Nzingha Assata, *Women in the Garvey Movement* (Published by author)

Randall K. Burkett, *Garveyism as a Religious Movement* (Scarecrow/ATLA)

John Henrik Clarke, editor, *Marcus Garvey and the Vision of Africa* (Vintage)

W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* (Oxford)

Noel Leo Erskine, *From Garvey to Marley: Rastafari Theology* (Florida)

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Cornel West, *The Future of the Race* (Alfred A. Knopf)

Steven Hahn, *The Political Worlds of Slavery and Freedom* (Harvard)

Robert Hill et. al., editors, *The Marcus Garvey and Universal Negro Improvement Association Papers, 9 Vols.*

David Levering Lewis, *W.E.B. Du Bois: The Fight for Equality and the American Century, 1919-1963* (Henry Holt)

Rupert Lewis, *Marcus Garvey: Anti-Colonial Champion* (Africa World)

Tony Martin, *Race First: The Ideological and Organizational Struggles of Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association* (Greenwood)

Ula Taylor, *The Veiled Garvey: The Life and Times of Amy Jacques Garvey* (UNC)

Theodore G. Vincent, *Black Power and the Garvey Movement* (Black Classics, \*Revised 2006 edition\*)

All other readings are available on reserve, Glow, and/or through JSTOR.

**Film Screening:**

- Stanley Nelson (Director): *Marcus Garvey: Look for Me in the Whirlwind*

**Course policies:**

**Attendance:**

It is paramount for you to attend the sessions in order for all of us to best be able to discuss and decipher the course materials and lectures. Attendance will be taken each class period and you will be required to attend the entire class session to receive full credit. In case of sickness or other legitimate reason for absence, it is your responsibility to inform Prof. Roberts in advance or as soon as possible after the class. Every absence after two instructor excused absences will result in the reduction of your overall grade by a third of a letter grade (e.g. an A becomes an A-, a B+ becomes a B, etc.). To earn full attendance credit, you must

come to class prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that session and with the necessary materials, required books, articles, paper, and writing utensil.

### **Reading Responses:**

Students are required to submit a reading response to at least one reading per week on the course Glow site. I shall provide guidepost questions to which you may base your reply. This response is intended both to help prepare you for class discussion and to process your opinions on the readings in relation to the feedback of your peers. ***All responses are due by 10:00am the morning of class on either Tuesday or Thursday.*** Only responses posted by this time will count for the week's reading and participation. *Reading responses cannot be made up.* The response should be between *at least 150-250* words and should analyze or evaluate the readings. I will monitor the discussion regularly, but not participate. In addition to answering the guidepost questions, feel free to use the online space to respond to comments posted by your peers. No reading responses shall be due in weeks that you submit the final version of a larger writing requirement.

### **How to Post Reading Responses to Glow:**

- 1) Go to <http://glow.williams.edu> and log in with your username and password.
- 2) Click on this course and then the specific Discussion Forum listed by the Week for which you will be posting a response.
- 3) Click on Add a New Discussion Topic and enter your response, making sure to include a Subject heading for your post.
- 4) Click Post to Forum.

### ***Schedule of readings by week:***

## **GARVEY AND GARVEYISM: HISTORICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS**

### **Week 1:**

Session 1: February 2

Theodore G. Vincent, *Black Power and the Garvey Movement*, Ch. 1 [CP]

*Recommended:* Wilson Jeremiah Moses, *The Golden Age of Black Nationalism, 1850-1925*, Preface & Ch. 1 [CP]

### **Week 2:**

Session 2: February 8

Anthony Bogues, "Nationalism and Jamaican Political Thought" [CP]

John Henrik Clarke, "The American Antecedents of Marcus Garvey" [CP]

Session 3: February 10

Tommie Shelby, “Two Conceptions of Black Nationalism: Martin Delany on the Meaning of Black Political Solidarity” [CP]

*Recommended:* Edwin S. Redkey, “The Flowering of Black Nationalism” [CP]

**Week 3:**

Session 4: February 15

Booker T. Washington, *Up from Slavery*

Session 5: February 17

Amy Jacques Garvey, “The Early Years of Marcus Garvey” [CP]  
Washington, *Up from Slavery*

*Recommended:* Booker T. Washington, *The Negro in Business* (selections)

**GARVEY AND THE UNIA-ACL: PRIMARY TEXTS**

**Week 4:**

- **This week: screening of film, *Marcus Garvey: Look for Me in the Whirlwind***

Session 6: February 22

Marcus Garvey, *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey, or, Africa for the Africans*,  
2 Vols.  
UNIA Constitution and Book of Laws [CP]

Session 7: February 24

Garvey, *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey*  
UNIA *Declaration of Rights of the Negro Peoples of the World* [in both Garvey text & CP]

**Week 5:**

Session 8: March 1

Garvey, “African Fundamentalism”  
Garvey, *Message to the People: The Course of African Philosophy*  
Garvey, *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey*

Session 9: March 3

Garvey, *Message to the People*

Garvey, "The Tragedy of White Injustice" [CP]

- DRAFT OF PAPER 1: due Friday March 4 by 5:00pm

### **GARVEYISM, TRANSNATIONALISM, SOVEREIGNTY**

**Week 6:**

Session 10: March 8

Charles Carnegie, "Garvey and the Black Transnation" [CP]

George Huggins, "Marcus Garvey and the League of Nations, 1921-1931: An Episode in the International Relations of the U.N.I.A." [CP]

Session 11: March 10

Arnold Hughes, "Africa and the Garvey Movement in the Interwar Years" [CP]

Robbie Shilliam, "What about Marcus Garvey? Race and the Transformation of Sovereignty Debate" [CP]

- *No reading response due.*
- **\*PAPER 1 (MATERIAL THROUGH WEEK 5) DUE FRIDAY MARCH 11, 5:00PM\***

### **GARVEYISM, PROPHESYING, AND POLITICAL THEOLOGY**

**Week 7:**

Session 12: March 15

Randall Burkett, *Garveyism as a Religious Movement: The Institutionalization of a Black Civil Religion*, Introduction & Chs. 1-2 [CP]

Session 13: March 17

St. Claire Drake, *The Redemption of Africa and Black Religion* (selections) [CP]

Philip Potter, "The Religious Thought of Marcus Garvey" [in *GHWI*]

**\*SPRING BREAK MARCH 19-APRIL 3 (NO CLASSES)\***

**GARVEY, DU BOIS, AND THE BLACK FASCIST CRITIQUE: COMPETING PAN-  
AFRICAN VISIONS OF REDEMPTION**

**Week 8:**

Session 14: April 5

W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, Ch. 3 [CP]  
Du Bois, “The Talented Tenth” [CP]

Session 15: April 7

Garvey, *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey*  
Paul Gilroy, “Black Fascism” [CP]

**PLURALIZING THE GARVEY MOVEMENT**

**Week 9:**

Session 16: April 12

Tony Martin, “Women in the Garvey Movement” [in *GHWI*]  
Ula Y. Taylor, “‘Negro Women Are Great Thinkers as well as Doers’: Amy Jacques-Garvey  
and Community Feminism in the United States, 1924-1927” [CP]

Session 17: April 14

Barry Chevannes, “Garvey Myths among the Jamaican People” [in *GHWI*]  
Rupert Lewis, “Marcus Garvey and the Early Rastafarians” [CP]

**Week 10:**

Session 18: April 19

Bernardo Garcíá Domínguez, “Garvey and Cuba” [in *GHWI*]  
Frank A. Guridy, “‘Enemies of the White Race’: The *Machadista* State and the UNIA in  
Cuba” [CP]

*Recommended:* Article by Ronald Harpelle on Garveyism in Central America [CP]

Session 19: April 21

Horace Campbell, “Garveyism, Pan-Africanism and African Liberation in the Twentieth  
Century” [in *GHWI*]  
Rupert Lewis, “Contribution to African Liberation Struggles,” Ch. 9 of *Marcus Garvey:  
Anti-Colonial Champion* [CP]

- DRAFT OF PAPER 2: due Friday April 22 by 5:00pm

**THE PHILOSOPHY AND OPINIONS OF GARVEY AND GARVEYISM  
IN LATE MODERNITY**

**Week 11:**

- **Final paper options distributed**

Session 20: April 26

Mary G. Rolinson, *Grassroots Garveyism: The Universal Negro Improvement Association in the Rural South, 1920-1927*

Session 21: April 28

Rolinson, *Grassroots Garveyism*

- *No reading response due.*
- **\*PAPER 2 (MATERIAL THROUGH WEEK 10) DUE FRIDAY APRIL 29, 5:00PM**

**Week 12:**

Session 22: May 3

Malcolm X, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* (selections) [CP]

Session 23: May 5

Michelle Ann Stephens, *Black Empire: The Masculine Global Imaginary of Caribbean Intellectuals in the United States, 1914-1962*

**Week 13:**

Session 24: May 10

Rex Nettleford, "Garvey's Legacy: Some Perspectives" [in *GHWI*]  
Stephens, *Black Empire*

- First half of class: analysis and discussion of Nettleford and Stephens texts.
- \*Peer Review second half of class\*: work on final research papers or final review essays.

Session 25: May 12 (**Last Class**)

*No assigned reading; course summary.*

- Reading Period: May 14-17; Final Exam Period: May 18-23
- ***\*Final Paper due to Prof. Roberts: Thursday May 19 by 12:00noon\* (Hardcopy, Hollander Hall Room 213 & E-version)***

**Internet Resources:**

*Garvey's Voice* magazine : <http://www.cbpm.org/garveysvoice.html>.

Liberty Hall—The Legacy of Marcus Garvey: <http://instituteofjamaica.org.jm/LH/LH.aspx>.

The Marcus Garvey and Universal Negro Improvement Association Papers, UCLA:

<http://www.international.ucla.edu/africa/mgpp/>.

The Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League

(current official site): <http://www.theunia-acl.com/>.