



HIST 4447-880: African American History, 1865-Present

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MWF 10:10-11:00am

W.E.B. Du Bois wrote of the state of African Americans after Reconstruction, ". . . the slave went free; stood a brief moment in the sun; then moved back again toward slavery." Du Bois was articulating that the history of full emancipation and citizenship for African Americans is a nonlinear narrative. This course provides an overview of African American history post-Emancipation, ending in our present moment. Special focus will be given to parts of the African American historical experience which may be less familiar to students. For example, many students may come in with broad knowledge of the "Classical" Civil Rights movement (Montgomery bus boycotts, Brown vs. Board of Education, March on Washington, nonviolence movement) but not the larger trajectory of the movement before and after the 1950s and 1960s. Students will understand the interconnected histories, challenges, and successes of African Americans from Reconstruction to the more recent Black Lives Matter movement.

