ENGL 673.600 Topics in Transnational Literature and Culture. (3-0). Credit 3.
[Topics in theory and interpretation of transnational literature and culture; may focus on definitions of the transnational; on the relationships between the transnational and the global; on methods for study; on new configurations of literature and culture. May be taken three times for credit as content varies.]

Fall 2015 R 12:45-3:45pm (LAAH 504)

**Black Transnationalisms**

This course begins with the Middle Passage as a foundational moment in the creation of modern Black Transnationalism, one in which African national identities are, following historian Michael Gomez, transformed into African American cultural formations. This course provides a multidisciplinary examination of the roots of the African Diaspora, through an excavation of keywords of nation, nationalism, transnationalism, internationalism, and diaspora. We will pay particular attention to the methodological implications of what it means to read transnationally across the Black Atlantic. What are the linguistic, disciplinary, and archival challenges of undertaking scholarship in this field? Students will, through the course of the semester, attempt to understand the transnational formations of African American and other Black Diasporic literatures and cultures as prototypes of modernity and globalization in their broadest formulations. As such, this course will be relevant to students interested in American studies, Africana studies, Global studies, and Modernism.


Students will be encouraged to pursue archival research and use primary source materials to develop a final research project related to their own academic interests. Students will be expected to lead class discussions and deliver oral presentations of their research.