

BLST 193IB (Seminar)
“Contemporary Readings in Black Studies”
Spring 2013
Mondays 1:00-3:50pm
Dr. Ingrid Banks



In BLST 193IB, “Contemporary Readings in Black Studies,” we will consider recent publications that examine particular aspects of Black Diasporic experiences. Given that Black Studies is a field that crosses disciplinary and geographical boundaries, we will examine scholarly work that looks at black experiences within U.S. and Caribbean contexts, historically and more recently. Specifically, we will consider the following works: **Sara Johnson’s *The Fear of French Negroes: Transcolonial Collaboration in the Revolutionary Americas*** (a text with that main title *has* to be compelling!); **Karyn Lacy’s *Blue-Chip Black: Race, Class, and Status in the New Black Middle Class*** (how do elite black people understand their status?); and **Karolyn Tyson’s *Integration Interrupted: Tracking, Black Students, and Acting White After Brown*** (are black students who excel academically “acting white?”). We will also have the opportunity to engage Professors Johnson, Lacy, and Tyson via Skype interview after completing their respective text. In addition, students will be required to write a final paper that presents a content analysis of particular images of blackness. Students will use what they have learned through each text, conversations with each scholar, as well as other material discussed and viewed in class as guides in conducting their own research and writing final papers.