



Outlook

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## Re: African American and African Studies/Religious Studies 4343

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From Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>

Date Tue 12/16/2025 12:23 PM

To Arceno, Mark Anthony <arceno.1@osu.edu>; Perez, Ashley <perez.390@osu.edu>; Beckham, Jerrell <beckham.4@osu.edu>; Dew, Spencer <dew.50@osu.edu>

Cc Tuxbury-Gleissner, Philip <tuxbury-gleissner.1@osu.edu>; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>; Neff, Jennifer <neff.363@osu.edu>; DeGirolamo, Anne <degiralamo.10@osu.edu>; Nagar, Ila <nagar.5@osu.edu>

Good afternoon, all! On Dec. 1st, 2025, we received a revision for AAAS/RelSt 4343, which was approved with contingency by the Themes II Subcommittee on Oct. 30th, 2025. Unfortunately, the chair of the Subcommittee determined that the contingency had not been met, and offered the following feedback:

*Thank you for the submission of the revised syllabus and further comments on the faculty member's pedagogical approach. We appreciate the broad range of individual teaching philosophies that our colleagues bring to their classrooms. However, the GE as a larger entity cannot use variation in teaching philosophies to fill in for scaffolding that explains to students why and how the class meets a GE Theme. We assess a course's pursuit of the GE ELOs, and this assessment cannot be fair unless learning outcomes are embedded in legible ways.*

*For this reason, we would like to request a further revision to meet the Subcommittee's contingency.*

I will return the course to the department in curriculum.osu.edu so that the chair's comments can be addressed. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to Philip Tuxbury Gleissner, faculty chair of the Themes I Subcommittee, Ila Nagar, interim faculty chair of the Themes I Subcommittee (SP26) or me.

Best,  
Rachel



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

**Rachel Steele, MA**

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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College of Arts and Sciences

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Member, University Conduct Board

Graduate Student, History of Art

**-BLACK LIVES MATTER-**

**STOP AAPI HATE**

DACA/undocumented ally



I acknowledge that the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. I honor the resiliency of these

tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that has and continues to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.

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**From:** Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 3:00 PM

**To:** Arceno, Mark Anthony <arceno.1@osu.edu>; Perez, Ashley <perez.390@osu.edu>; Beckham, Jerrell <beckham.4@osu.edu>; Dew, Spencer <dew.50@osu.edu>

**Cc:** Tuxbury-Gleissner, Philip <tuxbury-gleissner.1@osu.edu>; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>; Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>; Neff, Jennifer <neff.363@osu.edu>; DeGirolamo, Anne <degirolamo.10@osu.edu>

**Subject:** African American and African Studies/Religious Studies 4343

Good afternoon,

On Thursday, October 30th, the Themes I Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a course proposal for African American and African Studies/Religious Studies 4343 to be included in the GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations category.

The Subcommittee unanimously approved the request with one contingency:

- a) **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the unit provide additional detail in the syllabus and the GEN form regarding how the Theme is the central focus of the course. Specifically, they would like to see that tradition, culture, and transformation are an intrinsic part of the descriptions of major course assignments (syllabus pp. 1-2). The Subcommittee requests that this additional detail include a sample of the prompts/questions for the journal entries and more information about how the instructor of the course will ensure that the topic of the research paper is entwined with the Theme. The Subcommittee offers the friendly advice that the units may wish to consider how a student, looking at the syllabus, would see the Theme “signposted” in these assignment descriptions.

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before this course can move forward in the approval process to OAA. I will return AAAS/RelSt 4343 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee’s requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Subcommittee, please feel free to contact Philip Tuxbury-Gleissner (faculty Chair of the Themes I Subcommittee; cc’d on this e-mail), or me.

Best,  
Rachel



**Rachel Steele, MA**

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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