

# 32030 SPECIAL TOPICS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

## AMERICA IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

**INSTRUCTOR:** Masaki Kawashima

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The basic aim of this course is to examine the Civil Rights Movement in the United States from the 1950s through the 60s, 70s, and 1980s, searching for a way to deconstruct “race” as a social and historical construction. The course is based on historical studies, using video materials including movies depicting the reality of the Civil Rights Movement and American society at that time. Most of these videos are in Japanese but some, particularly the movies, are in English.

The course is cross-offered by the Department of British and American Studies, with CJS students encouraged to attempt to speak and write in Japanese, while Japanese students are encouraged to use English to the maximum extent possible. There are three short tests, written both in Japanese and English. A final term paper (3-5 pages) is submitted for assessment purposes. Please note that auditing is permitted for this course.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

1. Orientation for CJS students: Introduction to the Civil Rights Movement
2. World War II and the shaking of the “Jim Crow” system of the South
3. The *Brown* decision and the Montgomery Bus Boycott
4. The Little Rock School Crisis
5. Short Test 1 and watching *Long Walk Home*
6. The impact of sit-ins by students
7. The Birmingham Struggle and “I Have a Dream” in 1963
8. The Mississippi Freedom Movement
9. Short Test 2 and watching *Freedom Songs*
10. The achievement of equality under the law
11. The Chicago Freedom Movement
12. The dispute over busing in Boston
13. The “Underclass” Controversy and the “Northernization” of the South
14. Short Test 3 and submission of Final Term Paper

### TEXTS

*Textbook:*

Henry Hampton and Steve Fayer, *Voices of Freedom: An Oral History of the Civil Rights Movement from the 1950s through the 1980s* (Bantam Dell, 1991).

川島正樹編『アメリカニズムと「人種」』(名古屋大学出版会、2005年)。

川島正樹編『市民権運動のアメリカ』(名古屋大学出版会、2008年)。

### ASSESSMENT

Attendance and short tests 45%; Final paper 55%