This Independent Study will incorporate a series of readings related to African American history. Through meetings and papers, this course will provide for an understanding of the contours of African American history and historiography.

1. **Meetings**
   We will meet once a week throughout in conjunction with the graduate seminar [HIS 575]: Tuesdays 6-8:30.

2. **Reading List**
   a. Gordon Parks—A Choice of Weapons
   b. Assata Shakur—Assata
   c. Saeed Jones—How We Fight for Our Lives

3. **Grade Breakdown**
   a. Essay on memoirs 25%
   b. Book review 25%
   c. Essay on artifacts 25%
   d. Participation 25%

4. **Due Dates**
   a. Memoir Essay: TBD
   b. Book Review: TBD
   c. Essay on Artifacts: TBD

Note: each class you will bring in an artifact [painting, photograph, song, etc.] that relates to that week’s general theme. These artifacts should help frame the discussion of the group. These artifacts will also form the spine of your semester-long essay due at the end of the class.
Calendar:

1/21 1619 Discussion
1/28 African Diaspora
2/4 The Rise of the Plantation Economy
2/11 Domestic Slave Trade
2/18 African Americans and the Civil War Era
2/25 The Promise and Realities of Emancipation
3/3 Race, Gender, Labor in the New South
3/10 Spring Break
3/17 White Lies Discussion
3/24 Freedom Dreams
3/31 The Blues Motif in America
4/7 Black Theater and Film
4/14 Race and Southern Music
4/21 Afrofuturism
4/28 Contemporary Black American Life