Spring 2022

AAAS 589S / VMS 555S
BLACK VISUAL THEORY: PORTRAITURE

Instructor: Rick Powell

Thursday, 10:15am – 12:45pm

Smith Warehouse, Bay 10, A266

Left & right: Mario Moore (Spring 2022 seminar guest portraitist), *Seen (Robert F. Smith)*, 2018. Pigment and hair on silicone, resin, plexi-glass.
Seminar Texts

Thursday, January 6 / Introduction to Seminar

Thursday, January 13 / Introduction to Historias Afro-Atlanticas

Wednesday, January 19 / Add/Drop ends

Above & right: Beverly McIver (Spring 2022 seminar guest portraitist), Defiant, 2018. Oil on canvas, 48 x 48 inches. Private collection.
Thursday, January 20 / Powell, *Cutting a Figure*, “Posing while Black” and “Interlocutors”

Thursday, January 27 / Pedrosa, Heraclito, Menezes, Moritz Schwarcz, & Toledo, Historias Afro-Atlanticas, “O escravizado e os libertos”

Thursday, February 3 / Pedrosa, Heraclito, Menezes, Moritz Schwarcz, & Toledo, *Historias Afro-Atlanticas, “New Negroes”*

Thursday, February 10 / Powell, Cutting a Figure, “Luna Obscura”

Thursday, February 17 / Independent Research Day

Thursday, February 24 / Pedrosa, Heraclito, Menezes, Moritz Schwarcz, & Toledo, *Historias Afro-Atlanticas*, “Negro es Bello”

Thursday, March 3 / Powell, *Cutting a Figure*, “Barkley L. Hendrick’s Afro-Shrine”

Friday, March 3 / Spring recess begins

Monday, March 14 / Classes resume


Thursday, March 17 / Powell, Cutting a Figure, “The New Black Portraiture” and “Beyond the Bodies of Evidence”

Thursday, March 24 / Pedrosa, Heraclito, Menezes, Moritz Schwarcz, & Toledo, *Historias Afro-Atlanticas*, “Black Looks”

Thursday, March 31 / Part One of Student Presentations

Left: Archibald J. Motley, Jr., *The Octoroon Girl*, 1925. Oil on canvas, 38 x 30.25 inches (96.5 x 76.8 cm). Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, NY. Right: Belmiro de Almeida, *Figure of a Young Black Woman*, 1880s. Oil on canvas, 46 x 38 cm. Museu de Arte do Rio.
Saturday, April 9 or Sunday, April 10 / Part Two of Student Presentations from Afro-Atlantic Histories, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

Detail: Aaron Douglas, *Into Bondage*, 1936. Oil on canvas, 60 3/8 x 60 ½ inches (153.4 x 153.7 cm). National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.
Sunday, April 10 / Richard J. Powell’s Lecture at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC: Lecture 4: Red Combustion, Blue Alchemy

Right: Sam Gilliam, *Blue 96” Disc*, 2020. Wood, aluminum, diestain, lacquer, 96 x 96 x 2 ¼ inches (243.8 x 243.8 x 5.7 cm). Pace Gallery, New York.
Friday, April 23 / Final Paper due on selected works of art from Afro-Atlanticas