

# Topics in Africana Studies: Race, International Law, & Empire

Course:01:202:388:01

FALL 2020 Wednesdays 9:50-12:50 | Online

Prof. Noura Erakat



This seminar will use a TWAIL (Third World Approaches to International Law) approach in order to critically examine how international law helped establish racial regimes in a global order. Topics to be covered include how legal cases involving indigenous peoples laid the foundations for global racial exclusion; the evolution of the principle of self-determination from the League of Nations to the 1970s; abolition and imperialism using Haiti as a primary case study; repressive inclusion in the international order using Ethiopia and Liberia as case studies; Third World revolt featuring the Palestinian Liberation Organization, the American Indian Movement, and the US-based Black Power movement; the neoliberal underbelly of human rights; and laws of war for irregular combat tracing how guerrillas became combatants in the language of law. The class will meet once a week for 3 hours. Grades will be assessed based on class participation, a midterm, and a final paper.