

BLACK STUDIES

- The Historical Development of
RESEARCH IN THE FIELD

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Universal Write Publications

INTELLECTUAL HISTORY

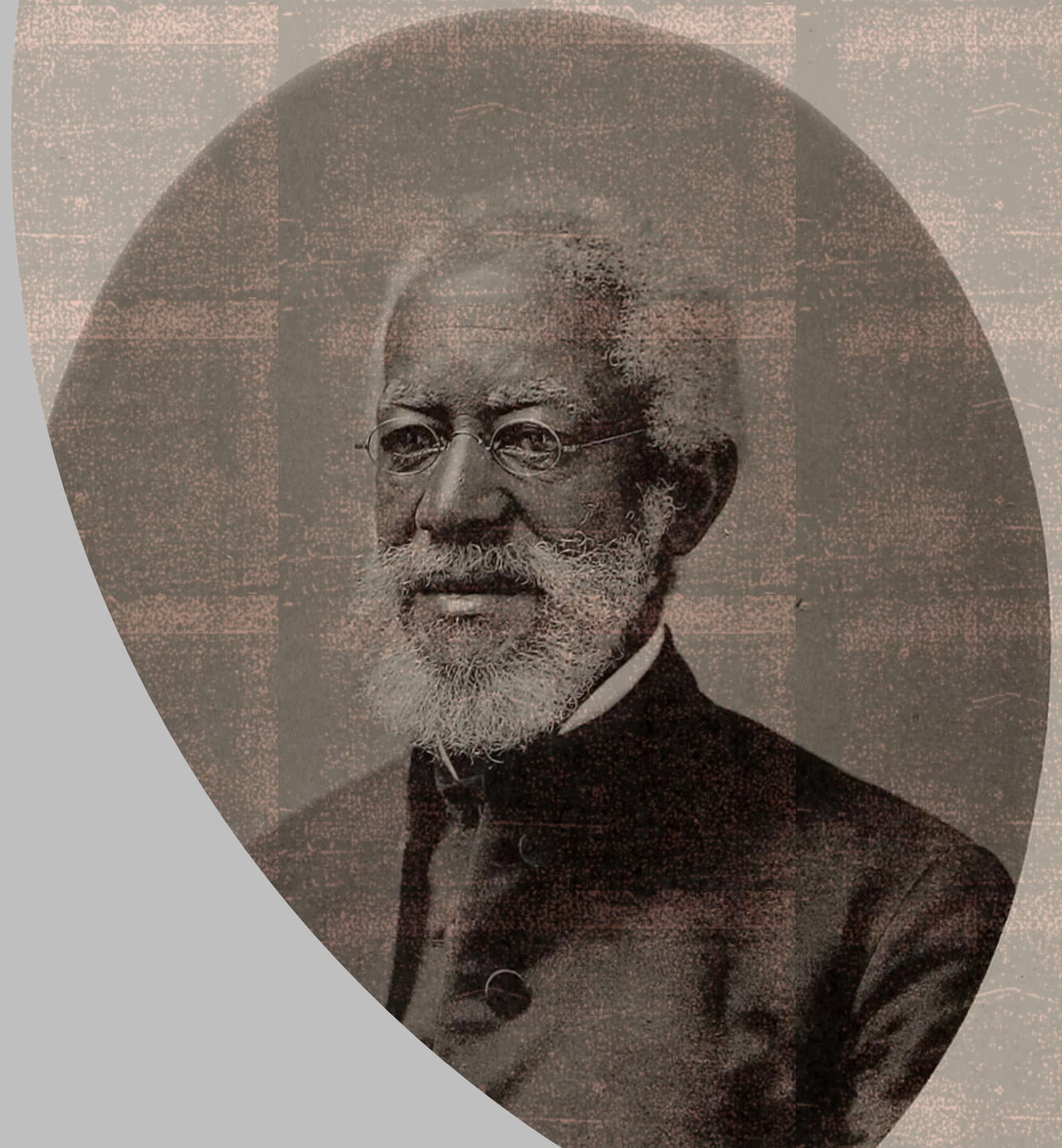


- George Washington Williams publishes the first history of African Americans, *History of the Negro Race in America* in 1882.



THE AMERICAN NEGRO ACADEMY

- The American Negro Academy was founded in 1897 by Reverend Alexander Crummell to 'aid, by publications, the vindication of the race from vicious assaults, in all lines of learning and truth.'
- The Academy brought together persons of African ancestry from around the world and was the first society of Blacks that would specifically promote the "Talented Tenth" ideas later articulated by founding member W.E.B. Du Bois.
- During this time, W.E.B. Du Bois *publishes The Philadelphia Negro* in 1899, and at Atlanta University, from 1898 to 1914, a series of sixteen monographs known as the *Atlanta University Series*.





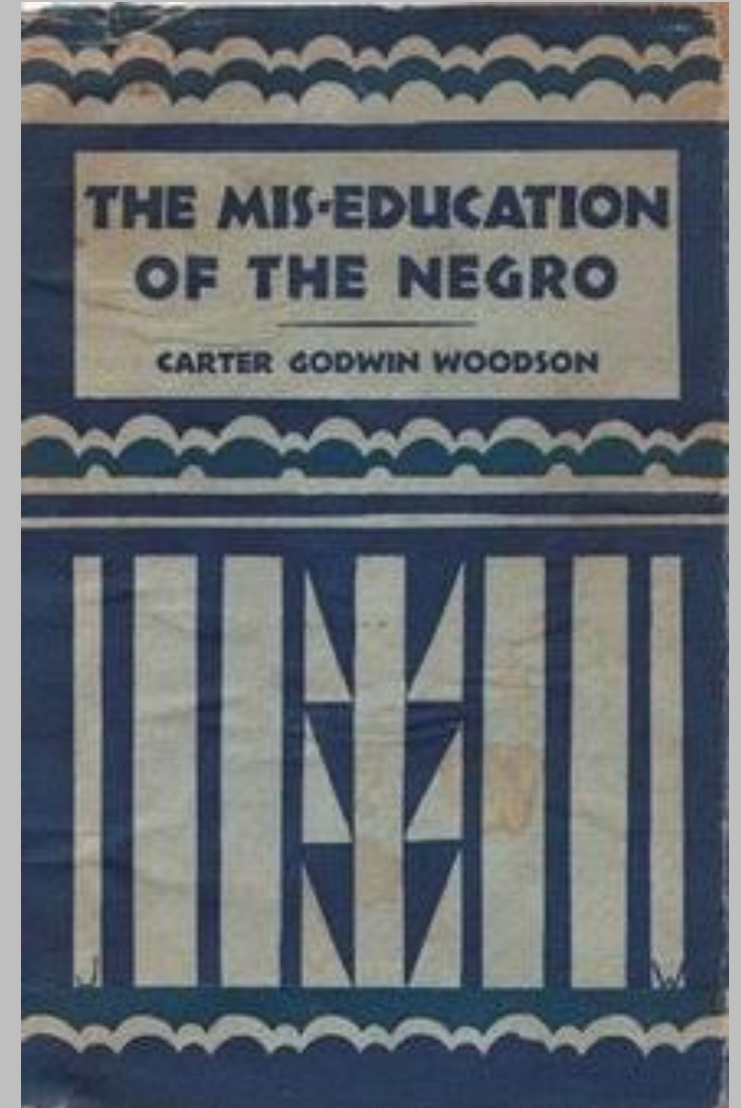
THE GOAL

- To counteract the negative images and representations of African Americans that were institutionalized within academic and popular cultures.



WHO OWNED THE FIRST BLACK-OWNED PUBLISHING HOUSE?

- Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded Associated Publishers in 1921, to produce valuable books on African Americans that were not acceptable to white publishing houses.
- The company produced more than 200 books, including *The Mis-Education of the Negro*.
- Founded *The Journal of Negro History* in 1916 (now titled *The Journal of African American History*)
- Also established the *Negro History Bulletin* for elementary and secondary school teachers





FLOURISHING BLACK PRESS

- Timothy Thomas Fortune, born into slavery, gained fame as a crusading journalist, editor, publisher, and an activist who was uncompromising in his defense of the rights of African Americans.
- Fortune was the editor and owner of the most prominent and widely read African-American newspapers of all time, named first the *Globe* (later named *New York Age*),
- He was the editor of Booker T. Washington's first autobiography, *The Story of My Life and Work*.
- In 1887, he organized the National Afro-American League, later served as a model for later civil rights organizations National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP),
- At the age of 67, he became editor of *Negro World*, with over 200,000 copies distributed throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, the Caribbean and Central America—often smuggled in by Black seaman.



AN AMERICAN DILEMMA: THE NEGRO PROBLEM AND MODERN DEMOCRACY



From about 1945 to the late 1960s Black Studies sees an increasing legitimacy of the field, and – an entrance of increasing number of white scholars studying the Black phenomenon.

The most expensive and comprehensive study of race relations ever undertaken in the U.S., (supported by the Carnegie Corporation), was directed by the European economist, Gunnar Myrdal.



RALPH BUNCHE

- Ralph Bunche, an African-American political scientist, diplomat, and author, was a key researcher and writer for Gunnar Myrdal's book. He contributed more than 3,000 pages to the study based on field research conducted throughout the South.
- *His take?* He was doubtful that white Americans harbored any guilt about enslavement and racial discrimination.

HISTORICAL WORKS PUBLISHED BY WHITE SCHOLARS

- *The Peculiar Institution: Slavery in the Ante-Bellum South* by Kenneth Stampp (1956)
- *Slavery: A Problem in American Institutions and Intellectual Life* by Stanley Elkins (1959)
- *Negro Thought in America, 1880-1915* by August Meier (1963)



The Alligator

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA'S LEADING COLLEGE NEWSPAPER



University of Florida, Gainesville

Friday, August 1, 1969

Credit Coming Soon For UF Black Studies

By LEE HINNANT
Alligator Staff Writer

A proposal for an Afro-American studies program, modeled after existing subject area study programs, is being reviewed by a faculty committee in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Dean Harry H. Sisler said students who complete the program, if it is approved by the faculty, will receive a certificate, in addition to a degree in their major study fields.

Students in the program will enroll in Afro-American courses in various departments — history, political science, sociology, and others — in the college, says Dr. Manning J. Dauer, chairman of the political science department.

Faculty in the college will form an unofficial Afro-American faculty, Dauer said. Dr. Julius Henry and Dr. Stephen Canary are slated to head the Afro-American faculty.

be 36 hours in Afro-American studies and the recommendation of the faculty members," Dauer said.

Several new courses are being offered during the next academic year to complement black-oriented courses already offered.

The history department will offer two new courses in this area next fall. The sociology department has proposed another course.

Two new courses will be offered by the political science department next spring or winter quarter, Dauer said.

Dauer also mentioned new Afro-American courses in the English department and in the art and music departments of the College of Architecture and Fine Arts.

Although the proposal for an Afro-American studies program has not yet been approved by the college curriculum committee, Sisler said, he was confident that the proposal would pass.

BLACK STUDIES: A SOCIAL MOVEMENT

- The movement to establish what were then widely called “Black Studies” programs began with a November 1968 student strike at SFSU — the longest student strike in U.S. history. Other movements included:
- The Freedom Movement
- The Black Power Movement
- The Black Arts Movement
- The New Communist Movement
- The Black Women’s Movement
- The Black Student Movement

THE RISE OF CONTEMPORARY BLACK INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS

Black Feminism (1980s)

Black Religious Thought (1970s)

Black Pragmatist Traditions (1980s)

Black Existential Traditions (1970s)

Black Postmodernism (1990s)

Afrocentrism Traditions (1980s)

Africana Philosophical Traditions (1970s)





Women at Solita Basal Bazaar Meeting, New York City

THE KITCHEN TABLE: WOMEN OF COLOR PRESS. 1980

Founded by Barbara Smith, The Kitchen Table, was the first publishing company autonomously run by a woman of color.

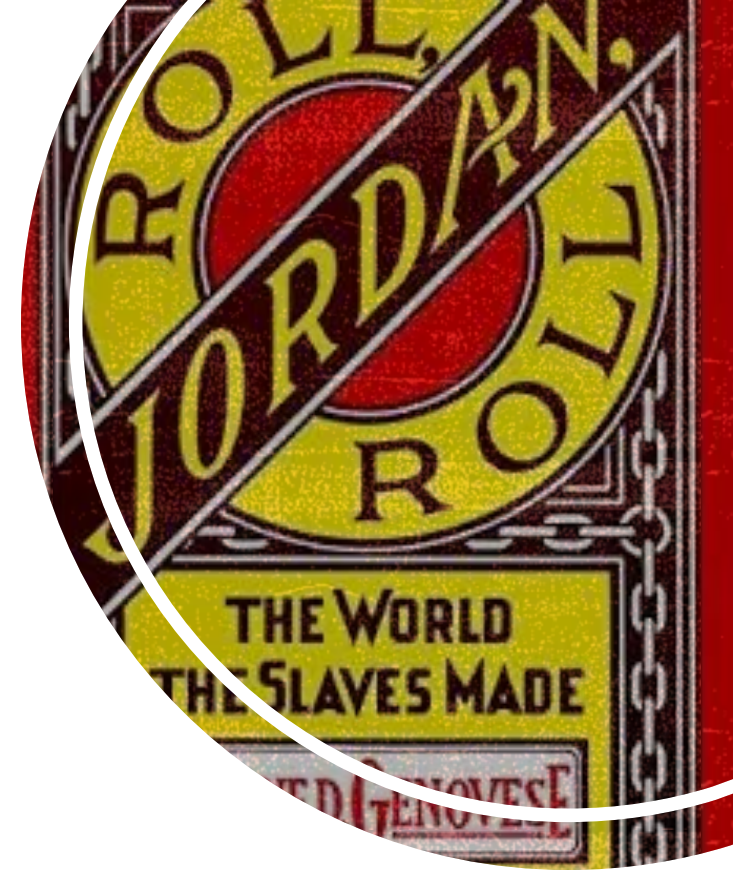
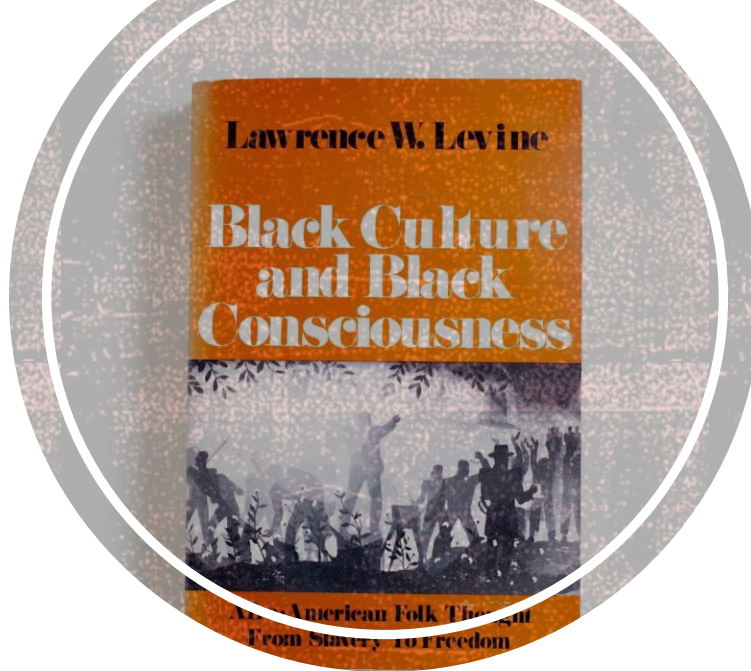
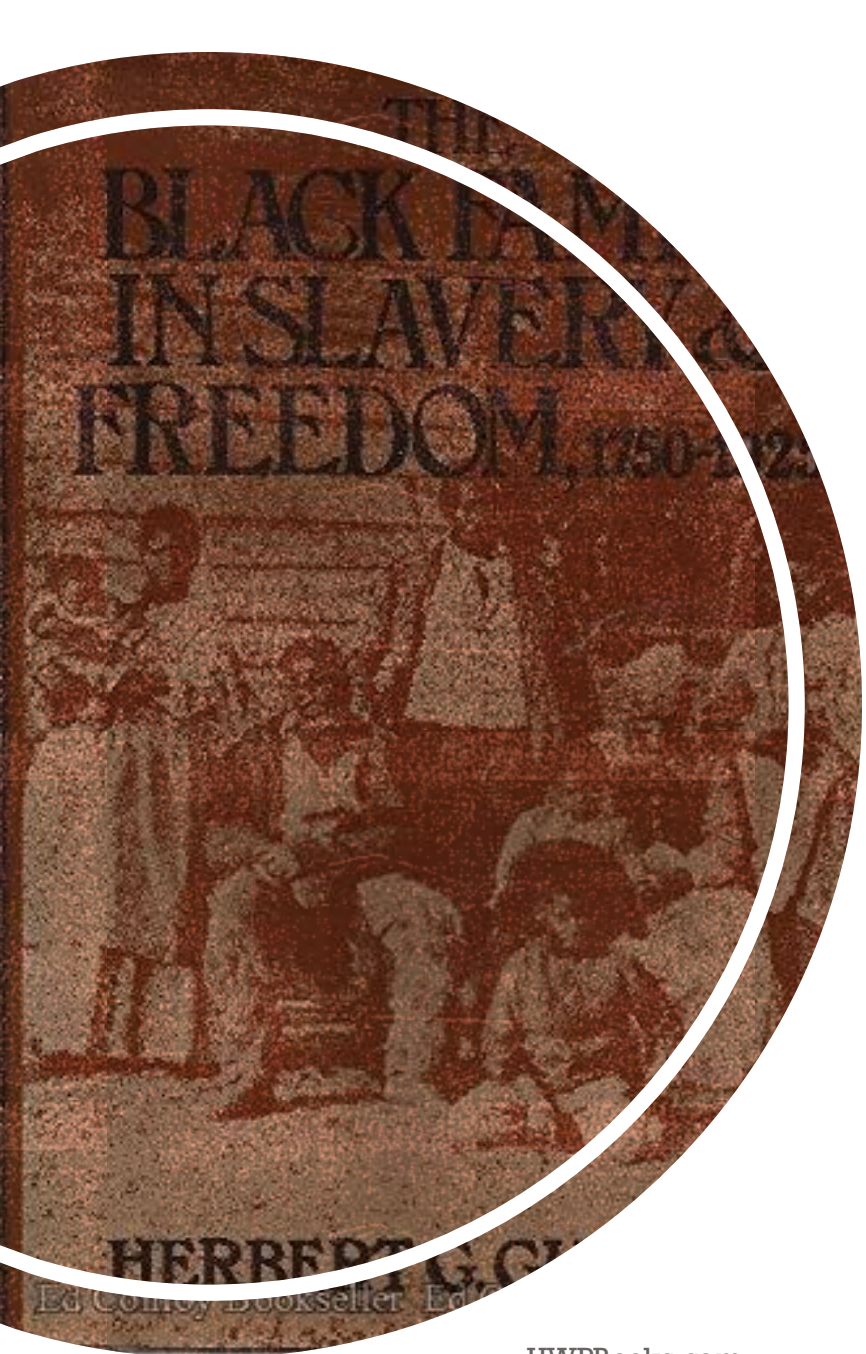
Along with providing a theoretical framework by which to evaluate literature by Black women, Smith was perhaps the most influential force in popularizing authors like Alice Walker, Toni Morrison, Amy Tan, and other female authors of color through Kitchen Table

BLACK STUDIES AS AN ACADEMIC PROFESSION

Spurred on the social and cultural advances of the late 1950s and 60s, the growth of Black book publishing accelerated most rapidly after 1969, with 34 new publishers.

- Third World Press (1967), and Black Classic Press (1968), are the two oldest independently owned Black publishers still in operation.





SIGNIFICANT PUBLICATIONS BY WHITE SCHOLARS (1970-1990)





**PUBLICATIONS BY
BLACK AUTHORS
(1970-1990)**

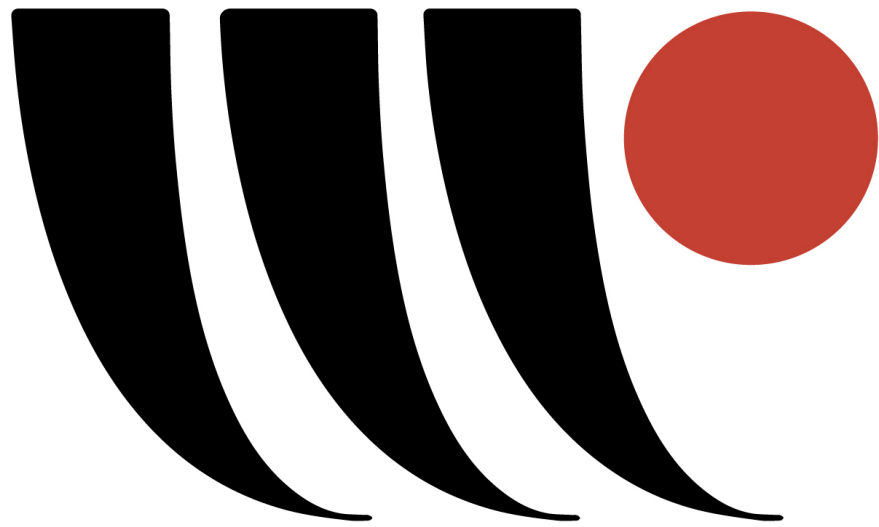
- *The Signifying Monkey: A Theory of African-American Literary Criticism* by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (1988)
- *Long Black Song: Essays in Black American Literature and Culture* by Houston A. Baker Jr. (1972)
- *The Slave Community* by John W. Blassingame (1972)
- *Slave Culture: Nationalist Theory and The Foundation of Black America* by Sterling Stuckey (1987)
- *The Black Church in the African-American Experience* by C. Eric Lincoln and Lawrence H. Mamiya (1990)
- *The Truly Disadvantaged* by William Julius Wilson (1987)

60 YEARS LATER:

THE FUTURE OF BLACK ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- A generational crisis.
- Retaining and acquiring equitable (publishing) resources.
- Banned books.
- Erasure through out-of-print practices.
- Lack of Black scholarship for students=less citations of Black scholars.
- Dependency on Eurocentric frameworks sustaining markets and policy outcomes.





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