Tracing the development and rise of racial discourse in United States history, we discover how Black people have relied upon myriad faith traditions to articulate selfhood, actualize freedom, and empower themselves. This course is, therefore, a theoretical inquiry into ethnicity, race, and religion as constituents of personal and communal identity. It places emphasis on global migrations, colonial and postcolonial relations, diasporic communities, and issues of religious pluralism. While there is investment in understanding histories of Black religious empowerment, this course does analyze what insights have been gained through ethnographic research on how Black faith communities approached the question of racial difference and, where relevant, how they have sought to overcome structural discrimination.