



Take this course and become a solutionist!

Contemporary African American Issues AFRA 205 -194/195: **Problems and Challenges Facing Education in Public Schools.**

This course explores major issues in public education from Early Learning to Graduate School and the programs and practices that address them. We will examine from the perspectives of all the stakeholders the many problems and challenge currently facing education. Students will discuss and debate major topics in educational reform, such as classroom size, online learning, the impact of Covid-19 on education, college affordability (concerns over college tuition and student debt), poverty, family dynamics, technology, teacher quality, funding, legislative policies, [Title IX and Sex Discrimination](#), school discipline, [Unequal Opportunity: Race and Education](#), and other relevant concerns.

In the end, students taking this course will have gained insight from evidence-based solutions put forth by local and national educational leaders who have demonstrated best practices in their fields.

This course is designed to facilitate problem solving by using creative and critical thinking skills in order to foster a culture of innovation that produces creative initiatives for ready implementation in the educational field.

Note: This is a tentative course outline, which gives you a general idea of what to expect during the course of this semester; there may be several changes to ensure that we achieve the Student Learning Outcomes. I will provide other expectations in lectures, announcements, handouts, and the like.

"Dear Professor Washington,

I am writing to you because I took your "BAMS 205-010: Problems and Challenges Facing Education in Public Schools" during the summer, during my final solution project I focused on building a charter school called "Diamonds in the Rough Academy for Girls of Color" while honing in on the systemic injustices faced by girls of color that hinder them from achieving educational success. Through that project, I developed a research interest in gender, race, delinquency, and education to further study issues that hinder girls of color in the educational system to further continue some of the topics that I discussed in my final solution project.

During my time in your class, I feel that your teachings in institutional and systematic issues that are facing students of color has led me to want to further pursue research in this area of interest, in the hope of finding a solution that could close the gap among students of color. T.E."

Instructor: L. Clayton Washington