

STATE OF BLACK STUDIES AT HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE

PANEL: APRIL 8 AT 4PM
LEBRON-WIGGINS-PRAN CULTURAL
CENTER

AS A FIELD OF KNOWLEDGE, BLACK STUDIES WAS CREATED OUT OF YEARS OF STRUGGLE. DURING THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY, SCHOLARS FOUGHT TO GET BLACK HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY COURSES ONTO THE CURRICULUM OF HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES. DURING THE 1960S AND 1970S, STUDENT MOVEMENTS FOUGHT TO CREATE BLACK STUDIES PROGRAMS IN MANY OF THE NATION'S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES. BLACK STUDIES HAS EXPANDED TO INCLUDE A WIDE RANGE OF DISCIPLINES AND METHODOLOGIES. PERIODICALLY, SCHOLARS COME TOGETHER TO DISCUSS THE RELEVANCE OF BLACK STUDIES TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES AND TO MEET CURRENT CHALLENGES IN THE CURRICULUM.

AT HAMPSHIRE, WHERE STUDENTS CREATE THEIR OWN CONCENTRATIONS, BLACK STUDIES CLASSES ARE CONSISTENTLY UNDER-ENROLLED. IN THIS CONTEXT, WHAT CONSTITUTES A BLACK STUDIES CURRICULUM? WHAT IS THE RELEVANCE OF BLACK STUDIES AS A FIELD OF INQUIRY? HOW DOES BLACK STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP HELP US TO VIEW NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS? FACULTY PANELISTS WILL INCLUDE ROBERT COLES, NATALIE SOWELL, AMY JORDAN, TRACIE RUBECK, SUSAN TRACY AND CHRIS TINSON. THEY WILL DISCUSS THE HISTORY OF THIS FIELD AT HAMPSHIRE AND THE UNIQUE CHALLENGES OF TEACHING BLACK STUDIES AT HAMPSHIRE.