

Seneca College Audio-Visual Services Recommended Video/DVD List For:

African-Canadian Studies

To find other videos in this subject area on the online catalogue, use the following terms:

Blacks-Canada-History
Immigrants – Canada
Racism-Canada

Women, Black – Canada
Canada – Emigration and immigration

500 years later (DVD)

106 minutes

HT1581 .F58 2005

Filmed in five continents, this documentary film chronicles the struggles of people of African descent throughout the globe as they strive for basic freedoms and self-determination.

Action for change *King Campus*

FC104 .A27 1997

26 minutes

In this episode, Skylight shows how action against racism can take many forms. Segments include Herb Carnegie discussing NHL racism in the 1940s, a march in Surrey, B.C. in support of the elimination of racism, media suppression of environmental stories, aboriginal women in Vancouver celebrating International Women's Day, Louise Rose's memories of her grandmother, and an introduction to the Buddhist festival Ullambana.

Against the tides--the Jones family

FC106.B55 A33 1994

59 minutes

Talks about the immigrants who contributed to the formation of Nova Scotia, bringing with them some of the behaviors and attitudes of the Southern U.S., and establishing a segregated society. Focuses on the history of the area, notes the connection to West Africa, and describes the three main Black communities.

Asylum

HV640.4.C2 A75 1998

79 minutes

Asylum is the first feature documentary to take us inside the Canadian refugee process. It follows three people from their arrival in Canada to the final decision of the Refugee Board, and beyond.

Black mother, black daughter

FC2350.B5 B56

29 minutes

A moving testament to black women who have struggled for over 200 years to create and maintain a home and community in Nova Scotia.

Breakin' in: the making of a hip hop dancer (DVD)

ML3531 .B73 2005

57 minutes

Breakin' in follows three young black women as they compete for roles in hip hop music videos, whose popular images promote a billion-dollar industry that's worldwide. These highly sexualized videos tend to depict dancers as eye candy, with lyrics that seem to demean and stereotype women. The dancers speak candidly about their concepts of beauty and self-image, and of a thriving urban culture that makes being black "cool."

Breaking the spirit: the Mary Ann Shadd story

FC104 .S38 episode 5

30 minutes

From the series *A scattering of seeds*. Living in Windsor, Ontario, Mary Ann Shadd fought heroically for education for blacks, battling the segregationists and starting the first integrated school in Canada. She later went on to become the first female newspaper editor and the first female black lawyer in North America. Title on container: Breaking the Ice, the Story of Mary Ann Shadd.

Brother 2 brother (DVD)

HV109.N9 B76 2006

40 minutes

Corey Lucas is an African Canadian living in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. With a head full of dreams and empty pockets, he turned to selling drugs on the streets. Now as the father of a three-year-old son, he tries to reconcile the life he knows with his desire to be a responsible father and a supportive partner. He experiences the transformative power of a weekend retreat for young Black males, organized by BROS (the Brothers Reaching Out Society). The film shows that despite all the odds against them, young Black men can succeed if they have the will, the opportunity and the support of a community.

By any means necessary

E184.A24 B9 1997

52 minutes

Examines two ideas in African-American thinking: afrocentrism and the "reparations" movement, both responses to centuries of political, economic and social oppression. Parents, teachers and students in Canada and the U.S. discuss how afrocentrism attempts to redefine African identity and reconstruct the historical memory of African-Americans. Advocates of reparation discuss how all means are justified in "righting the wrong" done them, following in the footsteps of Malcolm X.

The great enterprise**Canada, a people's history [series 2]. Episode 8**

FC164 .C342 epi.8

120 minutes

Seneca streaming video

The story of the transformation of a few small separate British colonies into a new nation controlling half the North American continent is told against the backdrop of the U.S. Civil War and a change in British colonial policy. Provides a portrait of the people of the new country: railway magnates, unwed mothers, nuns, prosperous merchants of Halifax, fugitives of the Underground Railroad, Irish immigrants.

Canadian portraits

FC104 .C3486

30 minutes

Six Canadian portraits are interwoven with historical material from the past to suggest the nature and extent of Canada's multi-cultural make-up.

Cole Harbour: a racial divide**News in review December 1997**

D848 .C17 1997 Dec.

13 minutes

Antiracist education is premised on the fact that all people are in some way racist and that the existence of racism in society – in a particular community especially – must be recognized and admitted in order to eliminate it.

Racism: then and now**News in review October 2001**

D848 .C17 2001 Oct.

13 minutes

This report examines the UN conference on racism and xenophobia, held in Durban, South Africa, that was marred by controversy and discord over such issues as reparations for slavery and the wording of a conference statement accusing Israel of apartheid-like behaviour. Bringing the issue closer to home we also examine the black experience in Nova Scotia and recent calls there for measures to redress historic wrongs.

Children are not the problem

FC106.B55 C45 1991

30 minutes

This program examines the question of racism. Discussion shows how children absorb values unconsciously. They need to develop a strong sense of self and to learn about people as individuals, not just members of a race.

Colour blind

LC212.3.C32 B685 2000

26 minutes

Colour blind shows kids that being racist is not cool, and that even subtle racism can, if unheeded, explode into extreme violence.

A deathly silence

HV8079.H6 D43 2003

48 minutes

Why are 30% of Toronto's homicide victims African-Canadian? This statistic is explored through the story of Segun Farquharson whose killing turned his community upside down.

Fields of endless day

FC106.B55 F53

58 minutes

A history of the Black community in Canada from the early seventeenth century to the mid-twentieth century, before the recent influx of black immigrants from the West Indies.

Freedom's land: Canada and the Underground Railroad (DVD)

E450 .F76 2004

52 minutes

This is the story of how Canada and the Underground Railroad became the focal point of the anti-slavery movement in the tumultuous decade leading up to the American Civil War. The Underground Railroad, part metaphor, part fact, enabled thousands of black refugees to flee the oppression of the only nation in the western world that still condoned the practice of slavery.

Hardwood (DVD)

E185.86 .H37 2004

29 minutes

A tale of "one black family reconstituting itself after coming to terms with the sorrows brought on, in part, by the racial prejudice of the time"

Hearts of hate: the battle for young minds

FC104 .H42 1994

58 minutes

Based in part on the book: *Web of hate: inside Canada's far right network / Warren Kinsella*, this film explores Canada's racist movement. It is a disturbing journey as we penetrate racist organizations to examine their policies of violence and manipulation.

A history buried: the Duval Cummings family

FC106.B55 H57

58 minutes

Rita Duvall-Cummings is the granddaughter of Pleasant Duvall who came by foot from New Orleans all the way to Collingwood in the 1860's. Her story represents the lives of many who came to Ontario to freedom along the Underground Railroad.

Home feeling, struggle for a community

HD7305.T68 H649

58 minutes

A documentary film dealing with the hopes and frustrations of people living in the Jane-Finch corridor housing complex.

I made a vow (DVD)

GT2713 .I43 2003

51 minutes

After a rough few years of on-again, off-again dating, Robbie and Sharon have finally decided to tie the knot. The couple are from North Preston, which is Nova Scotia's oldest Black community. Here, weddings are larger than life, with bridesmaids by the dozen. Sharon wants it all. And Robbie...well, he just wants to get married.

In the key of Oscar

ML417.P48 I5 1992

95 minutes

Chronicles pianist Oscar Peterson's rise from Montreal's "boogie woogie" teenaged sensation to international celebrity as one of jazz's great virtuosos. Describes his determination to achieve self-respect and recognition as a Canadian.

Jane Finch again

HN110.T6 J26 1997

48 minutes

Fifteen years after the NFB film *Home feeling: struggle for a community* was made, one of the filmmakers returns to the troubled Jane-Finch neighbourhood to see how it has changed and not changed, by talking to residents, former residents, police and people who had appeared in the original film. Anti-racism and conflict resolution training, community policing, ongoing resident input and improved social services have resulted in marked improvement. The change in racial and ethnic mix is also noted.

Journey to justice

FC106.B55 J68 2000

47 minutes

Journey to Justice pays tribute to a group of Canadians who took racism to court. They are Canada's unsung heroes in the fight for Black civil rights.

Land of hope

JV7220 .L35 1996

51 minutes

Featuring seven dramatic re-creations of true episodes in Canada's immigration history from the Acadia exile of 1775 to the plight of political refugees today. The two-volume series examines the fears and misconceptions that dominated different historical eras, and salutes the determination of the newcomers. Each short drama helps us better appreciate the role immigration played - and continues to play - in the growth of Canada as a nation.

Listening for something: Adrienne Rich and Dionne Brand in conversation

PN6109.9 .L575 1996

57 minutes

Asks the question: where do women fit in the state and the nation? Adrienne Rich, noted American feminist poet, and Dionne Brand, a Trinidadian-Canadian feminist poet, writer and filmmaker, discuss citizenship, racism, exile and feminism, offering honest open-ended critical analysis of world events. Their conversations offer insight into their work and the places from which they come.

Lost in the struggle (DVD)

HV6439 .C32 L67 2006

42 minutes

The fifth estate investigates why young men in some neighbourhoods of Canadian cities are drawn to a culture of violence. A culture where drug sales are often a source of income, friendships are defended with weapons, and a deadly dispute can start with a disrespectful glance. Rather than accessing this world through the police or social workers, producers wanted to document the lives of the young men in their own voices

Meeting place

FC3097.9.A1 M43 1990

52 minutes

Presents an insightful look at Toronto's experiment in multiculturalism, a bold social idea that so far appears to be working.

Nadia's journey (DVD) *Markham Campus*

HQ1791.5 .N335 2007

72 minutes

Originally produced as a motion picture in 2006.

As a young woman, Nadia Zouaoui vowed that her suffering would not be in vain. When she was 19, her parents forced her into an arranged marriage with an Algerian man twice her age living in Montreal. He chose her based on a photograph. Years later, she returns to Kabylie, Algeria to see if things are any different. This is her journey into the patriarchal culture backed by strict Muslim tradition and the cruelty endured by so many girls and women held captive in their homes.

No time to stop: stories of immigrant and visible minority women

HD6068.2.C2 N6 1990

30 minutes

Three women present the complex issues facing immigrant women who work in job ghettos.

No way! Not me

HQ1457 .N6

30 minutes

Noted Canadian feminist and educator Rosemary Brown speaks to high school students about the social and economic realities of women's poverty.

On this rock: the Collins family

FC106.B55 O5 1994

58 minutes

Features the Collins family and examines the early history of the area and the way in which Blacks influenced British Columbia to join the Confederation of Canada.

Oscar Peterson: keeping the groove alive (DVD)

ML417.P48 O83 2003

43 minutes

In candid interviews, Peterson talks about his life and times as one of Canada's greatest jazz musicians. Features interviews with Diana Krall, Herbie Hancock, Phi Nimmons, and others.

Out of sync: racial bias and the media

P94.5 .M552 C27 1994

57 minutes

This program explores the relationship between the media in Canada and our increasingly diverse society.

Race for freedom: the Underground Railroad

PN1997 .R156 1993

100 minutes

Thousands of American Blacks escaping slavery in 1850s North America sought sanctuary in Canada via secret routes which became known as the Underground Railroad.

Race is a four-letter word (DVD)

HT1521 .R33 2006

56 minutes

Seneca streaming video

Highlights Canadian contradictions and conflicts around race - a black man who grew up hating himself, trying to bleach his skin with chemicals, and then struggling to appreciate the meaning of his culture and heritage as an "Afro-Saxon" Briton, then Grenadian and now Haligonian-Nova Scotian-Canadian. We also met a white man who is culturally and psychologically black; of a black woman who wants to be considered iconically Canadian; of another black woman who retreats to England rather than continue to face Canada's racial cold war; and of himself, a black man who has learned to love his complexity. In the end, Race Is a Four-Letter Word teaches us that the soul has no colour. Yet, we also learn that race is a marathon we are all forced to run."

Race to execution juror number six (DVD)

HV9950 .R3383 2008

43 minutes

Race to execution: Follows the cases of two death row inmates to examine the problem of race discrimination in the U.S. criminal justice system, particularly with regard to death penalty sentencing. Juror number six: A personal political internet documentary on the relationship between media, race, crime and punishment with the viewer as juror.

Remember Africville

F1039.5.H17 R44 1991

35 minutes

Africville, a small black settlement, lay within the city limits of Halifax, Nova Scotia. In the 1960's, the families who lived there were moved and their homes demolished. Former residents, their descendants and some of the decision-makers speak out and, with the help of archival photographs and films, tell the story of that relocation. This video of a public forum held in 1989 in which decision-makers and former residents of Africville, discuss the government of Halifax's decision in 1964 to relocate the 400 residents of Africville, demolish Africville's buildings, and build a park on the site.

Return to Regent Park

HD7305.T68 R47 1994

56 minutes

The story of Regent Park, Canada's first large-scale public housing project. Shows the failure of traditional urban renewal schemes, the impact of drugs and crime on an enclosed environment, and the positive effects of social redevelopment in which people are empowered with a new-born self-respect.

Seeking salvation: a history of the black church in Canada (DVD)

BR563.N4 S44 2004

90 minutes

Seeking Salvation is a stunning documentary journey into the music, passion, and history of the black church.

Slavery: a Canadian story - the Packwood family

FC106.B55 S53 1994

58 minutes

The history of slavery in Lower Canada is documented from 1626 through maps, archival documents and photographs.

Speakers for the dead

FC106.B55 S63 2000

48 minutes

In the 1930s in rural Ontario, farmer Bill Reid buried the tombstones of a Black cemetery under a pile of broken rocks to make way for a potato patch. In the 1980s, descendants of the original settlers, Black and White, came together to restore the cemetery, but there were hidden truths no one wanted to discuss. Deep racial wounds were opened. *Speakers for the Dead* reveals the turmoil stirred up by desecrated graves and underlines the hidden history of Blacks in Canada.

Strangers at our door

JV7225 .S77 1989

27 minutes

Program looks at how Canadians treat new immigrants. They come to Canada looking for refuge, hoping to find shelter from persecution, terror and death in their homeland. Tough new laws confront the new arrivals.

Toronto, the world in a city

FC3097.9.A1 T66 2002

30 minutes

Toronto is considered the most multicultural city in the world. This program investigates claims that multiculturalism is not really working. There are claims of intercultural racism, intolerance of homosexual rights, difficulty in finding jobs experienced by professionals from other countries, and claims of the appearance of ethnic ghettos where newcomers find themselves at the bottom of the socio-economic scale.

Voice of freedom

FC104 .S38 episode 20

24 minutes

From the series **A scattering of seeds**, this is the story of Ugandan refugee Opiyo Oloya who fled Uganda for his life in 1981. Oloya, a broadcaster, teacher, and writer, re-establishes connections with his African culture in Canada.

Where I belong (DVD)

F1035 .N3 W44 2007

45 minutes

Raised in Nigeria but born in Canada, Arinze Eze has always struggled to find a place of belonging. At age 21, he returned to Canada and re-invented himself as a talented painter, musician and filmmaker and had fallen in love with a charming woman, Tina. With preparation for his parents' visit, pressure and stress weighed on their relationship. But when his born-again Christian mother and Jewish girlfriend find a common bond in their love for Arinze, he begins to see that maybe there is a way for him to belong to both worlds.

Who gets in?

JV7225 .W45

53 minutes

This documentary provides surprising answers to that difficult question, raising issues about the nature of Canadian immigration policy.

Yesterday in Rwanda (DVD)

DT450.435 .Y47 2005

14 minutes

Broadcast in Vancouver International Film Festival, 2005, Spotlight on Docs, IFP Market, 2005 and Toronto International Film Festival, 2005. The experience of one survivor of the genocide and her trauma, displacement and hope. Includes her memory of her experience on the massacre. How she is staying in Toronto with a support group of women which includes links with female genocide survivors now living in North America.

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