

THE LONG STRUGGLE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS: SLAVERY TO FREEDOM



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PURPOSE OF THE TRIP

- **To offer current and/or former African-American History (HIST 130) students the opportunity to explore key historical sites of the long struggle for racial equality in the United States, using Mississippi as a pivotal and significant case study. We hoped that the pilgrimage would bring to life essential parts of American history—and help them understand the ways that racism and barriers to equality still confront us today. We were particularly interested in connecting slavery and civil rights by deconstructing the artificial barriers often built between the two. And, while doing so, expand opportunities for experiential learning, increase students' multi-cultural competence, and empower them to be agents of social change on SIUE's campus and beyond.**

WHY MISSISSIPPI?

- Many scholars, as well as former civil rights activists would agree that for decades, Mississippi was the most racially repressive state in the nation. Historian Neil McMillen once stated that Mississippi was the state most resistant to the struggle for racial equality, though comparatively, it was a state with few Jim Crow laws (Jim Crow was practiced mainly de facto). However, he concludes, they weren't needed. Perhaps civil rights activist Bob Moses made this point best when he stated the following, "When you're in Mississippi, the rest of America doesn't seem real. And when you're in the rest of America, Mississippi doesn't seem real." Because of Mississippi's distinct and dramatic place in this nation's racial history, we thought it a fitting locale for a civil rights pilgrimage.

DAY 1

CLARKSDALE, MISSISSIPPI

DELTA BLUES MUSEUM



DAY 2

OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI

ROWAN OAK, WILLIAM FAULKNER'S HOME

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

Center for the Study of Southern Culture
Charles Overby Institute for Southern Journalism
Statue of James Meredith



DAY 3

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY
Margaret Walker Archives

FANNIE LOU HAMER INSTITUTE & COFO

FREEDOM'S CORNER (MEDGAR EVERS BLVD.)

THE MEDGAR EVERS HOME/MUSEUM



DAY 4

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

GALLOWAY MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

forum with Rev. Edwin King and Rims Barber (veterans of the
Civil Rights Movement)

TOUGALOO COLLEGE



DAY 5

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

WILLIAM JOHNSON HOME

ANTEBELLUM HOME TOUR

FORKS OF THE ROAD SLAVE MARKET



DAY 6
MONEY, MISSISSIPPI
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

SITE OF EMMETT TILL'S MURDER IN 1955

BRYANT STORE

NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

