As the course moves on to discuss the theme of racism and limits of equality for all, these last weeks focus on texts that are exclusively about the binary of whiteness and blackness. Thomas Paine, an important figure in American politics and American Revolution, wrote “African Slavery in America” in 1774, drawing the attention of Americans to the problem of slavery. Paine was an important advocate for the abolition of slavery, and this text is one of the most influential early-abolition attempts. Students will also read Thomas Jefferson’s “Notes on Slavery” (1782). Jefferson was one of the Founding Fathers and also the third president of the United States and he hold office for two terms. Besides being a politically influential figure, he was also one of the prominent slaveholders of his period. His text represents the dubious attitude of Jefferson towards the problem of slavery, since his actual aim is the colonization of Africans in Africa instead of the United States.