

B.A. IN AFRICANA STUDIES

Introduction

Africana Studies offers students the opportunity to confront and critically analyze distinctive Black intellectual and social-cultural traditions, and political-economic and historical structures. Situated in Miami, Florida, we are uniquely positioned in and between the US South and the Global South. Therefore, our translocal perspective finds blackness and Black people everywhere in the world. As the university's center for Africana Studies, the Program reaches beyond undergraduate study—inviting a wide variety of local and international graduate students, artists, scholars, and community advocates into our intellectual community.

Africana Studies' interdisciplinary structure offers students an opportunity to satisfy the increasingly rigorous expectations of graduate and professional school admissions committees and prospective employers, offering a broad liberal arts perspective that complements specialized knowledge of a field. Our curriculum and programmatic efforts uniquely help to prepare students to understand and effectively work toward social justice. We encourage all students, regardless of major, to enroll in Africana classes. Africana Studies can be taken either as a primary major, as one of two majors, or a minor.

Educational Objectives

1. To help students research, acquire, and disseminate information about the historical and social experiences of Africans and people of African descent on all sides of the Atlantic basin, but with special emphasis on the United States.
2. To facilitate students' understanding of the multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, globalized society of our time.
3. To help students think critically about the global black experience.
4. To prepare students for graduate work and professional careers.

Departmental Honors

Carter G. Woodson Award - Best all-round student who combines intellectual excellence and community service.

Advanced Writing Requirement

To satisfy the College of Arts & Sciences writing requirement in the discipline, students majoring in Africana Studies should take at least one English course or one History course related to Africana Studies and is listed as an advanced writing course, and any Africana Studies course with the Writing Credit designation.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
All Africana Studies majors are required to take the following core courses:		
AAS 150	Introduction to Africana Studies	3
AAS 490	Senior Seminar in Africana Studies	3
HIS 201	History of Africa I (to 1800)	3
One literature course is required. Select from the following:		
ENG 260	African-American Literature	3
ENG 348	Modern African Literature and Film	
ENG 361	Caribbean Literature	
Select two courses in African Diaspora Studies:		
AAS 360	Black Miami Studies	6
APY 385	Caribbean Cultures	
ARH 420	Cuban Art, Art History, and the Creation of the Modern Cuban Subject	
ARH 421	Reimagining Modernity: Haitian Art and Art History	
GEG 383	Geography and Development in South America	
HIS 203	The African Diaspora in South Florida	
HIS 209	African-American History to 1877	
HIS 210	African-American History, 1877-PRESENT	
HIS 318	Modern Caribbean History	
HIS 353	History of Cuba	
MCY 121	Hip-Hop History, Culture, and Globalization	

Electives		12
Choose the remaining four courses from the list below or the Africana Studies degree audit: ¹		
AAS 290	Special Topics	
AAS 390	Special Topics	
AAS 502	Service Learning	
AAS 590	Advanced Topics in Africana Studies	
APY 302	Ethnographies of Black Life	
BPH 305	Issues in Health Disparities	
FRE 346	African Studies ^{Taught in French.}	
GEG 354	Global Human Rights	
GEG 356	Latin American Political Economy	
GEG 381	Geography and Development in Africa	
GSS 315	Gender, Race, and Class	
HIS 202	History of Africa, II (since 1800)	
MCY 124	The Evolution of Jazz	
MCY 222	African-American Song Traditions	
MCY 333	Introduction to Cuban Music	
REL 330	Caribbean Religion	
REL 372	Islam and the United States: The Politics of Race, Media, and Terrorism	
SOC 387	Race and Ethnic Relations	
SOC 388	The Black Ghetto in Urban Society	
SOC 389	The Black Athlete in White America	
General Education Requirements		
Written Communication Skills:		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
WRS 106 or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II Writing About Literature and Culture	3
Quantitative Skills:		
MTH 108	Precalculus Mathematics II	3
Areas of Knowledge:		
Arts and Humanities Cognate (9 credits fulfilled through the major)		
People and Society Cognate		9
STEM Cognate		9
Additional Requirements		
UMX 100	The University of Miami Experience	0
Language Requirement		3-9
Minor Requirement		15
Electives		45
Total Credit Hours		120

¹ Twelve of the 30 credit hours must be completed at the 300 level or above. This list is likely to change over time and other courses may be considered by the Director of the program.

* A grade of C- or better with an overall GPA of 2.0 is required in each course taken for the major.

Sample Plan of Study

Freshman Year		Credit Hours
Fall		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
MTH 108	Precalculus Mathematics II	3
Language (first course)		3
People & Society or Arts and Humanities cognate (first course)		3

Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
WRS 106	First-Year Writing II	3
Language (second course)		3
STEM cognate (first course)		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Sophomore Year		
Fall		
AAS 150	Introduction to Africana Studies	3
HIS 201	History of Africa I (to 1800)	3
People & Society or Arts and Humanities cognate (second course)		3
Minor (first course)		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
ENG 260	African-American Literature	3
Minor (second course)		3
STEM cognate (second course)		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Junior Year		
Fall		
African Diaspora Studies requirement (first course)		3
Minor (third course)		3
STEM cognate (third course)		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
African Diaspora Studies requirement (second course)		3
Minor (fourth course)		3
Natural Science course (if needed)		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Senior Year		
Fall		
People & Society or Arts and Humanities cognate (third course)		3
Minor (fifth course)		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
AAS 490	Senior Seminar in Africana Studies	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3

Elective	3
Credit Hours	15
Total Credit Hours	120

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to identify critical events and historical periods and analyze their implications for the social, political, economic, environmental, or cultural life of Africans or diasporic communities.
- Students will be able to analyze literature, visual culture, music, social, and political institutions critically.
- Students will be able to use analytical approaches that are interdisciplinary or discipline specific.
- Students will be able to conduct primary or secondary research using appropriate methods for the humanities, social sciences, or the arts.
- Students will be able to demonstrate clear writing and formulate persuasive arguments in the form of research papers, essays, or oral presentations.