

AFRICANA STUDIES, MINOR (305)

Program Coordinator

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The minor in African American Studies compresses the unique and diverse experiences of African Americans into a manageable and definable programs of study that acknowledges the interconnectedness of these experiences with the peoples of Africa and the African Diaspora. Viewed from multidisciplinary and cross-disciplinary perspectives, courses in the African American studies minor provide the opportunity for students to study, analyze and develop a comprehensive understanding of the African American experience in ways that both link and differentiate past and present circumstances in the African Diaspora. A diaspora approach to the study of the African American experience is concerned with the following two issues: 1) the way in which African cultural, social, religious, and political forms influence African descended persons and communities, and how such forms changed through interaction with non-African cultures; and 2) comparisons and correspondence among communities of African descended people who are geographically separated and/or culturally distinct.

A person who completes the African American Studies minor will have enlarged perspectives and increased awareness of the diversity of experience within African American cultures; these are skills well suited for advanced study at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and for jobs in governmental departments and agencies and with private organizations. In fulfilling the minimum requirements for a minor, the student normally should not include more than six hours of electives with any one course prefix.

Honors Program

The African American Studies Program participates in the Dixie and Peter Mahurin Honors College. Honors courses allow students of exceptional academic abilities to investigate the African American experience in a more in-depth manner and to discuss contemporary issues in small group settings. Honors courses encourage the development of critical thinking skills and analytical writing. Students also have an opportunity to assist faculty with research, present papers at regional and national conferences, and/or engage in self-designed research projects. African American Studies minors in the Dixie and Peter Mahurin Honors College can complete their honors thesis on a topic in consultation with an advisor. For further information on honors courses and opportunities, contact Dr. Andrew Rosa, andrew.rosa@wku.edu, (270) 745-3841.

Program Requirements (21 hours)

Code	Title	Hours
AFAM 190	Introduction to African American Studies	3
AFAM 343	Communities of Struggle	3
AFAM 353	Radical Blackness	3
Restricted Electives from the following categories: ¹		
History:		3
HIST 310	Comparative Slavery	
HIST 329	Black Intellectual History	
HIST 330	History of Africa Before 1500	

HIST 331	History of Africa Since 1500	
HIST 358	Blacks in American History to 1877	
HIST 359	Blacks in American History Since 1877	
HIST 390	Blacks in the American South	
Cultural Studies:		3
ENG 393	African American Literature	
COMM 463	Advanced Intercultural Communication	
FLK 330	Cultural Connections and Diversity	
RELS 309	Global Christianity	
Select two courses, each from a different discipline and not already counted toward the minor, from the following: ²		6
AFAM 342	Hip Hop and Democracy	
AFAM 350	Peoples and Cultures of Africa	
AFAM 480	Directed Independent Study in African American Topics	
AFAM 490	African American Seminar	
ANTH 342	Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean	
ANTH 350	Peoples and Cultures of Africa	
ANTH 410	African-American Music	
COMM 463	Advanced Intercultural Communication	
CRIM 361	Race, Class, and Crime	
CSJ 200	Introduction to Social Justice	
ENG 388	Postcolonial Studies	
ENG 393	African American Literature	
FLK 330	Cultural Connections and Diversity	
FLK 342	Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean	
FLK 377	African-American Folklore	
FLK 410	African-American Music	
HIST 310	Comparative Slavery	
HIST 329	Black Intellectual History	
HIST 330	History of Africa Before 1500	
HIST 331	History of Africa Since 1500	
HIST 358	Blacks in American History to 1877	
HIST 359	Blacks in American History Since 1877	
HIST 390	Blacks in the American South	
HIST 404	History of Ancient Egypt	
PH 412	Health Disparities and Health Equity	
PS 373	Minority Politics	
RELS 306	Islam	
RELS 309	Global Christianity	
RELS 331	Islam in America: Hope & Hip Hop	
SOCL 250	Systems of Social Inequality	
SOCL 260	Race and Ethnic Relations	
SOCL 362	Social Institutions: Race, Class, and Gender	
Total Hours		21

² Additional courses may be approved by the advisor.