



DEPARTMENT  
OF  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

Established 1994

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## **DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES**

The Department of African-American Studies at Georgia State University offers a Bachelor of Arts degree and Master of Arts degree that rest upon the interdisciplinary field of study, African-American Studies courses are drawn from a wide array of different disciplines such as Anthropology, Art, Economics, English, Film, Geography, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Speech, Sociology, and Theatre. The African-American Studies undergraduate degree provides students with the knowledge and intellectual skills to assess how societal issues and factors impact the lives and empowerment of people of African descent. Majoring in African-American Studies prepares students to participate effectively in a multicultural nation and world. The scholarly examination of African-American communities illuminates the parallels, contradictions, and strengths evident in all communities. While the specific subject matter of major is people of African descent, the value of the program enhances the understanding of other cultures and global communities. The African-American Studies undergraduate degree is an excellent complement to other degree programs either as a second major or as a minor.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM

- ◆ Excellent, committed and caring faculty and staff
  - ◆ One-on-one personalized advisement
  - ◆ Comprehensive undergraduate curriculum
- ◆ A complete offering of courses after 5:00 p.m. for working students
  - ◆ Community outreach activities
  - ◆ Sankofa Society Student Organization
    - ◆ Lecture Series



## MEET OUR FACULTY AND STAFF

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## **AFFILIATE FACULTY**

Mohammed H. Ali, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of History*  
Abbas Barzegar, Ph.D. *Assistant professor of Religious Studies*  
Lakeyta Bonnette, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of Political Science*  
Allison Calhoun-Brown, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of Political Science*  
Marva Carter, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of Music*  
Kimberly Cleveland, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of History*  
Chantee L. Earl, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Education*  
Gladys M. Francis, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Modern and Classical Languages*  
Christina H. Fuller, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Public Health*  
Harcourt Fuller, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of History*  
Oliver Greene, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of Music*  
Aida Harvey, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of Sociology*  
Geoffrey J. Haydon, D.M.A. *Academic Professional in Music*  
Ryan S. Heath, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of English*  
Shirlene Holmes, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of Communication*  
Joyce King, Ph.D. *Professor of Education*  
Tiffany King, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies*  
Vincent Lloyd, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Religious Studies*  
Carol P. Marsh-Lockett, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of English*  
Carrie Manning, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Political Science*  
Chivon Mingo, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Gerontology*  
Monique Moultrie, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Religious Studies*  
Jacqueline A. Rouse, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of History*  
Natalie Tindall, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of Communication*  
Gordon J. Vernick, D.A. *Associate Professor of Music*  
Elizabeth West, Ph.D. *Assistant Professor of English*  
Adia H. Wingfield, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of Sociology*  
Mary B. Zeigler, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of English*

## **B.A DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

Degrees offered: Bachelor of Arts Major in African-American Studies

Pre-Education African-American Studies Track

Majors should complete the following (specific recommendations listed below):

1. Undergraduate Core Curriculum
2. Area F: Courses Appropriate to the Major
3. AAS Major Courses
4. AAS Minor and/or Additional Courses

Alternatives are available to some core and major requirements. Please see departmental advisor for specific guidelines.

**Area A: Essential Skills (9 hours)**

**Area B: Institutional Options (4 hours)**

**Area C: Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)**

**Area D: Science, Mathematics, and Technology (11 hours)**

**Area E: Social Science (12 hours)**

**Area F: Courses Appropriate to the Major Field (18 hours):**

AAS 1140 Introduction to African and African-American Culture (3)

AAS 2010 Introduction to African-American Studies (3)

ART 1850 Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas (3)

Soci 1160 Introduction to Social Problems (3)

ForL 1002 Elementary Level II (3)

**Select one additional course from the following (all courses are 3 credit hours):**

*Anth 2020, Econ 2105, Econ 2106, Geog 1101, Hist 1111, Hist 1112, Phil 2010, PolS 2401, Psyc 1101, Psyc 2040, Psyc 2103, Soci 1101, Wst 2010*

**Area G: Major Courses (33 hours) (A grade of “C” or better is required in all major courses.)**

**Major Requirements (15 hours):**

AAS 3120 African Diaspora (3)

AAS 3975 Concepts and Theories in African-American Studies (3)

AAS 3980 Research Methods in African-American Studies (3)

AAS 4120 African-American Political Thought (3)

AAS 4980 Senior Seminar and Practicum (3)

**AAS Literature Course, please select one course from the following (3 hours):**

AAS 3880 African-American Literature (3)

AAS 3960 African-American Literature by Women (3)

AAS 4890 Caribbean Literature (3)

***A minimum of 15 hours must be taken from African-American Studies courses at the 3000-4000 level which must include three (3) courses from one of the two areas (Humanities and Social/Behavioral Sciences) of concentration and two (2) courses from the remaining area of concentration.***

**Humanities Concentrations:**

AAS 3080 History of African-American Philosophy (3)

AAS 3450 History of African-Americans in Georgia (3)

AAS 3500 Jazz History (3)

AAS 3810 History of African-American Music (3)

AAS 3880 African-American Literature (3)

AAS 3955 Lang. in the African-American Community (3)

AAS 3960 African-American Literature by Women (3)

AAS 4125 Black Feminist Thought (3)

AAS 4230 Religions of the World (3)

AAS 4250 African-American Religion (3)

AAS 4300 African Art (3)

AAS 4310 Art of Egypt, Nubia and Maghrib (3)



AAS 4320 African-American Art (3)  
AAS 4600 Enslavement and Resistance in N. America (3)  
AAS 4620 Enslavement in the Americas (3)  
AAS 4640 African-American People (3)  
AAS 4650 African-American Theatre (3)  
AAS 4660 African-American Women (3)  
AAS 4765 Central and Southern Africa (3)  
AAS 4770 Western Africa (3)  
AAS 4772 Women In Africa (3)  
AAS 4774 African Rebellions (3)  
AAS 4776 Africa and Hollywood: Myth, Romance and Savage Imagery (3)  
AAS 4890 Caribbean Literature (3)  
AAS 4950 African-American Popular Culture (3)  
**Social/Behavioral Science Concentration:**  
AAS 3000 African-American Family (3)  
AAS 3050 Intro. To African-American Psychology (3)  
AAS 3070 African-American in the Criminal Justice System (3)  
AAS 3240 Peoples and Cultures of Africa (3)  
AAS 3480 African-American Rhetoric (3)  
AAS 3980 Research Methods in African-American Studies (3)  
AAS 4000 Issues in the African-American Community (3)  
AAS 4030 African-American Male/Female Relationships (3)  
AAS 4080 African-American Female Activism (3)  
AAS 4100 African-American Women in the United States (3)  
AAS 4160 African-American Politics (3)  
AAS 4180 Politics of the Civil Rights Movement (3)

AAS 4280 African-American Anthropology (3)

AAS 4400 Geography of Africa (3)

AAS 4530 Voices of African-American Feminists (3)

AAS 4780 African-American Lesbian and Gay Activism (3)

AAS 4900 African-American Films (3)

## **B.A. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **AAS 1140 INTRO TO AFRICAN & AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY (3)**

Introduction to African and African-American History and Culture. (Same as Hist 1140.) African history and culture, the coming of Africans to the Americas, and the development of African-American culture.

### **AAS 2010 INTRO TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)**

Introduction to African-American Studies. Intellectual and social origins of African-American Studies. Key concepts, themes, and theories of the discipline.

### **AAS 3000 AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY (3)**

African-American Family. (Same as Soci 3162.) Contemporary theories and research of the African-American family.

### **AAS 3050 INTRO TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY (3)**

Introduction to African-American Psychology. Prerequisites: AAS 2010, AAS 1140, Hist 1140, or Psyc 1010. (Same as Psyc 3520.) Examination of theory and research pertaining to African-American psychology. Special emphasis on the Afrocentric perspective.

### **AAS 3070 AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (3)**

African-Americans in the Criminal Justice System. An examination of the relationship between the African-American community and the criminal justice system.

### **AAS 3080 ISSUES IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY (3)**

Issues in African-American Philosophy. Prerequisite: AAS 2010, AAS 1140, or Hist 1140. (Same as Phil 3080.) Examination of historical and contemporary figures and issues in African-American philosophy. Historical figures such as Douglass, DuBois, Delaney, and Garvey as well as historical topics such as emigration and assimilation. Contemporary figures may include M. L. King, Cornel West, and Angela Davis. Contemporary issues such as civil rights/ civil disobedience, Black feminist thought, integration, and Black self respect.

### **AAS 3120 AFRICAN DIASPORA (3)**

African Diaspora. (Same as Anth 3120.) Prerequisite: AAS 2010, AAS 1140, Hist 1140, or Anth 2020. Investigates the dispersal, growth, and influence of people of African descent throughout the world. A comparative analysis of historical, political, cultural, economic, and social development of the African diaspora.

### **AAS 3240 PEOPLES & CULTURES OF AFRICA (3)**

Peoples and Cultures of Africa. (Same as Anth 3240.) Origins, adaptations, and contemporary social, economic, political, and belief systems of the indigenous and mixed populations of Africa.

**AAS 3450 HISTORY OF AFRICA-AMERICANS IN GEORGIA (3)**

History of African-Americans in Georgia. Examination of the political, economic, and social development of African-Americans in Georgia.

**AAS 3480 AFRICAN-AMERICAN RHETORIC (3)**

African-American Rhetoric. (Same as Spch 4520.) Survey of African-American contributions to public communication. Emphasis on Afrocentric and traditional approaches to rhetorical theory and criticism.

**AAS 3500 JAZZ HISTORY (3)**

Jazz History. (Same as Mus 3500.) Study of the development of jazz from its origins to current trends including stylistic periods such as New Orleans, swing, bop, cool, avant-garde and fusions. Emphasis on evolution of form, improvisational style, and influential artists.

**AAS 3810 HISTORY OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC (3)**

History of African-American Music. (Same as MuA 3810.) History and styles of African-American music.

**AAS 3880 AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE (3)**

African-American Literature. (Same as Engl 3950.) History and development of African-American literature, with emphasis on major writers.

**AAS 3955 LANGUAGE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY (3)**

Language in the African-American Community. (Same as Engl 3955.) A sociolinguistic study of the characteristics that define and connote the varieties of African-American English: origins, currents of change, functions of language identity, styles, and modes of discourse.

**AAS 3960 AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE BY WOMEN (3)**

African-American Literature by Women. (Same as Engl 3960 and WSt 3960.) Survey of literature from the eighteenth century to the present. Includes such authors as Wilson, Wheatley, Larsen, Hurston, Dove, Hansberry, and Morrison.

**AAS 3975 CONCEPTS/THEORIES IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)**

Concepts and Theories in African-American Studies. Prerequisite: AAS 2010. Three lecture hours per week. Examination of the major concepts and theoretical orientations used in African-American Studies.

**AAS 3980 RESEARCH METHODS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)**

Research Methods in African-American Studies. Prerequisite: AAS 2010. Qualitative and quantitative research techniques employed to generate knowledge in the interdisciplinary field of African-American Studies.

**AAS 4000 ISSUES IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY (3)**

Issues in the African-American Community. (Same as Soci 4310.) Examination of the impact of major societal issues on the African-American community.

**AAS 4030 AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE/FEMALE RELATIONSHIPS (3)**

African-American Male/Female Relationships. (Same as Soci 4311.) Explores historical, social, psychological, and economic factors affecting African-American relationships. Issues include negative images and stereotypes, color, beauty and pornography, sex-gender and role identity, consumerism and narcissism, and employment.

**AAS 4080 AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE ACTIVISM (3)**

African-American Female Activism. (Same as WSt 4110.) Overview of African-American women's resistance to racial oppression and gender inequality.

**AAS 4100 AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN IN THE U.S. (3)**

African-American Women in the United States. (Same as Soci 4312 and WSt 4312.) Contemporary social issues of black women. Emphasis on the historical roots of current issues and the interrelationships of gender, race, and class.

**AAS 4120 AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT (3)**

African-American Political Thought. (Same as PolS 4560.) Examination and critical analysis of African-American political and social issues.

**AAS 4125 BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT (3)**

Black Feminist Thought. Prerequisite: AAS 2010. (Same as WSt 4750.) Explores the tradition of Black feminism in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Students will critically read, discuss, and respond in writing to a series of texts representing Black feminist thought and its relationship to other feminisms. Students will be expected to demonstrate their knowledge of the Black feminist tradition and their ability to query, compare, and extend Black feminist theories.

**AAS 4160 AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLITICS (3)**

African-American Politics. Prerequisite: AAS 2010, AAS 1140, or Hist 1140. (Same as PolS 4165.) Analysis of the ideology, public opinions, and political behaviors of African-Americans and African-American impact on the electoral system.

**AAS 4180 POLITICS OF CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT (3)**

Politics of the Civil Rights Movement. (Same as PolS 4157.) Examinations of the underpinnings, leadership, political strategies, and outcomes of the modern civil rights movement.

**AAS 4200 PAN-AFRICANISM (3)**

Pan-Africanism. Survey of Pan-African thought from the 1900 to Pan-African Congress to the present. Major Pan-African advocates, ideas, and movements.

**AAS 4230 RELIGIONS OF THE AFRICAN WORLD (3)**

Religions of the African World. (Same as RelS 4230.) An overview of religion from Africa to the Diaspora. African cosmology and religions among various African peoples such as the Yoruba and the Dogon of Mali. African origins of Western religions such as Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Various religions among African peoples in the Diaspora such as Santeria, Voodooism, Rastafarianism, as well as Christianity, Black Judaism, and the Nation of Islam. Special attention to African survivals in religion in the Diaspora. The role of religion as a tool of liberation and community and economic development.

**AAS 4250 AFRICAN-AMERICAN RELIGION (3)**

African-American Religion. (Same as RelS 4250.) A survey of the development of African-American religion from colonial times to present, including an examination of both the theoretical arguments of religious elites and the spiritual experience of laypersons.

**AAS 4280 AFRICAN-AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGY (3)**

African-American Anthropology. (Same as Anth 4280.) Major writings in the field of African-American studies; theories, categories, and methods used in studying complex societies are brought to bear upon the literature; use of ethnographies to provide a comparative perspective for understanding African-American cultures.

**AAS 4300 AFRICAN ART (3)**

African Art. (Same as AH 4000.) Survey of the sculpture, architecture, textiles, body ornament, and performance arts of Africa in terms of form, meaning, and function within society. Objects reintegrated into cultural contexts are examined in light of "tradition" and social and political change.

**AAS 4310 ART OF ANCIENT EGYPT AND NUBIA AND THE MAGRIB (3)**

Art of Ancient Egypt and Nubia. (Same as AH 4010 and MES 4510.) Survey of the painting, sculpture, architecture, and minor arts in ancient Egypt and Nubia with reference to their chronological development and underlying historical, religious, and cultural meanings.

**AAS 4320 AFRICAN-AMERICAN ART (3)**

African-American Art. (Same as AH 4620.) Aesthetic expressions of African-American artists from colonial times to present. Social, cultural, and creative history of Black America. Diverse contributions made by artists of African descent to the development of American culture. Artists, art movements, the relationship of art to politics, and the formation of racial/cultural identity.

**AAS 4350-BLACK VISUAL REPRESENTATION (3)**

The Iconography of the African Diaspora. This course will use interdisciplinary methods to study racialized iconic figures, the production of their images, and their impact across the world.

**AAS 4360-STUDIES OF BLACK DANCE (3)**

Studies of Black Dance. Examines the centrality of movement in the social, cultural, and spiritual practices of black populations across the world.

**AAS 4400 GEOGRAPHY OF AFRICA (3)**

Geography of Africa. (Same as Geog 4402.) An overview of the physical, economic, and cultural geography of Africa, including North Africa. Emphasis on relationships between Africa's resources, both human and physical, and the development process.

**AAS 4530 VOICES OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMINISTS (3)**

Voices of African-American Feminists. (Same as Spch 4530.) Overview of the rhetorical history of African-American female political and social activists.

**AAS 4600 ENSLAVEMENT & RESISTANCE IN NORTH AMERICA (3)**

Enslavement and Resistance in North America. (Same as Hist 4280.) Examines the character of the system of chattel slavery and racial oppression in Colonial America and in the United States and insurgent responses to it by the captive and free population of African descent in North America.

**AAS 4620 ENSLAVEMENT IN THE AMERICAS (3)**

Enslavement in the Americas. (Same as Hist 4290.) Comparative examination of systems of captivity and forced labor in the western hemisphere and the social development and popular responses of captive Africans to these systems. Emphasis on the continuities of African culture and the unique adaptation of culture and social organization in each country. The nature of resistance and the process of eliminating the system of captivity in several nation states.

**AAS 4625-BLACK MECCA BLACK POPULAR CULTURE (3)**

Prerequisite: Completion of AAS 1140 or AAS 2010 with a grade of C or better and completion of at least 48 undergraduate credit hours. This course focuses on the history, politics and culture within the Black New South, a subfield within the academic field of African-American Studies. With an interdisciplinary approach the focus will be on the major issues involved in the study of the African-American experience, both the objective issues being analyzed in the research literature and the subjective issues of how the world sees Atlanta, Georgia as the Black Mecca.

**AAS 4640 AFRICAN-AMERICAN PEOPLE (3)**

African-American People. (Same as Hist 4270.) Major topics and themes in African-American history, including slavery, development of American racism, urbanization, civil rights, and black contributions to American culture.

**AAS 4650 AFRICAN-AMERICAN THEATRE (3)**

African-American Theatre. (Same as Thea 4090.) Examination of the history and contributions of African-Americans to the American theatre.

**AAS 4660 AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN (3)**

African-American Women. (Same as Hist 4260 and WSt 4450.) Examination of the varied histories of African-American women. Centered in the tradition of race and gender protest; how women have generationally developed agendas and forums around social justice reform; exploration of themes, individuals, and collective action, revealing the impact of race, class, and gender on the lives of African-American women.

**AAS 4670 EDUCATION OF BLACKS IN THE SOUTH (3)**

Prerequisites: AAS 1140 and AAS 2010 with a C or better and completion of at least 48 undergraduate credit hours. This course is an upper level seminar that focuses on the history, politics and culture within Education of Black Folk in the American South. This an interdisciplinary investigation of the complexities of the African-American experience in American culture that particularly explores important comparative questions about the American education system. In this course we will understand how Africans in America negotiated, disrupted, and transformed popular education.

**AAS 4750 AFRICAN-AMERICAN ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES (3)**

African-American Ethical and Legal Issues. Prerequisite: at least one course in philosophy or consent of instructor. (Same as Phil 4850.) Application of ethical and legal theory to selected issues, such as affirmative action, the legality of slavery, civil disobedience, punishment, and reparations.

**AAS 4760 EAST AFRICA & HORN OF AFRICA (3)**

Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa. Prerequisite: AAS 2010, AAS 1140, or Hist 1140. (Same as Hist 4760.) Social, political, cultural, and economic history of the region from the origins of the human race to the present including ancient civilizations, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; international trade, European colonialism, and independence.

**AAS 4765 CENTRAL & SOUTHERN AFRICA (3)**

Central and Southern Africa. (Same as Hist 4750.) Social, political, cultural, and economic history of the region from the earliest times to the present, including indigenous African civilizations, European colonialism, African nationalism, and independence.

**AAS 4770 WESTERN AFRICA (3)**

Western Africa. (Same as Hist 4770.) Social, political, cultural, and economic history of Western Africa dealing with the early civilizations, the coming of Islam, European colonialism, and independence.

**AAS 4772 WOMEN IN AFRICA (3)**

Women in Africa. (Same as Hist 4772 and WSt 4772.) An examination of African women's roles in domestic production, their relationship to the state, and the effect of social change on women from the precolonial period to the contemporary era.



**AAS 4774 AFRICAN REBELLIONS (3)**

African Rebellions. (Same as Hist 4774.) An examination of African resistance in the colonial and postcolonial contexts.

**AAS 4776 AFRICA AND HOLLYWOOD (3)**

Africa and Hollywood: Myth, Romance, and Savage Imagery. This course explores the image of Africa projected into American mass culture through the vehicle of commercial films produced about Africa.

**AAS 4780 AFRICAN-AMERICAN LESBIAN & GAY ACTIVISM (3)**

African-American Lesbian and Gay Activism. Prerequisite: AAS 2010 . (Same as WSt 4780.) Examines the speeches, writings, and other public communication of African-American lesbians and gay men who promote democratic ideals. Surveys historical and contemporary issues confronting this marginalized population. Emphasis on thematic and cultural critical approaches.

**AAS 4890 CARIBBEAN LITERATURE (3)**

Caribbean Literature. Prerequisite: AAS 2010, AAS 1140, or Hist 1140. (Same as Engl 3970.) Survey of twentieth century literature of the English speaking or Commonwealth Caribbean.

**AAS 4900 AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN FILM (3)**

African-Americans in Film. (Same as Film 4760.) Mainstream Hollywood representation of African-Americans and the alternative film portrayals by African-American producers.

**AAS 4940-AFRICAN-AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENT (3)**

African-American Achievement. Prerequisite: Completion of AAS 1140 or AAS 2010 with a grade of C or higher and completion of at least 48 undergraduate credit hours. Examination of the various contexts of African-American academic performance.

**AAS 4950 AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULAR CULTURE (3)**

African-American Popular Culture. (Same as Jour 4590.) Intellectual debates over the definitions and diversities of everyday African-American cultural production.

**AAS 4960-AFRICAN-AMERICAN MASCULINITY**

African-American Masculinity. Prerequisite: Completion of AAS 1140 or AAS 2010 with a grade of C or better and completion of at least 48 undergraduate credit hours. Critical engagement of the historical context, social construction and current realities of African-American masculinity. Specific topical areas include gender relations with the African-American community, African-American male sexuality, and media representations of African-American masculinity.

**AAS 4970 TOPICS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)**

Topics in African-American Studies. Prerequisite: AAS 2010, AAS 1140, or Hist 1140. Intensive treatment of selected topics in African-American Studies. May be repeated for 12 credit hours.

**AAS 4980 SEMINAR & PRACTICUM IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)**

Seminar and Practicum in African-American Studies. Prerequisite: six hours in African-American Studies. Integration and application of discipline knowledge in a field setting with nonprofit community organization

**AAS 4995 –DIRECTED READINGS B.I.S.-CTW (Varies)**

Directed Readings B.I.S.-CTW. Directed Readings designed for Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies students. This course may satisfy the junior and/or senior-level Critical Thinking Through Writing requirements.

**AAS 4999-DIRECTED READINGS (varies)**

## PRE-EDUCATION TRACK

### *Pre-Education African-American Studies Track with a Concentration in History*

The Department of African-American Studies offers a pre-education track with a concentration in history for students who wish to become public school teachers. The Pre-Education Track in African-American Studies develops teachers to work effectively in multi-cultural classrooms. The pre-education track in African-American Studies prepares teachers to teach students from diverse ethnic, gender, cultural and social class groups by offering curricula that examine the histories and experiences of people of African descent and aspects of cultural identity formation in the U.S., Africa, and the Caribbean. This track also prepares educators to develop their students to be citizens of a global community. Students who wish to pursue the Pre-Education track in African-American Studies must take ten (33 complete hours) designated upper division major courses and complete the course work in three of the following four allied fields which are Political Science (9); Sociology (9); and Economics (9). After completion of the above requirements, the student will be awarded a Broad Field Social Science Pre-education Certificate.

## PRE-EDUCATION TRACK COURSE

### REQUIREMENTS

AAS 3975 Concepts and Theories in African-American Studies (3)  
AAS 4980 Senior Seminar and Practicum (3)  
AAS 3450/Hist 4890 History of African-Americans in Georgia (3)  
AAS 4640/Hist 4270 African-American People (4)  
AAS 4600/Hist 4270 Enslavement and Resistance in North America (3)  
AAS 4620/Hist 4290 Enslavement in the Americas (3)  
AAS 4772/Hist 4772 Women in Africa (3)  
AAS 4774/Hist 4774 African Rebellions (3)  
Hist 3000 Introduction to Historical Studies (4)  
Hist 3220 United States in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (4)

Total Credit Hours: 33

**Allied field (27 Credit Hours) Select 3 out of the 4 allied fields:**

Political Science	9 hours of appropriate courses
Sociology	9 hours of appropriate courses
Geography	9 hours of appropriate courses
Economics	9 hours of appropriate courses

## **WHY NOT MINOR IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES?**

Students who wish to minor in African-American Studies should complete the following requirements (15 hours):

Complete the following three courses:

- \* AAS 2010 Introduction to African-American Studies (3)
- \* AAS 3120 African Diaspora (3)
- \* AAS 4120 African-American Political Thought (3)

Select two (2) additional African-American Studies course at the 3000 or 4000 level (6)

A grade of “C” or better is required in all courses pertaining to the minor in African-American Studies

## **SERVICE LEARNING**

Since the inception of the Department of the African-American Studies at Georgia State University, service-learning has been a critical component of the curriculum. Service-learning is an educational process which involves young people in their own learning as they give variable services to their communities. Faculty members of the GSU Department of African-American Studies sought to blend GSU Department of African-American Studies sought to blend instruction and community service to enhance academic outcomes, stimulate civic participation and benefit the larger community. The department offers two lower division courses: "Introduction to African and African-American History and Culture." (AAS 1140) and "Introduction to African-American Studies:" (AAS 2010). All sections of AAS 2010 include a mandated service-learning assignment. Presently, five upper division courses have incorporated a service learning requirement. Those courses include "Issues in the African-American Community" (AAS 4000); "History of African-Americans in Georgia" (AAS 3450); "African-American Male Female Relationships" (AAS 4030); "African-American Women" (4660); and "Seminar and Practicum in African-American Studies" (AAS 4980). Students enrolled in service learning designated African-American Studies classes have volunteered with nearly fifty community organizations (See Page 24). These groups address a wide range of social, education, political and economic issues and problems confronting the Black community. For example our students have assisted: AIDS research with AIDS Education Services for Minorities; tutoring children at the Ed S. Cook Elementary; mentoring African-American children with Inner Strength and Cool Girls Inc.; and homeless advocacy while working with such community organizations as the Victory House.

Below is a list of some of the community organizations where students have volunteered:

- Project South Community Research/Education
- Atlanta Urban Ministry Homeless Women and Children
- Sisterlove, Inc. AIDS outreach women
- Cascade House homeless shelter for women and children
- Aid to Children of Imprisoned Mothers Mentoring to Children
- Inner Strength Mentoring adolescent boys and activities, 12-18

Cool Girls Inc. Mentoring, tutoring, program development

Trinity House Offers substance abuse recovery support for men

Genesis Prevention Coalition, Inc./Intel computer clubhouse community advocacy, education service, working with youth

Atlanta Respite Services Specialized quality daycare and respite care for infants/adults with development disabilities

Hammonds House Galleries & Resources Center of African American Art  
Atlanta's only African American fine art museum. Offers tours, programs, and exhibitions.

Metro Atlanta Coalition of 100 Black Women An advocacy organization for the empowerment of African American Women. Provides leadership in addressing community concerns, offers programs that enhances self sufficiency.

ROOTS Recruit and prepare parents to adopt African American children who are in foster care.

Women's Resources Center to End Domestic Violence Provides emergency shelter and supportive services for battered women and their children

Ronald E. McNair Foundation Provides educational programs for youth that increase their interest in pursuing careers in science, math, and technology

The National Coalition for Unity and Peace Enhance social, moral and educational values

Victory House Dedicated to personal renewal, economic literacy and skills training/housing of homeless African American and Hispanic men

Ed Cook Elementary School An Atlanta Public School. Supports tutoring, office support, teacher's assistant

Southern Centers For Human Rights Litigation around social justice issues (death penalty, juveniles being charged as adults, etc.)

Youth Task Force Student and Youth Human Rights Organization against Juvenile Incarceration



## **MASTER OF ARTS IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES**

Sarita K. Davis, Director of Graduate Studies

The Department of African-American Studies offers a vibrant and highly competitive graduate program. The Department's Master of Arts degree is designed to provide students with a rigorous interdisciplinary training in the scholarly investigation of people of African descent. The faculty and the courses of the graduate program are drawn from the department and other academic units throughout the university. The Masters of Arts degree in African-American Studies offers two areas of concentrations: the Community Empowerment track and the Culture and Aesthetics track. The Community Empowerment concentration focuses on the historical and contemporary strategies to empower people of African descent. This track exposes the student to the political, economic, and policy responses to the impediments of African and African-American community development. The Culture and Aesthetics concentration focuses on the understandings and the interpretations of the philosophical, literary, and artistic contributions of people of African descent. Students are prepared to pursue a doctorate in African-American Studies or other related disciplines in the social sciences or the humanities. The M.A. Degree in African-American Studies also enhances a career in government, education, the professional fields, and the nonprofit sector. Students seeking admission to the graduate program are admitted once a year to begin in the fall semester. All application materials are due by February 15.

## **Additional Graduate Admission Requirements**

In addition to general admission requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of African-American Studies has the following admission requirements:

Although an Undergraduate degree in African-American Studies is not required, applicants are expected to have taken extensive coursework in African-American Studies.

- \* Applicant must submit scores on the verbal, quantitative, and analytical sections of the GRE.
- \* Applicants must have a 3.0 cumulative undergraduate grade point average.
- \* Applicants must submit a career goals statement (2-3 pages).
- \* Applicants must submit a writing sample of their previous scholarly work (10-20 pages).
- \* Applicants must submit three letters of recommendations which assess the ability of the student to undertake graduate study.
- \* Applicants must complete the supplementary application form provided by the Department of African-American Studies.





In order to earn a Master of Arts degree in African-American Studies, a student must complete 39 credit hours of graduate coursework:

**Students must complete twelve (18) hours of core requirements:**

- \* AAS 6000 Proseminar in African-American Studies (3)
- \* AAS 6005 Theories in African-American Studies (3)
- \* AAS 6007 Black Feminist Thought (3)
- \* AAS 6010 Research Methods in African-American Studies
- \* AAS 6012 Qualitative Research Methods (3)
- \* AAS 6052 African Women and Socio/Political Change (3)

Students must complete twelve (12) credit hours of coursework in one of two areas of concentrations: Community Empowerment or Culture and Aesthetics.

Students who select the Community Empowerment concentration must complete at least twelve (12) credit hours of designated Community Empowerment coursework.

Students who select the Culture and Aesthetics concentration must complete at least twelve (12) credit hours of designated Culture and Aesthetics coursework.

Students must complete (3) credit hours of elective coursework. Students may select either African-American Studies or affiliated coursework. Non-designated African-American Studies coursework requires prior approval from the graduate director.

Students must complete at least six (6) credit hours of AAS 8999 Thesis Research.

Students must submit an approved thesis.

Students must satisfactorily pass an oral thesis defense.

## **M.A. DEGREE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **AAS 6000 PROSEMINAR IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)**

Proseminar in African-American Studies. This course examines the origins, parameters, and scope of the discipline of African-American Studies.

### **AAS 6005 THEORIES IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)**

Theories in African-American Studies. This course examines the major theoretical formulations employed in African-American Studies.

### **AAS 6007 BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT (3)**

Black Feminist Thought. (Same as WSt 6750.) Explores the tradition of Black feminism in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Students will critically read, discuss, and respond in writing to a series of texts representing Black feminist thought and its relationship to other feminisms. Students will be expected to demonstrate their knowledge of the Black feminist tradition and to demonstrate their ability to query, compare, and extend Black feminist theories.

### **AAS 6010 RESEARCH METHODS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)**

Research Methods in African-American Studies. Examination of the major research methodologies.

**AAS 6012 QUALITATIVE METHODS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)** Qualitative Methods in African-American Studies. Examines qualitative methodologies utilized in African-American Studies.

**AAS 6014 QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (3)** Quantitative Methods in African-American Studies. Examines quantitative methodologies utilized in African-American Studies.

### **AAS 6015 METHODS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN ORAL HISTORY. (3)**

Prerequisites: Must be a graduate student with a sharp focus on research and writing. This graduate seminar explores the using interviews as a research tool in the writing of African -American history and culture. Oral narrative can amplify historical accounts with personal connections, motivations, and other information. Moreover the process of doing interviews often helps scholars find references or documents not yet deposited in archives.

### **AAS 6020 AFRICAN-AMERICAN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (3)**

African-American Social Movements. An examination of the causes, process and impact of African-American Social Movements.

**AAS 6022 The New African-American Urban History and the Intervention of the Black Southern Diaspora.**

Prerequisites: Must be a graduate student with a sharp focus on research and writing. This graduate course seeks to explore the trends, tensions, and shifts that have emerged in how we study African-Americans in urban spaces. It will introduce students to the historiographical literature, main themes, methodological approaches and techniques, questions, and historical interpretations to the urban experiences of African-Americans

**AAS 6025 SEMINAR IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY (3)**

Seminar in African-American History. (Same as Hist 8070.) A three-topic sequence which explores the diversity in African-American ideologies, movements, class and gender. Topics vary according to instructor. May be repeated if topics vary.

**AAS 6026 SEMINAR IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN'S HISTORY (3)**

Seminar in African-American Women's History. Explores the diversity in African-American ideologies, movement, class and gender with respect to African-American women.

**AAS 6027 SEMINAR IN SOUTHERN MODERN CIVIL RIGHTS (3)**

Seminar in Southern Modern Civil Rights Movement. This seminar will explore the history of the modern civil rights movement in the South from the decade of the 1940s to the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

**AAS 6029 AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTICIPATION (3)**

African-American Political Participation. (Same as PolS 8175.) Voting behaviors and ideological orientation of African-Americans. Changes in the nature and effectiveness of African-American participation from the protests of the Civil Rights Movement to the politics of the 1990s.

**AAS 6030 DYNAMICS OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY (3)**

Dynamics of the African-American Family. An analysis of the major attributes, patterns and trends of the African-American Family.

**AAS 6032 AFRICAN-AMERICAN MASCULINITY (3)**

African-American Masculinity. An analysis of the social construction of Black Masculinity.

**AAS 6034 AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN IN US (3)**

African-American Women in U.S. Contemporary social issues of black women. Emphasis on the historical roots of current issues and the interrelationships of gender, race, and class.

**AAS 6040 AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (3)**

African-American Community Empowerment. An examination of strategies, public and private, used to empower the African-American community

**AAS 6042 DIVERSITY AND AGING (3)**

Ethnicity and Aging. (Same as Gero 8124 and Soci 8124.) A broad overview of aging within the framework of race and ethnicity in American society. Major issues include minority aging research methodology; theories of ethnicity and aging; and life-course, "life-chance," and socialization differences among older adults attributable to race, ethnicity, and/or minority status.

**AAS 6044 AFRICAN-AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGY (3)**

African-American Anthropology. (Same as Anth 6280.) Major writings in the field of African-American Studies; theories, categories, and methods used in studying complex societies are brought to bear upon literature; and the use of ethnographies to provide a comparative perspective for understanding African-American cultures.

**AAS 6050 AFRICAN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (3)**

African Social Movements. An examination of selected social movements in Africa from the end of the 19th century to present.

**AAS 6052 AFRICANA WOMEN & SOCIOLOGICAL/POLITICAL CHANGE (3)**

Africana Women and Socio Political Change. An examination of gender and power relationships in the Africana World.

**AAS 6055 AFRICAN POLITICS (3)**

African Politics. (Same as PolS 8235.) Comparative theoretical analysis of the politics of Sub-Saharan African countries.

**AAS 6056 GEOGRAPHY OF AFRICA (3)**

Geography of Africa. (Same as Geog 6402.) An overview of the physical, economic, and cultural geography of Africa, including North Africa. Emphasis on relationships between Africa's resources, both human and physical, and the development process.

**AAS 6060 AFRICAN ART (3)**

African Art. (Same as AH 6000.) Survey of the sculpture, architecture, textiles, body ornament, and performance arts of Africa in terms of form, meaning, and function within society. Objects reintegrated into cultural contexts and examined in light of "tradition" and social and political change.

**AAS 6062 CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN ART (3)**

Contemporary African Art. (Same as AH 6030.) Arts and artists of Africa during the colonial and post-colonial eras. Social, political, economic, and cultural frameworks explore shifting notions of tradition, authenticity, and identity as they relate to art, artists, and audiences.

**AAS 6063 ART OF EGYPT, NUBIA & MAGHRIB (3)**

Art of Egypt, Nubia & Maghrib. (Same as AH 6010.) Introduction to the arts of North Africa. Painting, sculpture, architecture, ceramics, textiles, and metal arts. Objects and monuments are examined within a cultural and historical framework.

**AAS 6065 BLACK VISUAL REPRESENTATION (3)**

Black Visual Representation. The Iconography of the African Diaspora. This course will use interdisciplinary methods to study racialized iconic figures, the production of their images, and their impact across the world.

**AAS 6070 AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERARY THEORY (3)**

African-American Literary Theory. Prerequisite: One undergraduate course in African-American Literature. This course explores the history and trends in African-American literary criticism from eighteenth century to the present.

**AAS 6073 19TH CENTURY AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE (3)**

19th Century African-American Literature. (Same as Engl 8831.) Selected works by authors such as George Moses Horton, David Walker, Harriet Jacobs, Harriet Wilson, William Wells Brown, Frederick Douglass, Frances E.W. Harper, Booker T. Washington, Charles W. Chesnutt, Pauline E. Hopkins, W.E.B. DuBois, James Weldon Johnson, and Paul Laurence Dunbar.

**AAS 6075 20TH CENTURY AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE (3)**

20th Century African-American Literature. (Same as Engl 8880.) The study of one or more major twentieth century African-American writers and the study of the theoretical issues surrounding African-American literature.

**AAS 6079 AFRICAN-AMERICAN LANGUAGE (3)**

African-American Language. (Same as Engl 8245.) Examines the cultural and linguistic characteristics which define and connote language use among people of African-American descent in America. Includes history and theories of origin and development. Analysis of grammar, lexicon, and discourse, and studies of issues surrounding language variation in America.

**AAS 6080 THE BLACK ARTS MOVEMENT (3)**

The Black Arts Movement. Examines the Black Arts Movement in its many manifestations including music, literature, theater, and the graphic arts of the period.

**AAS 6082 AFRICAN-AMERICAN ART (3)**

African-American Art. (Same as AH 6620.) Aesthetic expression of African-American artists from colonial times to present. Social, cultural, and creative history of Black America. Diverse contributions made by artists of African descent to the development of American culture, art movements, the relationship of art to politics, and formation of racial/cultural identity.

**AAS 6090 AFRICAN-AMERICAN RELIGION (3)**

African-American Religion. (Same as RelS 6250.) Survey of the development of African-American religion from colonial times to the present, including an examination of both theological arguments and spiritual experiences.

**AAS 8999 THESIS RESEARCH IN AAS (1 to 9)**

Thesis Research in African-American Studies. Faculty supervision and guidance of student thesis research.



### **SANKOFA SOCIETY**

The Sankofa Society is the student organization of the Department of African-American Studies. The organizational symbol is the West African Adinkra symbol of the Sankofa bird. The term “Sankofa” means “return and get it,” This underscores the importance of learning from the past. Members of the Sankofa Society are students who major and minor in African-American Studies. Sankofa has sponsored guest lectures, participated in community service activities and assisted in promoting the Department of African-American Studies.



## **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

A baccalaureate degree in African-American Studies prepares a student for careers in both the public and private sector. College graduates who major in African-American Studies are employed as:

- Educators
- Research Analysts
- Employment Counselors
- Human Service Workers
- Union Representatives
- Housing Administrators
- Urban Planners
- Correction/Probation Officers
- Legislative Aids
- Journalists
- Business Managers
- Lawyers

Moreover, in addition to being a stimulation and useful major by itself, a B.A. degree in African-American Studies is also an excellent complement to most social science and humanities degrees. An African-American Studies major also provides the training and foundation to pursue a graduate degree in either African-American Studies or one of the traditional disciplines.





## **MODEL AFRICAN UNION**

MAU is a simulation of the proceedings of the continental African Union. We step into diplomatic positions and examine relevant African issues to create solutions that promote unity and collaboration of African nations. Students study the role of organization and performance of the African Union and highlights key economic, social, political and security issues facing the African continent.

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