

# AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, B.S.

**Begin Campus:** Any Penn State Campus

**End Campus:** University Park

**PROGRAM CURRENTLY ON HOLD; NOT ACCEPTING NEW STUDENTS**

**Begin Date of Enrollment Hold:** February 17, 2012

## Program Description

*Not all options are available at every campus. Contact the campus you are interested in attending to determine which options are offered.*

This interdisciplinary major is designed to give students an integrated and critical understanding of the experiences and contributions of peoples of African descent. Students are encouraged to do research and evaluate the relationship between the political, social, and economic developments in Africa and the African Diaspora. An African American Studies Option, African Studies Option, and a Law and Social Justice Option are available within the major. The methodology requirements of the proposed program would enable our students to engage in social science research. It would also prepare them better for graduate programs in the social sciences.

### African American Studies Option

This emphasis provides students with the opportunity to explore the experiences of African Americans using theories and methods originating in the field along with those adopted from the various disciplines. Students are also made aware of the potential to apply this knowledge to the solution of social, political, and economic problems. The curriculum also promotes greater understanding of the relationship between African American and other ethnic groups in the shaping of American society and culture.

### African Studies Option

This option provides students with the opportunity to examine the geographical, cultural, historical, political, and economic aspects of Africa.

### Law and Social Justice Option

This multi-disciplinary program would provide students with the opportunity to study the politics, culture, economics, and history of African Americans in our society and link this understanding with an in depth study of criminal justice and the legal system. Issues that students will focus on will be areas such as, Are African Americans discriminated against in criminal justice decision-making? What is the historic connection between race and punishment in the US legal system? How do issues of class, race, and gender impact policy decisions about crime and punishment? What is the socioeconomic impact of high incarceration rates on the African American community? The program is designed to encourage students to think systematically about the relationship among public policy, the criminal justice system, and shifting notions of social justice that have characterized debates over the workings and goals of the prison system in American life and thought. The proposed program would enable us to foster a cadre of students who will be particularly suited to pursue graduate work in the area.

## Entrance to Major

In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have third-semester classification ([http://www.registrar.psu.edu/registration/semester\\_classification.cfm](http://www.registrar.psu.edu/registration/semester_classification.cfm)).

READ SENATE POLICY 37-30: ENTRANCE TO AND CHANGES IN MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/37-00-entrance-to-a-college-or-major>)

## Degree Requirements

**For the Bachelor of Science degree in African and African American Studies, a minimum of 120 credits is required:**

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	20
Requirements for the Major	64-65

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Recommended Academic Plan for your intended program.

### General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

### Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

### Knowledge Domains

- **Arts (GA):** 6 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 6 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 6 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 9 credits

### Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- **Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses:** 6 credits

4-10 of these 45 credits are included in the Requirements for the Major.

## University Degree Requirements

### First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

### Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

### Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

### Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

### Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

### Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

### Requirements for the Major

This includes 4-10 credits of General Education courses: 4 credits of GQ courses; 6 credits of GS courses.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44>).

### Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
AFR 110	Introduction to Contemporary Africa	3
AFAM 100	Living While Black: Themes in African American Thought and Experience	3
SOC 207	Research Methods in Sociology	3

STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	4
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### Additional Courses

*Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

SOC 470	Intermediate Social Statistics	3-4
or PLSC 309	Quantitative Political Analysis	

### Requirements for the Option

*Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better*

Select an option		48
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### Requirements for the Option African American Studies Option

Code	Title	Credits
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#### Prescribed Courses

*Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

AFAM 101	The African American Woman	3
AFAM/HIST 211	Slavery and Freedom in the Black Atlantic	3
AFAM 401	Afro-American Studies Seminar	3

#### Additional Courses

*Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

Select 21 credits with at least 3 credits in AAAS courses of the following:		21
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AFAM 83	First-Year Seminar in African American Studies	
AFAM/ WMNST 102	Women of Color: Cross-Cultural Perspective	
AFAM/SOC/ WMNST 103	Racism and Sexism	
AFAM/RLST 146	The Life and Thought of Martin Luther King, Jr.	
AFAM/RLST 147	The Life and Thought of Malcolm X	
AFR 197	Special Topics	
AFR 199	Foreign Studies	
AFAM/HIST 210	Freedom's First Generation: African American Life and Work, 1865 to World War II	
SOC 119	Race and Ethnic Relations	
ECON 102	Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy	
ECON 104	Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy	
ECON 304	Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis	
Select 18 credits at the 400-level with at least 9 credits in AAAS courses of the following:		18
AFAM/SOC 409	Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America	
AAAS 494		
AFR 495	Internship	
AFR 497	Special Topics	
AFR 499	Foreign Studies	
AFAM 431	Black Liberation and American Foreign Policy	
AFR 440	Globalization and Its Implications	
AFAM 465	The Post-World War II Civil Rights Movement	
AFAM/LER/ PLSC 445Y	Politics of Affirmative Action	
CRIMJ 451	Race, Crime, and Justice	
ECON 436W	Economics of Discrimination	

EDTHP 447	Ethnic Minorities and Schools in the United States
PLSC 490	Policy Making and Evaluation

**African Studies Option**

Code	Title	Credits
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**Prescribed Courses**

*Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

AFR 191	Early African History	3
AFR 192	Modern African History	3
AAAS 400		3

**Additional Courses**

*Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

Select 21 credits with at least 3 credits of AAAS courses of the following: 21

AFAM 83	First-Year Seminar in African American Studies	
AFR 197	Special Topics	
AFR 199	Foreign Studies	
AFAM 211	Slavery and Freedom in the Black Atlantic	
AFR 297	Special Topics	
AFR 299	Foreign Studies	
AFR 395	Internship	
AAAS 397		
AFR 399	Foreign Studies	
AFR 202		
ECON 102	Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy	
ECON 104	Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy	
ECON 304	Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis	
SWA 1	Elementary Swahili I	
SWA 2	Elementary Swahili II	

Select 18 credits at the 400-level with at least 9 credits in AAAS courses of the following:<sup>1</sup> 18

AFR 403	South Africa Today	
AFAM 431	Black Liberation and American Foreign Policy	
AFR 440	Globalization and Its Implications	
AFR 443	Ethnic Conflict in Africa	
AFR 454	Government and Politics of Africa	
AFAM 465	The Post-World War II Civil Rights Movement	
AFAM/LER/ PLSC 445Y	Politics of Affirmative Action	
AAAS 494		
AFR 495	Internship	
AFR 497	Special Topics	
AFR 499	Foreign Studies	
ECON 471	Growth and Development	
GEOG 444	African Resources and Development	
PLSC 453	Political Processes in Underdeveloped Systems	

<sup>1</sup> Only 3 credits of Internship (AFR 495) (internship) and 6 credits of Special Topics (AFR 497), Internship (AFR 495), AAAS 494, or Foreign Studies (AFR 499) in any combination may be used to satisfy this requirement.

**Law and Social Justice Option**

Code	Title	Credits
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**Prescribed Courses**

*Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

AFAM 210	Freedom's First Generation: African American Life and Work, 1865 to World War II	3
AFAM 401	Afro-American Studies Seminar	3
CRIMJ/CRIM/ SOC 12	Criminology	3
CRIMJ/CRIM 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRIMJ/CRIM 113	Introduction to Law	3
CRIMJ/CRIM 451	Race, Crime, and Justice	3

**Additional Courses**

*Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

Select 30 credits of the following: 30

AFAM/HIST 431	Black Liberation and American Foreign Policy	
AFAM 409	Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America	
AFAM/LER/ PLSC 445Y	Politics of Affirmative Action	
AFAM/HIST 465	The Post-World War II Civil Rights Movement	
AFR 440	Globalization and Its Implications	
ECON 436W	Economics of Discrimination	
CRIMJ/ WMNST 453	Women and the Criminal Justice System	
CRIM 490	Crime Policy	
CRIM 441	The Juvenile Justice System	
CRIM/SOC 467	Law and Society	
CRIM 430	American Correctional System	
CRIM 433	Sentencing	
CRIM 435	Policing in America	

**Academic Advising**

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information need to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy>)

**University Park**

**Liberal Arts Academic Advising**

814-865-2545  
<http://starfish.psu.edu>

<http://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/education/majors-and-minors>

## **Contact**

### **University Park**

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