AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>15-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>0-6</strong> of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 0-3 credits of GS courses; and 0-3 credits of GH courses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

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 Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major

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 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

Prescribed Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 100N</td>
<td>Black Freedom Struggles</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 110N</td>
<td>Introduction to African American Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 152</td>
<td>African American History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses

Select 3 credits from the following: 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM</td>
<td>African American Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMNST 101N</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM</td>
<td>Women of the African Diaspora</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMNST 102</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 103</td>
<td>Racism and Sexism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 197</td>
<td>Special Topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 207</td>
<td>Research Methods in Sociology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select 3 credits from the following: 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 401</td>
<td>Afro-American Studies Seminar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 494</td>
<td>Research Project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 495</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Area of Concentration

Select 12 credits from one of the following four areas of concentration, and 6 more credits from any of the other areas. A minimum of 12 credits should be AFAM courses, and at least 12 of these credits must be at the 400-level or above. 2

1. Gender and Sexuality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/WMNST 101N</td>
<td>African American Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/WMNST 102</td>
<td>Women of the African Diaspora</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/SOC/WMNST 103</td>
<td>Racism and Sexism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 410</td>
<td>Spirit, Space, Survival: Contemporary Black Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/THEA 412</td>
<td>African American Theatre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/STS 416</td>
<td>Race, Gender and Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFR/WMNST 202N</td>
<td>Women, Gender, and Feminisms in Africa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select 3 credits at the 400-level in consultation with your adviser

2. Humanities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/RLST 145</td>
<td>African Diaspora Religions and Spiritualities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/RLST 146</td>
<td>The Life and Thought of Martin Luther King, Jr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/RLST 147</td>
<td>The Life and Thought of Malcolm X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/THEA 208</td>
<td>Workshop: Theatre in Diverse Cultures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 210</td>
<td>Freedom’s First Generation: African American Life and Work, from the Civil War to World War II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 212</td>
<td>African Americans in the New Jim Crow Era, 1968-present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/ENGL 235</td>
<td>From Folk Shouts and Songs to Hip Hop Poetry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/THEA 412</td>
<td>African American Theatre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/CAS 422</td>
<td>Contemporary African American Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/PHIL 460</td>
<td>African American Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 465</td>
<td>The Post-World War II Civil Rights Movement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/ENGL 469</td>
<td>Slavery and the Literary Imagination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Social Sciences and Community Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/BBH 302</td>
<td>Diversity and Health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/SOC 409</td>
<td>Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Code</td>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 431</td>
<td>Black Liberation and American Foreign Policy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 432</td>
<td>Between Nation and Empire: The Caribbean in the 20th Century</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/PLSC/ LER 445Y</td>
<td>Politics of Affirmative Action</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFR/PLSC 459</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 436W</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTHP/SOC 447</td>
<td>Ethnic Minorities and Schools in the United States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 223N</td>
<td>Ethnic and Racial Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 490</td>
<td>Policy Making and Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 119N</td>
<td>Race, Ethnicity and Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Migration and Diaspora

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/ WMNST 102</td>
<td>Women of the African Diaspora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/SPAN/ AFR 132</td>
<td>Afro-Hispanic Civilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 211</td>
<td>Slavery and Freedom in the Black Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 250</td>
<td>Introduction to the Caribbean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 431</td>
<td>Black Liberation and American Foreign Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM/HIST 432</td>
<td>Between Nation and Empire: The Caribbean in the 20th Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFR 110N</td>
<td>Introduction to Contemporary Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFR/HIST 192</td>
<td>Modern African History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFR/IB/PLSC 440</td>
<td>Globalization and Its Implications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFR 497</td>
<td>Special Topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 453</td>
<td>Political Processes in Underdeveloped Systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. SOC 207 is recommended for Political Science, Sociology and HHD-related double majors.

2. If you wish to receive credit for courses other than the ones listed, you must seek permission from the AFAM undergraduate director.

**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 (https://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 and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)**
- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

**Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)**
- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

**Integrative Studies**
- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

**Exploration**
- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

**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 (https://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.

**B.A. Degree Requirements**

**Foreign Language** (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/).

**B.A. Fields** (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

**Other Cultures** (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.