

AFRICAN STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The minor in African Studies is designed for students interested in exploring the political, historical, socioeconomic, and cultural aspects of Africa. The minor provides students with the opportunity to examine both the totality of Africa and/or specific geographical and cultural regions from several disciplinary perspectives.

What is African Studies?

Africa is a vast continent that is now transforming politically and economically at an unprecedented pace. Its rich history, resources and spirit of creativity makes it more than ever the continent of hope and opportunity that will see rapid development in the years to come! African Studies will help students develop their understanding of various aspects of the African continent, including topics such as Africa in World History, Africa and the Global Political Economy, Africa and International Relations, Africa and International Development, peace studies, and conflict resolution. We also have courses that emphasize the diversities of culture, race, ethnicity, and religion on the continent. The program utilizes historical, cultural, geographical, economic, and political approaches to equip students with skills to undertake research on issues pertinent to Africa and to prepare themselves for careers in a range of professions as well for post-graduate studies.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You're passionate about gaining skills to think critically, and speak and write articulately about Africa and its peoples.
- You'd like to explore the world through study-abroad opportunities to countries such as South Africa, Morocco, Ghana and Tanzania.
- You'd like to learn more from our faculty who actively teach, conduct research and publish in such topics as African history, politics, art, literature, economics, geography, linguistics, African feminism, demography and health.

Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18

Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
AFR 110		3
AFR 191	Early African History	3
AFR 192	Modern African History	3
Additional Courses		

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 9 credits (including 6 credits of AFR courses at the 400 level) of the following:		9
AFR 105	African Biodiversity and Conservation	
AFR/WMNST 202N	Women, Gender, and Feminisms in Africa	
AFR 209	Poverty in Africa	
AFR 403	South Africa Today	
AFR 405	African Studies Methodologies	
AFR/PLSC 434	War and Development in Africa	
AFR 440	Globalization and Its Implications	
AFR 443	Ethnic Conflict in Africa	
AFR/PLSC 454	Government and Politics of Africa	
AFR/PLSC 459		
AFR/PLSC 464	Extractive Industries in Africa	
AFR 495	Internship	
AFR 496	Independent Studies	
AFR 499	Foreign Studies	
CMLIT 3	Introduction to African Literatures	
CMLIT 422	African Drama	
CMLIT 423	African Novel	
ECON 413W		
ECON 475W		
FR 458	African Literature of French Expression	
GEOG 429	Geographic Perspectives on Global Urbanization	
GEOG 444	Resource Governance in Africa	
PLSC 481	Global Political Economy	

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 needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

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

University Park

Liberal Arts Academic Advising

814-865-2545

Use the Liberal Arts Meet the Academic Advisers web page (<https://la.psu.edu/student-services/academic-advising/meet-the-academic-advisers/>) to see the contact information for the specific adviser(s) of this program

Career Paths

Students with Liberal Arts degrees and minors in African Studies have found careers in a wide array of fields. These include US government, international business firms, international think tanks, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations that operate in a wide array of activities in Africa including primary and secondary education, the arts, religion, drought mitigation, wildlife management, and community development. Some students continue on to Graduate School, so our program also aims to help train graduate students, who will have a comparative advantage for African Studies-related employment in academia, bilateral and multilateral agencies.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES
(<https://africanstudies.la.psu.edu/graduate/>)

Contact

University Park

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