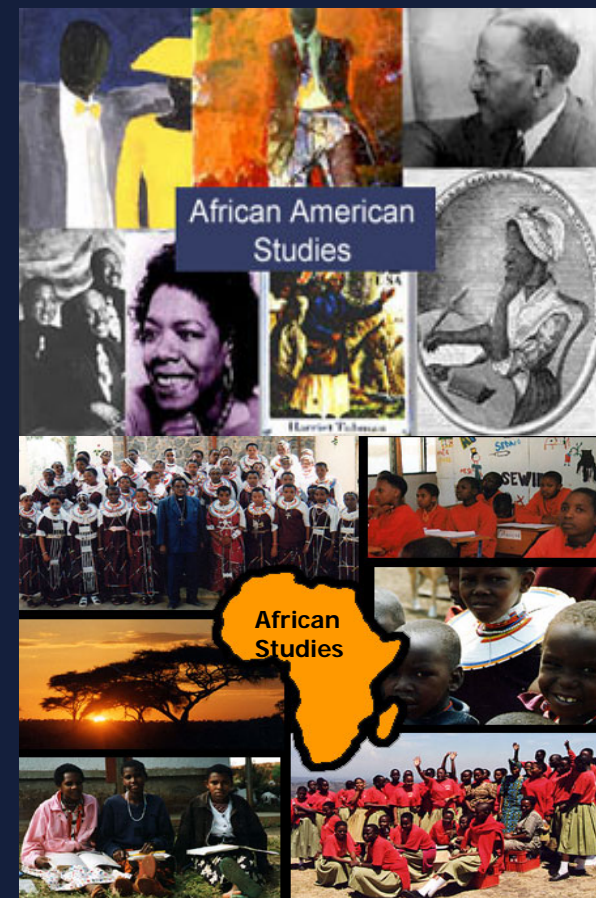


Degree Overview

The African American and African Studies major introduces students to the interdisciplinary study of people of African descent in the United States and the African Diaspora. The interdisciplinary approach, a key aspect of the program, helps to overcome limitations inherent as a result of investigating a people or group from a single disciplinary perspective. It develops students' critical thinking and analytical skills and produces well-rounded individuals prepared to enter the workforce or pursue study in a wide variety of fields at the graduate level and in professional schools (e.g., law, medicine, social work). The program produces individuals who can function effectively in the new millennium with special knowledge of the multifaceted and complex historical and contemporary issues that have shaped the racial parameters of the nation and the world. Upon completion of the Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, students will have a well-rounded background in the liberal arts, strong communications skills (written and oral), and analytic and methodological skills that have prepared them for graduate study and make them an asset to a range of enterprises in the public and private, for-profit and not-for-profit sectors.



African American & African Studies



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Old Dominion UNIVERSITY

About The Curriculum

The African American and African Studies major requires a total of 36 credit hours in African American and African studies courses, including 15 credit hours of core course work, 15 hours of course work evenly distributed between selected upper division social science and humanities courses, and a minimum of six credit hours of upper-division coursework in African studies. African American and African studies majors are required also to take HIST 104H (The U.S. in a World Setting) and 105H (Africa in a World Setting) as prerequisites. (Both courses may also count toward lower division general education.)

Students can earn either the B.A. or B.S. degree. All majors are required to take one course in research methods from the following list of courses: POLS 308 or SOC 337. The B.A. program requires a foreign language through the intermediate level (202). Students seeking the B.S. degree must demonstrate beginning language proficiency (102). In addition, students are required to take one advanced research methods course from the following list: GEOG 402, HIST 455, POLS 418 (requires POLS 308 as a prerequisite), PSYC 318 (requires PSYC 201 and PSYC 317 as prerequisites), SOC 436 (requires SOC 337 as a prerequisite), or WMST 470 (Requires three semester hours in a WMST or WMST cross-listed course and any introductory social science methods course as a prerequisite). Consistent with ODU's Career Advantage Program (CAP) the program requires students majoring in the program to participate in an appropriate field internship.

Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts— African American and African Studies

I. LOWER DIVISION GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS (50 - 57 credit hours)

Written Communication (ENGL 110C and ENGL 111C) 6 credit hours

Oral Communication 3 credit hours

Mathematics (B.S. requires C- or better in STAT 130M) 3 credit hours

Foreign Language (B.S. students' competence must be at the 102 level. B.A. students must have competence through the 202 level and competence is not met by the associate degree.)

Computer Skills 3 credit hours

Fine and Performing Arts 3 credit hours

History 6 credit hours (104H and 105H are required of B.A. and B.S. students)

Literature 3 credit hours

Philosophy 3 credit hours

Natural Science and Technology 11-12 credit hours

- Natural Science (with labs in sequence) 8 credit hours
- Additionally, 3-4 credit hours of Natural Science or Technology are required.

Social Science 9 credit hours (ECON 201S and 202S and GEOG 100S or 101S)

II. Core Requirements (15 credit hours)

Introduction to African American and African Studies (AAST 100)
African American Political and Social Thought (AAAS 4XX)*
Research Methods (POLS 308 or SOC 337)+
Senior Seminar (AAAS 4XX) *
Internship (AAAS 368)

*Note: Course undergoing development

+Research Methods in African American and African Studies is undergoing development.

Required Courses in African Studies (6 credit hours)

In addition, students majoring in African American and African Studies (AAAS) must earn six credit hours in African studies courses. Students may select courses from the following list: POLS 316 (Politics of Africa), HIST/AAAS 475 (History of Modern Africa), HIST/AAAS 376 (Conflict and Violence in Modern Africa, and HIST/AAAS 375 (African Urban History). Courses taken in this category cannot duplicate upper-division social sciences and humanities courses taken to fulfill program requirements. At the discretion of the department chair, substitutions may be approved to satisfy this requirement. The course options in this category will be expanded and/or modified in the future as they become available.

Upper Division Electives (15 credit hours)

Students majoring in AAAS must earn a minimum of 15 credit hours in upper-division humanities and social science courses related to African American studies. Six credit hours of 300/400 level courses must be from the social sciences and six credit hours from the humanities. The remaining three hours must be taken in humanities or social sciences depending upon whether the student is enrolled in the BA (humanities) or BS (social sciences) program. Courses may be selected from among those listed by category below. *No more than two courses from any discipline may be taken in any category.* With the permission of the department chair, courses not listed below may be approved as substitutions to fulfill program requirements.

AAAS Social Science 300-400 Elective Courses:

AAAS 395, 396 Topics in African American Studies
CRJS 450 Blacks, Crime and Justice
CRJS 452 Diversity in Criminal Justice Organizations
GEOG 452 Africa
POLS 412 Politics of the Civil Rights Movement
POLS 309 Race, Culture and Public Policy
POLS 316 Politics of Africa
POLS 410 African American Politics
POLS 451 African Americans and Foreign Affairs
PSYC 460 Psychology of African Americans
SOC 323 Sociology of Minority Families
SOC 426 Sociology of Minority Groups
SOC 444 Community Justice

AAAS Humanities 300-400 Elective Courses:

AAAS 395, 396 Topics in African American Studies
COMM 434 African American Rhetoric
DANC 391 African American Perspectives in Dance
ENGL 465 African American Literature
HIST 361 African American History to 1865
HIST 362 African American History Since 1865
HIST 455 African American Historiography
MUSC 460 History of Jazz
HIST/AAAS 475 History of Modern Africa
HIST/AAAS 376 Conflict and Violence in Modern Africa
HIST/AAAS 375 African Urban History
WMST 302W All American Women: A Multicultural Approach

III. UPPER DIVISION GENERAL EDUCATION

Option A. Approved Minor, 12-24 hours; also second degree or second major.

Option B. Cluster, 9 hours (3 hours may be in the major area of study.)

Requirements for graduation include a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 overall and in the major, 120 credit hours, passage of the Exit Examination of Writing Proficiency, and completion of the Senior Assessment.

