

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

The Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies is an interdisciplinary degree that provides students with knowledge of human cultures and intellectual and practical skills to engage complexity, diversity and change. The degree program fosters students' personal and social responsibility and, through applied learning experiences, empowers students to negotiate and to solve the complex problems of the 21st century. African American studies majors often pursue graduate and professional degree programs in business, education, history, international relations, law, political science, psychology, public health and social work. Career opportunities with a B.A. only in African American Studies include employment in community health agencies, public and private schools and nonprofit organizations.

Student learning outcomes

Upon completing this program, students will know how to do the following:

1. Define Black experiences across the African Diaspora

The program aims for each major to demonstrate knowledge of the major concepts, perspectives and theories in Africana studies. This knowledge includes an understanding of the intellectual origins and extant and emergent interdisciplinary scholarship that provide context, definition and form to the collective experiences of persons of African descent.

2. Document and measure Black experiences across the African Diaspora

The program aims for each major to demonstrate analytical skills that enable them to compare and contrast the utility of qualitative and quantitative approaches in Africana studies and critical-thinking skills that allow them to assess the cultural, political and social implication of such approaches when measuring the experiences of people across Africa and its Diaspora.

3. To interpret Black experiences across the African Diaspora

The program aims for each major to demonstrate an awareness of the interpretive frameworks that give meaning to Black experiences across the Diaspora. This awareness includes recognition of the intersectionality of artistic, cultural and historical perspectives; gendered, political and religious perspectives; and social and behavioral perspectives.

4. To affirm and validate Black experiences across the African Diaspora

The program aims for each major to demonstrate the ability to critically engage and to propose integrity-based solutions to novel problems that impact persons of African descent and their communities.

Special requirements

Majors in African American studies must meet the general education requirements of the College of Humanities and Sciences. The Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies requires the completion of 120 credits with at least 30 credits in African American Studies courses. At least 15 of the 30 credits in African American Studies must be in upper-level courses. Students also are required to establish an area of study by taking either a minimum of four courses in a single cooperating department or in one of the following multidisciplinary concentrations: artistic, historical and literary perspectives; political, religious and societal perspectives; or social and behavioral perspectives. At least one

of the four courses taken in a single cooperating department must have an Africana focus, and at least one of the four courses must be an upper-level course. Only courses in the selected cooperating department count toward the African American studies major GPA.

A cooperating department or program is defined as one that regularly offers at least one course with an Africana focus per year, which includes: Anthropology, Dance, English, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, Geography, History, Mass Communications, Music history, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, and Theatre. When non-Africana-focused courses are used to meet the concentration requirement, they must be selected in consultation with the African American studies adviser.

Degree requirements for African American Studies, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Course	Title	Hours
General education (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-study/general-education-curriculum/)		
Select 12-13 credits from general education foundations and 17-18 credits from areas of inquiry.		30
Major requirements		
• Major core requirements		
AFAM 201	Theories and Foundations of Africana Studies	3
AFAM 211	Africana Social and Political Thought	3
AFAM 311	African Diaspora Experiences	3
AFAM 399	Interdisciplinary Research Methods ¹	3
AFAM 493	Internship in Africana Studies	3
AFAM 499	Capstone Seminar in Africana Studies	3
• Additional major requirements		
Complete four courses in one of the cooperating departments or programs listed below, including at least one Africana-focused course and at least one upper level course.		12
Ancillary requirements		
AFAM 111 Play course video for Introduction to Africana Studies	Introduction to Africana Studies (satisfies general education BOK for humanities/fine arts and/or AOI for global perspectives)	3
HUMS 202	Choices in a Consumer Society	1
Experiential fine arts ²		1-3
Foreign language through the 102 level (by course or placement)		0-6
Open electives		
Select any course.		50-58
Total Hours		120

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Any one of GSWS 393, POLI 320, PSYC 317, SOCY 320 or SLWK 380 may be substituted for this course if completed with a minimum grade of C.

2

Course offered by the School of the Arts

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

Cooperating departments and programs requirement

Complete four courses in one of the cooperating departments or programs listed below, including at least one Africana-focused course and at least one upper level course.

- Anthropology
- Dance
- English
- Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies
- Geography
- History
- Mass Communications
- Music History
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Theatre

Refer to the list below for Africana-focused courses offered by or in conjunction with these cooperating departments.

Africana-focused courses from cooperating departments

Note: Students choosing the cooperating department option must complete four courses in one cooperating department or program, including at least one Africana-focused course (from lists below) and at least one upper-level course.

Course	Title	Hours
Anthropology		
AFAM/ANTH/INTL 200	Introduction to African Societies	3
AFAM/ANTH/INTL 309	Gender and Global Health	3
AFAM/ANTH 416	The Origin and Evolution of the Idea of Race	3
AFAM/ANTH/INTL 420	Women of Africa	3
Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser		
Dance		
AFAM/DANC 121	Tap Technique I	2
AFAM/DANC 122	Tap Technique I	2
AFAM/DANC 126	African-Caribbean Dance I	2
AFAM/DANC 127	African-Caribbean Dance I	2
AFAM/DANC 151	Jazz Dance Technique I	2
AFAM/DANC 152	Jazz Dance Technique I	2
DANC 255	Hip Hop Dance	2
DANC 256	Hip Hop Dance	2
DANC 291	Topics in Dance	1-4
DANC 413	African American Presence in American Dance, Performance and Social Contexts	3
Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser		
English		
AFAM/ENGL 363/INTL 366	African Literature	3

AFAM/ENGL 365/INTL 367	Caribbean Literature	3
AFAM/ENGL 379	African-American Literature: Beginnings Through the Harlem Renaissance	3
ENGL 355	Black Women Writers	3
ENGL/AFAM 382	African-American Literature: Realism to the Present	3

Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

Gender, sexuality and women's studies

AFAM/GSWS/SOCY 305	Oppression, Resilience and the Black Family	3
AFAM/ANTH/INTL/GSWS 309	Gender and Global Health	3
AFAM/POLI/GSWS 318	Politics of Race, Class and Gender	3
AFAM 390/HIST 380/GSWS 390	Forced and Coerced Labor in Africa and the Americas	3
GSWS 450	Black Feminist Thought	3

Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

Geography

AFAM/URSP/INTL 333	Geography of Africa	3
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Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

History

AFAM/HIST 105	Survey of African History	3
AFAM/HIST 106	Survey of African History	3
AFAM/HIST 361	Americans from Africa	3
AFAM/HIST 362	Americans from Africa	3
AFAM 387/HIST 381	History of West Africa to 1800	3
AFAM 389/HIST 383	History of Southern Africa	3
AFAM 390/HIST 380/GSWS 390	Forced and Coerced Labor in Africa and the Americas	3
AFAM 392/HIST 376	Caribbean History to 1838	3
AFAM 393	Akhenaten to Cleopatra	3
HIST 302	Ancient Egypt	3
HIST 348	The American Civil War and Reconstruction	3
HIST 352	History of the South I	3
HIST 353	History of the South II	3
HIST 356	History of Virginia I	3
HIST 357	History of Virginia II	3
HIST 360	The Long Civil Rights Movement	3
HIST 377	Caribbean History Since 1838	3
HIST 378	Atlantic Slavery	3
HIST 384/AFAM 388	Africa: Social, Cultural and Economic History	3
HIST 410	Studies in African History: ____	3
HIST 411	Studies in the African Diaspora: ____	3
HIST 417	Studies in African American History: ____	3

Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

Mass communications

MASC 474	Diversity in the Media	3
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Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

Music and music history

AFAM/MHIS 350/ INTL 370	Studies in the Music of the African Continent and Diaspora	3
APPM 360	Jazz Orchestra ¹	1
APPM 361	Small Jazz Ensemble ¹	1
MHIS 147	Jazz Theory and Aural Skills ²	3
MHIS 291	Topics in Music	1-3
MHIS 311	Jazz Arranging I ²	3
MHIS 312	Jazz Arranging II ²	3
MHIS 324	Jazz History ²	3

Political science

AFAM/POLI 302	Politics of the Civil Rights Movement	3
AFAM/POLI/GSWS 318	Politics of Race, Class and Gender	3
AFAM/POLI 343	Black Political Thought	3
AFAM/POLI 345	African-American Politics	3
AFAM/POLI/INTL 356	Government and Politics of Africa	3
AFAM/POLI/INTL 357	Politics of Southern Africa	3

Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

Psychology

AFAM/PSYC 322	Personality and Behavior of the African American	3
AFAM 346	Mental Health Across the African Diaspora	3

Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

Religious studies

AFAM/RELS/INTL 307	Black Religion	3
AFAM/INTL/RELS 451	Religion, Racism and Social Justice	3

Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

Sociology

AFAM/SOCY 104	Sociology of Racism	3
AFAM/GSWS/SOCY 305	Oppression, Resilience and the Black Family	3
SOCY 401	Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities	3

Or a course approved by an African American studies adviser

Theatre

AFAM/THEA 303	Black Theatre	3
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Or a course approved in conjunction by advisers in Theatre
and African American studies

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Accessible by audition

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Restricted to music majors

What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements
within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser
before beginning course work toward a degree.

Freshman year

Fall semester		Hours
AFAM 111	Introduction to Africana Studies (satisfies general education BOK for humanities/fine arts and/or AOI for global perspectives)	3
UNIV 101	Introduction to the University	1
UNIV 111	Focused Inquiry I (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
Term Hours:		14-17

Spring semester

HUMS 202	Choices in a Consumer Society	1
UNIV 112	Focused Inquiry II (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
Term Hours:		16

Sophomore year

Fall semester		
AFAM 201	Theories and Foundations of Africana Studies	3
UNIV 200	Inquiry and the Craft of Argument (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
Foreign language 101		3
Open electives		6
Term Hours:		15

Spring semester

AFAM 211	Africana Social and Political Thought	3
Approved cooperating department elective		3
Foreign language 102		3
General education course (select BOK to complete breadth of knowledge requirement)		3
Open elective		3
Term Hours:		15

Junior year

Fall semester		
AFAM 311	African Diaspora Experiences	3

Approved cooperating department elective	3
Open electives	9
Term Hours:	15
Spring semester	
AFAM 399 Interdisciplinary Research Methods ¹	3
Approved cooperating department elective	3
Open electives	9
Term Hours:	15
Senior year	
Fall semester	
AFAM 493 Internship in Africana Studies	3
Approved cooperating department elective	3
Open electives	9
Term Hours:	15
Spring semester	
AFAM 499 Capstone Seminar in Africana Studies	3
Open electives	12
Term Hours:	15
Total Hours:	120-123

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Any one of GSWS 393, POLI 320, PSYC 317, SOCY 320 or SLWK 380 may be substituted for this course if completed with a minimum grade of C.

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

AFAM 104. Sociology of Racism. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. The course will explore the direct and indirect ways in which racial attitudes are acquired, their effect on individuals and society, and the institutional and ideological manifestations of racism as a "faith system," as exploitation and as a form of human conflict. The central focus of interest will be on black-white relationships. Crosslisted as: SOCY 104.

AFAM 105. Survey of African History. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A survey of African civilizations from prehistory to the present, emphasizing the events, ideas and institutions that have shaped, influenced and defined Africa's place in the world. First semester: to 1800. Second semester: 1800 to the present. Crosslisted as: HIST 105.

AFAM 106. Survey of African History. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A survey of African civilizations from prehistory to the present, emphasizing the events, ideas and institutions that have shaped, influenced and defined Africa's place in the world. First semester: to 1800. Second semester: 1800 to the present. Crosslisted as: HIST 106.

AFAM 111. Introduction to Africana Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours (delivered online, face-to-face or hybrid). 3 credits. Using a multidisciplinary approach, this course will familiarize students with important events, developments, personalities and other phenomena that help facilitate the study and understanding of peoples of African descent dispersed throughout the world from their early continental African past to their present existence.

AFAM 121. Tap Technique I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 2 credits. Beginning study and training in the principles of tap technique with emphasis upon style, body alignment, spatial patterning, flexibility, strength and kinesthetic awareness to move the body in the style required for tap dancing. Crosslisted as: DANC 121.

AFAM 122. Tap Technique I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 2 credits. Beginning study and training in the principles of tap technique with emphasis upon style, body alignment, spatial patterning, flexibility, strength and kinesthetic awareness to move the body in the style required for tap dancing. Crosslisted as: DANC 122.

AFAM 126. African-Caribbean Dance I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 2 credits. Dance based on the movements and rhythms of Africa and the Caribbean. Crosslisted as: DANC 126.

AFAM 127. African-Caribbean Dance I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 2 credits. Dance based on the movements and rhythms of Africa and the Caribbean. Crosslisted as: DANC 127.

AFAM 151. Jazz Dance Technique I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: DANC 102 or permission of instructor. Study and training in the principles and concepts of jazz technique. Emphasis on body alignment, flexibility, balance, rhythmic awareness and mastery of isolated movements of body parts. The course includes the exploration of the relationship between jazz music and jazz dance. Crosslisted as: DANC 151.

AFAM 152. Jazz Dance Technique I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: DANC 102 or permission of instructor. Study and training in the principles and concepts of jazz technique. Emphasis on body alignment, flexibility, balance, rhythmic awareness and mastery of isolated movements of body parts. The course includes the exploration of the relationship between jazz music and jazz dance. Crosslisted as: DANC 152.

AFAM 200. Introduction to African Societies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. This course introduces the student to the African continent, its peoples and cultures. It covers such general characteristics as the physical and geographical features, climate, topography, traditional economies, languages, religions, social systems and other cultural features that are traditional to its people. Crosslisted as: ANTH 200/INTL 200.

AFAM 201. Theories and Foundations of Africana Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Explores the origins of African American studies in the civil rights and Black Power movements. Examines critical issues and perspectives in the discipline from its inception to the present day. Possible topics include black nationalism, neo-colonialism, Kwaito theory, black women's studies, Afrocentrism, Egyptology, black queer studies, critical race theory, diaspora theory and community engagement.

AFAM 204. Africa in Transition. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: AFAM/ANTH/INTL 200 or permission of instructor. The impact of modern social change upon the traditional aspects of African life. Various aspects of social change as it applies to Africa today will be explored.

AFAM 211. Africana Social and Political Thought. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Guides students in identifying and mapping the continuities and discontinuities in political and social thought of the African world. Through an exploration of the various works of scholars, activists and artists, this course will expose students to nondominant narratives in an effort to expand the breadth and depth of interdependence in Africana contributions to ideas such as, but not limited to, the arts, justice, equality and human emancipation.

AFAM 291. Topics in African American Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a maximum of nine credits. A study of specialized areas of African American studies.

AFAM 302. Politics of the Civil Rights Movement. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. The main objectives of the course are to introduce and examine the personalities and activities of the modern Civil Rights Movement. The course provides the historical background leading up to the peak years of the struggle for racial equality in America. It has special focus on the events of the 1960s and particularly their implication for the current state of U.S. Civil Rights. Crosslisted as: POLI 302.

AFAM 303. Black Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the major developments in the evolution of black theatre through readings and studio performances in black-related and black theatre dramaturgy. Crosslisted as: THEA 303.

AFAM 305. Oppression, Resilience and the Black Family. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. Explores the historical and contemporary experiences of Black families, with a central focus on the resilience and contributions of Black families in the U.S. Engages in intersectional analysis of systems of oppression and the full range of Black family structures. Centers Black liberation and Black joy. Crosslisted as: GSWS 305/SOCY 305.

AFAM 307. Black Religion. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An analysis of the role of religion in the lives of blacks with an emphasis on African religions and philosophies, the black church in America, and the roles of the various faiths, sects and cults. Crosslisted as: RELS 307/INTL 307.

AFAM 309. Gender and Global Health. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines how health policies produce and regulate gendered bodies and sexualities. Topics may include how colonial medicine and health policies of detection, diagnosis, surveillance, quarantine and confinement were implemented as methods of social control. Analyzes continuities between colonial medicine and more contemporary interventions that in the name of individual and communal health attempt to shape proper sexualities and gendering. Crosslisted as: ANTH 309/INTL 309/GSWS 309.

AFAM 310. Black Health Matters: Social Determinants of Health in the African American Community. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines health inequalities and health inequities in the U.S. Explores the primary health concerns and issues relating to the African American community. Focuses on social determinants of infant mortality, cardiovascular disease, AIDS, violence and cancer, as well as the impact these determinants have on the overall health status of African Americans.

AFAM 311. African Diaspora Experiences. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Traces the geography and history of dispersed African peoples from their motherland to all parts of the world and reveals the cultural, social, political and economic developments of peoples of African descent worldwide. Surveys the evolution and implication of the trans-Atlantic, trans-Saharan, and trans-Indian Ocean slave trade, in particular the dimensions of experiences of African-descended peoples with emphasis not only on North and South America but also the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

AFAM 318. Politics of Race, Class and Gender. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the racial, class and gender influences on the history and development of political values, conflicts, processes, structures and public policy in the United States. Crosslisted as: POLI 318/GSWS 318.

AFAM 322. Personality and Behavior of the African American. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: PSYC 101. A study of personality factors such as motivation, ego-functioning and the socialization processes, with special emphasis on living conditions of African-Americans. Crosslisted as: PSYC 322.

AFAM 330. Black Sights and Sites: Visual Media and Race. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. An exploration of the politics of representing race in U.S. visual media within broader economic, political and cultural contexts. Possible areas of focus include fashion, TV/film, music, new media, visual art and sports.

AFAM 333. Geography of Africa. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the land forms, climate, peoples, livelihoods, settlement patterns and cultural groupings of sub-Saharan Africa. Crosslisted as: URSP 333/INTL 333.

AFAM 338. Ferguson, USA: The Criminalization of Race in Historical Perspective. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Examines African American encounters with the criminal justice system from the era of emancipation to the present day. Possible topics include constructions of race; the science of criminality; extra-legal violence; the civil rights movement and black power; prison politics; mass incarceration; the school-to-prison pipeline; Black Lives Matter.

AFAM 342. African-American Art. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the art forms produced by Americans of African origin from the 17th century to the present with an emphasis on contemporary trends in black art. Crosslisted as: ARTH 342.

AFAM 343. Black Political Thought. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An historical and sociological perspective on the political and social ideas of black thinkers from David Walker to the present. Crosslisted as: POLI 343.

AFAM 345. African-American Politics. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. In this course, students will discuss and analyze the dynamics of the black experience in the American political system. The status of African-Americans in the United States and the struggle for racial equality will be examined, as will the manner in which American institutions have responded to these phenomena. Students will examine the race/class metric in African-American politics, particularly policies of Affirmative Action as a black progress strategy. Crosslisted as: POLI 345.

AFAM 346. Mental Health Across the African Diaspora. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Surveys theory and research on the interaction of culture and mental illness focusing primarily on populations of African descent in a seminar format. Topics to be addressed, through the lens of the Africana world, include epidemiological and ethnographic research on major psychiatric disorders, culture-bound syndromes and idioms of distress, mental health of immigrants and refugees, and cross-cultural competence in clinical practice.

AFAM 347. African American Children and Families. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Reviews cultural variations in the physical, cognitive, emotional and social development of African American children. Addresses historical and contemporary frameworks of child development and highlights the strengths and limitations of extant research paradigms in the study of African American children. Considers integrity-based approaches that explain the developmental competencies of African American children in response to environmental risks that exceed normative expectations.

AFAM 350. Studies in the Music of the African Continent and Diaspora. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 243 or MHIS/AFAM 250. An in-depth examination of selected topics and issues in African-derived musical and cultural traditions. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester. Crosslisted as: MHIS 350/INTL 370.

AFAM 356. Government and Politics of Africa. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. This course will introduce students to the basic outlines of government and politics in Africa. The course will consider such topics as colonialism, elitism, and nationalism and modernization strategies. Using the comparative approach, the course will primarily focus on West, East and Central Africa. Crosslisted as: POLI 356/INTL 356.

AFAM 357. Politics of Southern Africa. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An examination of racial and political developments in the southern tip of Africa. While South Africa will be the primary focus of analysis, other countries in the region such as Zimbabwe, Angola and Mozambique will be studied. Crosslisted as: POLI 357/INTL 357.

AFAM 358. African Art and Architecture. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of African art and architecture from prehistoric times to the present. Special emphasis is placed on form, content, function and meaning, as well as the impact of African art on modern and African-American art. Crosslisted as: ARTH 358.

AFAM 361. Americans from Africa. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the history and culture of blacks in the United States, designed to analyze some of the most important aspects of black life and the attitudes of the dominant society within which blacks lived. The second semester emphasizes the changing status, expectations and ideologies of black Americans in the 20th century. First semester: to 1877. Second semester: since 1877. Crosslisted as: HIST 361.

AFAM 362. Americans from Africa. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the history and culture of blacks in the United States, designed to analyze some of the most important aspects of black life and the attitudes of the dominant society within which blacks lived. The second semester emphasizes the changing status, expectations and ideologies of black Americans in the 20th century. First semester: to 1877. Second semester: since 1877. Crosslisted as: HIST 362.

AFAM 363. African Literature. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 201, ENGL 202, ENGL 203, ENGL 204, ENGL 205, ENGL 206, ENGL 211, ENGL 215, ENGL 236, ENGL 250, ENGL 291, ENGL 295 or NEXT 240. A study of regional and/or cultural traditions of African literature with special attention paid to socio-political perspectives. Crosslisted as: ENGL 363/INTL 366.

AFAM 365. Caribbean Literature. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 201, ENGL 202, ENGL 203, ENGL 204, ENGL 205, ENGL 206, ENGL 211, ENGL 215, ENGL 236, ENGL 250, ENGL 291, ENGL 295 or NEXT 240. A survey of West Indian writings. Attention will be given to African, European and Amerindian influences, as well as to the emergence of a West Indian literary tradition. Crosslisted as: ENGL 365/INTL 367.

AFAM 379. African-American Literature: Beginnings Through the Harlem Renaissance. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 201, ENGL 202, ENGL 203, ENGL 204, ENGL 205, ENGL 206, ENGL 211, ENGL 215, ENGL 236, ENGL 250, ENGL 291, ENGL 295 or NEXT 240. An examination of the culture and literature of African Americans from their roots in Africa and the African Diaspora to the Harlem Renaissance. Authors may include Wheatley, Douglass, DuBois, Hurston, Hughes and Cullen. Crosslisted as: ENGL 379.

AFAM 382. African-American Literature: Realism to the Present. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 201, ENGL 202, ENGL 203, ENGL 204, ENGL 205, ENGL 206, ENGL 211, ENGL 215, ENGL 236, ENGL 250, ENGL 291, ENGL 295 or NEXT 240. An examination of the culture and literature of African-Americans from the Harlem Renaissance to the present day. Authors may include Wright, Ellison, Hayden, Brooks, Walker and Morrison. Crosslisted as: ENGL 382.

AFAM 387. History of West Africa to 1800. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the transformation of West African societies from early times to 1800, with emphasis on the rise of states and empires, the introduction, spread and impact of Islam, the Atlantic slave trade and its effects, and colonialism. Crosslisted as: HIST 381.

AFAM 389. History of Southern Africa. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the history and culture of the peoples of southern Africa. Deals with the areas that presently are the Republic of South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe. Emphasizes the interaction among the various communities and ethnolinguistic groups in southern Africa. Crosslisted as: HIST 383.

AFAM 390. Forced and Coerced Labor in Africa and the Americas. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines a broad range of forced and coerced labor in Africa and selected parts of the Americas, including the United States, Canada and the Caribbean, from around the 17th century to the 20th century. The role that gender and race played in slavery and coerced labor will be given particular attention. Crosslisted as: GSWS 390/HIST 380.

AFAM 391. Topics in African American Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a maximum of nine credits. A focused study of specialized areas of African American studies.

AFAM 392. Caribbean History to 1838. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An exploration of changes in the structure of Caribbean society from the late 15th century to 1838, with emphasis on the development of plantation slavery, social stratification, race, slave resistance, the Haitian Revolution, African cultural patterns and abolition. Crosslisted as: HIST 376.

AFAM 393. Akhenaten to Cleopatra. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A survey of Egyptian history from the period of the Empire (New Kingdom, c. 1570 B.C.) through the Ptolemaic Age of Cleopatra (c. 30 B.C.). Particular areas of concentration will include the Amarna Period of Akhenaten and various aspects of Egyptian daily life.

AFAM 394. Service-learning in African American Health. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: AFAM 310. Open to African-American studies majors only. Provides an overview of critical public health issues and intervention strategies that may influence life chances and disease susceptibility among African-Americans through a service-learning format.

AFAM 399. Interdisciplinary Research Methods. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Introduces students to the interdisciplinary processes whereby those working in the field develop their arguments and interpretations concerning the black experience. Students will develop increased skills in library research and an awareness of the importance of such methodologies as archaeology, oral history, case studies, participant observations, experiments and surveys. Students will be introduced to the need for critical analysis, the role of biases and frames of references and the reason why scholars working in the field often reach different conclusions with reference to issues of fact, interpretation and significance.

AFAM 411. Applied Concepts in Africana Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: AFAM 111 with a minimum grade of C. Pre- or corequisite: AFAM 399. Explores the processes and challenges involved in studying the experiences of African-descended peoples, with a focus on the development of an idea or observation into a finished and well-executed research product. Investigates how these processes unfold in the works of specific black studies researchers, as they capture the varied consciousnesses, histories and social forces surrounding black life in America, Africa and throughout the diaspora.

AFAM 416. The Origin and Evolution of the Idea of Race. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ANTH/INTL 103 or AFAM 103 or permission of instructor. This course is an exploration of the origins and social history of the "idea" of race from the Middle Ages to the end of the 20th century. Using both historical and anthropological scholarship, the course presents an analytical framework for race as a sociocultural phenomenon. Crosslisted as: ANTH 416.

AFAM 420. Women of Africa. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ANTH/INTL 103 or AFAM 103. This course looks at the traditional roles of women in African societies and examines how women have coped in different environments. It focuses on the institutionalized aspects of similarities and differences in women's lives in pastoral and horticultural societies and those with mixed economies, and will contrast these with women's roles in large state societies of Africa and in the modern urbanized context. Crosslisted as: ANTH 420/INTL 420.

AFAM 440. Modern and Contemporary Art and Architecture of Africa. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ARTH 292 with a minimum grade of C or permission of instructor. A study of the impact on African art and architecture of Colonialism, urbanization and modernization. Special emphasis is placed on the search for a new identity by contemporary African artists. Crosslisted as: ARTH 440.

AFAM 451. Religion, Racism and Social Justice. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: RELS 340/INTL 341, WRLD 210 or WRLD 220; UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Explores the complex history and contemporary relationships between religion, racism and social justice. Crosslisted as: INTL 451/RELS 451.

AFAM 491. Topics in African-American Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a maximum of 9 credits; 3 credits may be applied to the African-American studies minor. An in-depth study of specialized areas of African-American studies.

AFAM 492. Independent Study. 1-4 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. Variable credit. Maximum 4 credits per semester. Maximum total of 4 credits in all independent study courses. Prerequisites: completion of 12 credits in African-American studies courses; junior or senior standing.

AFAM 493. Internship in Africana Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 field experience hours. 3 credits (minimum of 50 work hours per credit). Prerequisites: AFAM 201, AFAM 211 and AFAM 311. Enrollment is restricted to African American studies majors of junior or senior standing; permission from the department chair or internship coordinator is also required. Students will be placed in internships that provide real-life experience working with populations of African descent with the goal of defining, improving, affirming and/or validating black experiences in the African diaspora. Graded as pass/fail.

AFAM 494. Internship in African American Health. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 150 clock hours in appropriate organization. 3 credits. Prerequisites: AFAM 310, either AFAM/ANTH/INTL/WMNS/GSWS 309 or AFAM/PSYC 322, and AFAM 394. Applicants must be approved by the internship coordinator. Open to African-American studies majors of senior standing only. Students are placed in organizations that offer supervised work or research experience in a health setting appropriate to their interests. A final report must be submitted upon completion of the internship.

AFAM 499. Capstone Seminar in Africana Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: AFAM 111, AFAM 211, AFAM 311 and AFAM 399. Enrollment is restricted to African American studies majors of senior standing. Involves the planning and execution of a research project grounded in the methodology of African American studies.