

African Diaspora Studies Minor

The African Diaspora Studies minor allows students to deepen their exploration, begun in the introductory ADW 111-112 sequence, about the foundational contributions of Africans and African descendants to the creation and development of the modern and post-modern worlds. It provides students with an intellectual foundation that enables them to reflect upon and articulate their sense of identity in the context of the global presence of people and culture of African origin. Special emphasis is placed on the intersections and connections among the various communities of African descent globally. The course sequence, which requires both scholarly and experiential engagement, seeks to prepare students to become members of a world community committed to positive social change.

Requirements for the African Diaspora Studies (ADS) Minor

Six to seven (6-7) courses totaling twenty-four (24) hours are the minimum requirement for the ADS minor. Two core courses, ADS 220 and ADS 242, are required. Students must then select four additional elective courses, two from the social sciences and two from the humanities or fine arts to complete the minimum 24 hours. The electives from the social sciences and from the humanities/fine arts must be from two different traditions or geographic regions.

Note: A student may not double count a course for this minor with any other college requirement.

Core Courses

Two courses for six-eight (6-8) credit hours

- ADS 220: Discourses of the African Diaspora (4)
- ADS 242: Directed Study (2-4)

ADS 220 – DISCOURSES OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA (4)

This course provides an in-depth exploration of ideas, concepts, and theories relevant to the study of the African diaspora. Through the analysis of works by key scholars, theorists, and artists, it enables students to understand the histories, intersections and connections among African diaspora communities worldwide and, as a result, articulate their own sense of identity in relation to the global presence of peoples and cultures of African origin. Course prerequisites: ADW 111/112.

ADS 242 – DIRECTED STUDY (2-4)

This course is a required for the African Diaspora Studies minors. It is an opportunity for the student to demonstrate their understanding of and engagement in African Diaspora Studies while studying, researching, and writing on a subject matter within African Diaspora Studies that is of particular interest to them as an individual. The student will submit a final project that demonstrates understanding of what the African diaspora is, reflects the concerns and interdisciplinarity of African Diaspora Studies as a field, and showcases the ability to conceptualize and carry out in-depth research and present findings clearly and compellingly. Prerequisites: ADW 111/112.

Elective Courses

It is recommended that students carefully select courses for the social science core that will enable them to register for upper-level African Diaspora-focused courses in some major departments. Listed below are several courses that fulfill the core requirement for social sciences and that may also be prerequisites for departmental offerings.

◆ PSC 201, ECON 241-242, SOC 201-202, ANTH 203

ADS 300 – ACTIVISM IN AFRO-LATIN AMERICA (4)

This course explores varied manifestations of social, political, and cultural activism observable among African descendants in Latin America. “activism” is defined broadly to include both historical and contemporary instances of collective resistance, revolt, and rebellion as well as sustained collective organizing, action, and mobilization around artistic, cultural, social, intellectual, political, and religious agendas aimed at bringing about black liberation, social justice, and cultural, ethnic, and racial awareness and pride. Prerequisites: ADW 111/112.

ADS 301 – BLACK WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA (4)

This course takes an interdisciplinary, African Diaspora approach that draws from History, Women’s Studies, Anthropology, Sociology, Political Science, Cultural Studies, Media Studies, and Sexuality Studies. We will examine how legacies of slavery, narratives of *mestizaje* (racial mixing), ideas of womanhood, and class stratification inform the long history of women’s exclusion and oppression in the region, their day-to-day experiences of racism and sexism, and their activism and political organizing. Prerequisites: ADW 111/112.

ADS 320 – PEOPLES AND CULTURES OF THE GLOBAL AFRICAN DIASPORA (4)

This course explores “diaspora” as concept and analytical tool as well as “diaspora” as lived experience. The former entails the study of different theoretical approaches taken by scholars of various disciplines and the latter a close examination of specific and diverse African descendant populations at different historical moments and in different geographical locations outside of Africa. Locations covered include India, Iran, Israel, Australia, the UK, the Netherlands, Germany, Russia, etc. Prerequisites: ADW 111/112.

ADS 350 – READING SELVES AND SOCIETIES THROUGH AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND BIOGRAPHY (4)

This course examines autobiography, memoir, auto-ethnography, biography, life history, and oral history as sites for the interrogation of race, ethnicity, culture, class, gender, sexuality, and nation as concepts and lived experiences. Students will explore the ways individuals represent these aspects of their identity and how these aspects are shaped by larger historical, cultural, and socio-political forces. Also explored are the possibilities and limitations of these genres as sources and methods for humanistic and social scientific inquiry. Prerequisites: ADW 111/112.

ADS 405 – BLACKNESS AND NATION IN LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN (4)

This course explores the realities of primarily contemporary populations of African descent in different national contexts throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Students will gain familiarity with elements of the history, national socio-political context, and culture of the particular populations covered. Additionally, students will come to better understand race, ethnicity, culture, nation, diaspora, and blackness as concepts and as salient experiences contributing to the formation of group identities. Prerequisites: ADW 111/112.

Two Social Science / Science Electives (8 credit hours)

- ANT 350 Race and Identity in Latin America
- ANT 430 Black and Indigenous Social Movements
- CWS 330* Gender and Health in Cross-cultural Perspective
- CWS 370* Women and Social Resistance Movements
- ECO 424 Globalization and Development
- ES 200 Introduction to Environmental Science
- ES 211 Introduction to Environmental Health
- PSC 346 African Politics
- PSC 480* Seminar in International Studies: The Politics of Global Environment
- PSC 483* African Americans in Politics

Two Humanities (8) or 1 Fine Arts & 1 Humanities (8)

- ADS 300 Activism in Afro-Latin America
- ADS 301 Black Women in Latin America
- ADS 320 Peoples and Cultures of the Global African Diaspora
- ADS 350 Reading Selves and Societies through Autobiography & Biography
- ADS 405 Blackness and Nation in Latin America & the Caribbean
- ENG 215 Twentieth Century Black Women Writers
- ENG 346 Politics of Black Poetry
- ENG 363 African Cinema
- ENG 418 Contemporary African Literature
- FLF/CWS 302 African/Francophone Cinema
- FLF 478 Special Topics: Afropean-ness and the Making of Diasporan Con...
- FLS 360 Universe of Women of Color in Afro-Hispanic Literature
- HIS 221 Survey of African American History
- HIS 222 Survey of African American History
- HIS 231 Survey of African Civilization I
- HIS 232 Survey of African Civilization II
- HIS 261 History of the Caribbean to 1804
- HIS 262 History of the Caribbean since 1804
- HIS 315 African American Women's History
- HIS 322 African American Thought since the Civil War
- HIS 323 African American History in the 20th Century
- HIS 333 Islam in Africa
- HIS 338 The African Diaspora in the Indian Ocean
- HIS 362 Caribbean Economic History
- HIS 363 The Contemporary Anglophone Caribbean
- HIS 373 Africans in Latin America
- HIS 375 History of Brazil
- HIS 462 Seminar: Women and Gender in the Caribbean
- HIS 465A The Caribbean American Diaspora
- HIS 475 Seminar on Brazil: Race, Class, and Gender
- MUS 341 The Study of Music in the African Diaspora
- PHI 240 African American Philosophy
- REL 237 African Derived Religious Traditions in the Americas

Fine Arts

- AVC 140A/B African American Art I and II
- AVC 161 The Art and Culture of the African Diaspora
- AVC 312 African Art
- DAN 241 Black Presence in American Dance

Africa

- AVC 312 African Art
- ENG 363 African Cinema
- ENG 418 Contemporary African Literature
- FLF/CWS 302 African/Francophone Cinema
- HIS 231 Survey of African Civilization I

- HIS 232 Survey of African Civilization II
- HIS 315 African American Women's History
- HIS 333 Islam in Africa
- HIS 338 The African Diaspora in the Indian Ocean
- PSC 346 African Politics
- REL 230 Introduction to African Religions and Culture

The Caribbean

- HIS 261 History of the Caribbean to 1804
- HIS 262 History of the Caribbean since 1804
- HIS 362 Caribbean Economic History
- HIS 363 The Contemporary Anglophone Caribbean
- HIS 462 Seminar: Women and Gender in the Caribbean
- HIS 465A The Caribbean American Diaspora
- PHI 250 Caribbean Philosophy

Latin America

- ADS 300 Activism in Afro-Latin America
- ADS 301 Black Women in Latin America
- ADS 405 Blackness and Nation in Latin America & the Caribbean
- ANT 350 Race and Identity in Latin America
- ANT 430 Black and Indigenous Social Movements
- FLS 360 Universe of Women of Color in Afro-Hispanic Literature
- HIS 373 Africans in Latin America
- HIS 375 History of Brazil
- HIS 475 Seminar on Brazil: Race, Class, Gender

U.S. / African American

- AVC 140A/B African American Art I and II
- DAN 241 Black Presence in American Dance
- ENG 346 Politics of Black Poetry
- HIS 221 Survey of African American History
- HIS 222 Survey of African American History
- HIS 322 African American Thought since the Civil War
- HIS 323 African American History in the 20th Century
- PHI 240 African American Philosophy
- PSC 483* African Americans in Politics
- REL 240 History of African American Christianity
- REL 245 Introduction to Black Theologies
- REL 249 Archival Research on Religion and Black Women in U.S. Civil Rights
- REL 323 Race and American Islam
- REL 237 African Derived Religious Traditions in the Americas

Comparative Courses

- ADS 320 Peoples and Cultures of the Global African Diaspora
- ADS 350 Reading Selves and Societies through Autobiography and Biography
- CWS 330* Gender and Health in Cross-cultural Perspective
- CWS 370 Women and Social Resistance Movements
- ECO 424 Globalization and Development
- ENG 215 Twentieth Century Black Women Writers
- PSC 480* Seminar in International Studies: The Politics of Global Environment
- REL 237 African Derived Religious Traditions in the Americas
- REL 289 Black Women and Religious Cultures: A Podcasting Seminar

* Prerequisites may be required.

This list is not necessarily exhaustive.