

AFRICANA STUDIES

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Black Studies began at The College of Wooster in 1968 as an interdisciplinary Program, examining the history and culture of peoples of the African diaspora from an African-centered perspective. It moved to departmental status in 2000.

The fundamental mission of Africana Studies is critical study of peoples of African ancestry from social, historical, and cultural perspectives not covered by traditional disciplines. It seeks to provide students comprehensive exposure to the experiences of Black people, wherever they reside, from multiple theoretical and methodological approaches designed to help them think critically about issues related to the African diaspora and educate global citizens who understand the intellectual history, origin, purpose, and challenges of Africana Studies as a distinct discipline within the liberal arts.

By the end of the senior year, a Wooster Africana Studies graduate should be able to: identify and articulate the intellectual history, origin, purposes, and challenges of Africana Studies within the academy; identify and explain the connections between Africana Studies to historic Africa and the contemporary experiences of people of African descent around the world; identify and explain major historical events crucial to African people and their experiences in Africa, North America, the Caribbean, Europe, and other parts of the world; identify, articulate, and apply relevant African-centered theories and methodologies to the investigation or critical analysis of topics, texts, artistic productions, events, or phenomena related to the African diaspora; and conceptualize, research, organize, and write an independent study project that meets the learning outcomes of the department.

Major in Africana Studies

Consists of twelve courses:

- AFST 10000
- Four 200-level Africana Studies courses taken within the Department of Africana Studies
- One 300-level Africana Studies course taken within the Department of Africana Studies
- Three electives from the Department of Africana Studies or cross-listed courses accepted for AFST credit
- Junior Independent Study: AFST 40100
- Senior Independent Study: AFST 45100
- Senior Independent Study: AFST 45200

Minor in Africana Studies

Consists of six courses:

- AFST 10000
- Three 200-level Africana Studies courses taken within the Department of Africana Studies
- One 300-level Africana Studies course taken within the Department of Africana Studies
- One elective from the Department of Africana Studies or cross-listed courses accepted for AFST credit

Special Notes

- Course sequence suggestions for majors:

First Year:	AFST 10000, 20000-20021
Sophomore Year:	AFST 21300 One AFST 200-level course One elective from AFST or cross-listed courses
Junior Year:	One AFST 200-level course One AFST 300-level course One elective from AFST or cross-listed courses AFST 40100
Senior Year:	AFST 45100, 45200 One elective from AFST or cross-listed courses

- S/NC courses are not permitted in either the major or minor.
- Only grades of C- or better are accepted for the major or minor.

AFRICANA STUDIES COURSES

AFST 10000. INTRODUCTION TO AFRICANA STUDIES (Education)

Interdisciplinary foundation course presents overview of the historical, social, psychological, political, economic, and cultural experiences of all the major branches of people of African descent. Course focuses on the contributions and achievements of Africana people, with some emphasis on African Americans, and it explores the concerns as well as the challenges they face. Students are introduced to African-centered perspectives of prominent continental and diasporic scholars, artists, and activists, who mostly challenge the tenets and assumptions of the dominant cultural and intellectual paradigms. *Annually. Fall and Spring. [C, AH, or HSS]*

AFST 20000-20021. SPECIAL TOPICS IN AFRICANA STUDIES (some sections cross-listed with Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)

An in-depth examination of an issue or topic relevant to the Black experience. Possible topics include Black biography and autobiography, post-colonial struggles, Maroon communities, civil rights, anti-colonial resistance movements, and Blacks in science and society. Topics vary and will be designated to meet the Learning Across the Disciplines requirement as appropriate. *Annually. Fall and Spring. [Depending on the topic, Wt, C, AH, or HSS]*

All courses number 20000 or higher require the successful completion of AFST-10000 or permission of instructor.

AFST 21200. SURVEY OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN FOLKLORE (Music)

Survey of African-American folklore in the United States. Examines the historical development of folk music, folk tales and other oral literature, and folk religious practices. Analyzes the impact of these traditions upon the contemporary black performing arts and U.S. American culture. Open to non-music majors. No technical knowledge required. *[C, AH]*

AFST 21300. RACISM 101

Americans have historically found it difficult to discuss issues of racism openly. This course examines the historical foundations of racism towards Blacks as a vestige of chattel slavery in the United States. It explores various manifestations of racism in Black-White relationships in contemporary American society. *Prerequisite: AFST-10000 or permission of instructor. [Wt, C, HSS]*

AFST 23100. SURVEY OF MODERN AFRICA

Course surveys the major areas and issues of modern Africa. Using an inter-disciplinary approach, it probes the major post-colonial cultural, economic, political, and societal structures, dynamics, ideas, and trends that depict

modern Africa as shaped by its recent colonial history and the international environment. The course aims to familiarize students with these realities and the challenges contemporary African societies face as they build their future. *Prerequisite: AFST-10000 or permission of the instructor. [C, HSS]*

AFST 24000. AFRICANA WOMEN IN NORTH AMERICA: EARLIEST TIMES THROUGH THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT (Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)

Africana women in North America have historically suffered from racial, class, and gender oppression. Historically their oppression in American society resulted from exploitation of their labor, historical patterns of disenfranchisement from institutions controlled by the dominant society, as well as persistent stereotyping by mainstream U.S. society as justification for this exclusion. Course critically examines historic Africana women from colonial times to the Civil Rights Movement through the lens of Black feminist theory. It investigates their responses to oppression and explores the contributions Black women made to social, intellectual, and cultural history of the United States. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000 or permission of the instructor. Not offered 2012-2013. [C, HSS]*

AFST 24100. BLACK WOMEN IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY (Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)

Course examines the ways in which contemporary society has shaped the lives of Africana women since the 1960s. It explores how Black women have influenced U.S. society. Investigates issues such as family life, education, career opportunities, political activities, Black male/female relationships, societal constraints on their lives, as well as Black women's roles in the civil rights and feminist movements. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000 or permission of the instructor. Alternate years. Not offered 2012-2013. [C, HSS]*

AFST 24200. MARTIN, MALCOLM, AND MANDELA

Course examines the leadership styles of these three Black leaders for civil and human rights in the 20th century. Places these activists in their historical and sociopolitical contexts, while comparing and contrasting their lives, philosophies and actions. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000 or permission of the instructor. Alternate years. [C, HSS]*

AFST 24400. CINEMA OF AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA (Film Studies)

This Course explores issues of race, class, culture, the colonial, and the anti-colonial thought through an examination of cinema created within and focusing on continental and diasporic African life. Accompanying the cinematic texts will be an array of written texts that contribute to the class discussion across the fields of history, post-colonial theory, and film theory. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000 or permission of the instructor. Alternate years. Offered 2012-2013. [C, AH]*

AFST 24500. THE GLOBAL AFRICAN COMMUNITY

Course focuses on the political, cultural, and social expressions of the idea of a global African community. This idea was termed Pan-Africanism by major scholars, leaders and activists. Course examines the successes and failures of Pan-African experiments on the African continent since independence, as well as similar efforts in the diaspora, identifying their implications for the future of Pan-Africanism. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000 or permission of the instructor. Alternate years. Spring 2013. [C, HSS]*

AFST 24600. AFRICANA POPULAR CULTURE

Course surveys the genres, media, conceptual dynamics and cultural consequences of popular culture of the Africana world. Examining music, religion, sports and graphic art, the course will investigate the historicity, aesthetics and social-political impact of these fields on Africana communities. Forms will be analyzed as vehicles for personal and public critique and transformation. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000 or permission of the instructor. Alternate years. Offered 2012-2013. [C, AH]*

AFST 24700. BLACK NATIONALISM

Course examines from a geographic-specific context the political, cultural, and theoretical aspects of historic and contemporary African diasporic nationalist movements. By examining major figures, texts, and movements, the course investigates the ways in which race, class, and culture inform Black nationalist theory and practice. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000 or permission of the instructor. Alternate years. Spring 2013. [C, HSS]*

AFST 30000. CRITICAL READINGS IN AFRICANA STUDIES

Advanced special topics seminar focuses on critical issues in a variety of locations and time periods crucial to understanding Africana Studies. Possible readings include the works of John Bracey, W.E.B. Du Bois, Frantz Fanon, C.L.R. James, John Hope Franklin, Fannie Lou Hammer, Vincent Harding, Benjamin Mays, August Meier, Joanne Robinson, Carter G. Woodson, C. Van Woodward, etc. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000, one 200-level Africana Studies course, or permission of the instructor. Alternate years.*

AFST 30100. AFRICANA STRUGGLES FOR FREEDOM

. Course surveys social, cultural and political movements, and actions of the historical and ongoing struggle against various forms of oppression. Examines types of resistances utilized by African people against enslavement, colonization, and other forms of domination. Critically analyzes resistances to enslavement in Africa, the Americas and Europe, as well as the fight for emancipation and civil rights in these regions throughout the 20th century. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000, one 200-level Africana Studies course, or permission of the instructor. [C, HSS]*

AFST 30200. MARXISM AND AFRICANA RADICAL THOUGHT

Course offers students an in-depth opportunity to read and examine major thinkers and works of the “Black Radical Tradition.” More specifically, the course will contrast and examine the ways African continental and diasporic thinkers and activists engage, borrow from, contribute to, and expand the theories of Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, and Vladimir L. Lenin. The goal is to show the various ways in which Africana radical thought has re-calibrated Marxian thought and activism through the particularities of the Africana experience. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000, one 200-level Africana Studies course, or permission of the instructor. Alternate years. [HSS]*

AFST 40000. TUTORIAL

Offered to individual students under the supervision of an Africana Studies faculty member on a selected topic. Permission of the chair of Africana Studies is required. Arrangements must be made with the supervising faculty member before registration. *Prerequisite: The approval of both the supervising faculty member and the chairperson are required prior to registration.*

AFST 40100. INDEPENDENT STUDY

Group tutorial taken during one semester of the junior year includes bibliographic and methodological instruction and a written essay/project designed by the student. Special attention will be given to the disciplinary concerns in the humanities and social science areas of Africana Studies. *Prerequisite: AFST 10000 and three 200-level Africana Studies courses.*

AFST 45100. INDEPENDENT STUDY THESIS – SEMESTER ONE

The first semester of the Senior Independent Study project, in which each student engages in creative and independent research guided by a faculty mentor and which culminates in a thesis and an oral examination in the second semester. *Prerequisite: AFST 40100.*

AFST 45200. INDEPENDENT STUDY THESIS – SEMESTER TWO

The second semester of the Senior Independent Study project, which culminates in the thesis and an oral examination. *Prerequisite: AFST 45100.*

CROSS-LISTED COURSES ACCEPTED FOR AFRICANA STUDIES CREDIT

ART AND ART HISTORY

ARTD 22000. AFRICAN ART [C]

ARTD 23000. AFRICAN-AMERICAN ART [C, AH]

ENGLISH

ENGL 21007. BLACK LITERATURE AND CULTURE (this course only) [AH]

ENGL 23002. SURVEY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE (this course only) [AH]

FRENCH

FREN 23500. LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICA [C]

HISTORY

HIST 11500. HISTORY OF BLACK AMERICA: FROM WEST AFRICAN ORIGINS TO THE PRESENT [C, HSS]

HIST 10173. SOCIAL HISTORY OF HIP HOP

HIST 23100. AFRICA BEFORE 1800 [C, HSS]

HIST 23200. AFRICA SINCE 1800 [C, HSS]

HIST 24600. UNITED STATES URBAN HISTORY [HSS]

MUSIC

MUSC 16500. GOSPEL CHOIR (.125 CREDIT)

MUSC 21400. HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC [C, AH]

MUSC 21700. SURVEY OF JAZZ [C, AH]

PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 23400. AFRICAN PHILOSOPHY [C, AH]

POLITICAL SCIENCE

PSCI 20800. RACE AND POLITICS [C, HSS]

PSCI 21300. THE CONSTITUTIONAL LAW OF CIVIL RIGHTS [C, HSS]

PSCI 24900. THE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF AFRICA [C, HSS]

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELS 26100. BLACK RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA [C, R]

SOCIOLOGY

SOCI 20900. INEQUALITY IN AMERICA [HSS]

SOCI 21400. RACIAL AND ETHNIC GROUPS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY [C, HSS]

SOCI 21700. BLACKS IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN SOCIETY [C, HSS]

SPANISH

SPAN 21200. LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF THE HISPANIC CARIBBEAN [C, AH]

THEATRE AND DANCE

THTD 24200. AFRICAN AMERICAN THEATRE HISTORY [W, C, AH]