

# Africana Studies

In the College of Arts and Letters

**OFFICE: Arts and Letters 373**

**TELEPHONE: 619-594-6531**

**<http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/afra>**

## Faculty

Emeritus: Chambers, Kornweibel

Chair: Weber

Professor: Weber

Associate Professors: Alkebulan, Cornwell, Nesbitt, Toombs

Adjunct: Reddick

## Offered by the Department

Major in Afro-American studies with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.

Minor in Afro-American studies.

## The Major

Africana studies offers a broad, interdisciplinary program. The curriculum is designed to focus on a variety of subjects pertaining to the Africana experience. It is also concerned with strengthening links between black students and the black community, and developing frameworks for social change and the struggle for black dignity. It seeks, in short, to provide a total educational experience of the Africana culture. The courses offered in Africana studies are available to anyone who is interested.

The major provides excellent preparation for the fields of law, government, foreign service, business administration, research, consulting, librarianship, counseling, program development, program design, program analysis, urbanology, and writing, to name a few, as well as the more traditional Africana studies profession of teaching.

## Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Afro-American Studies Major

**With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences**

**(Major Code: 22111)**

All candidates for the degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." No more than 48 units in Africana studies courses can apply to the degree.

A minor is not required with this major.

**Preparation for the Major.** Africana Studies 101A, 101B, 170A, 270; and three units selected from Africana Studies 170B, 240, 250 or 260. (15 units)

**Language Requirement.** Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**Major.** A minimum of 27 upper division units to include twelve units selected from one of the following areas and six units from each of the two remaining areas and Africana Studies 490. Up to six units, with appropriate content, of 496 and 499 in any combination may be applied to an area of specialization with the approval of the department chair.

**Sociology and Psychology:** Africana Studies 330, 331, 332, 341, 360\*, 421, 445, 455.

**Humanities:** Africana Studies 362, 363, 365A, 365B, 385, 460, 462, 463, 464, 465, 476, 481, 485.

**History and Political Science:** Africana Studies 320, 321, 322, 325, 327, 332, 380, 420, 422, 423, 470, 471A, 471B, 472.

\*Additional prerequisite required.

## Afro-American Studies Minor

The minor in Afro-American studies consists of a minimum of 18 units in Africana Studies, of which 12 units must be upper division, to include six units selected from the courses for preparation for the major, six units selected from one of the three areas of the major, and three units from each of the remaining areas.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

## COURSES (AFRAS)

Refer to *Curricula and Courses and University Policies* sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

### LOWER DIVISION COURSES

#### **AFRAS 101A. Introduction to Africana Studies: Social and Behavioral Sciences (3) [GE]**

Interdisciplinary introduction of African American thought and behavior. Subject areas include social systems, economic empowerment, self development, family dynamics, use of power, cognitive styles, interethnic communication and international relations. Review of relevant literature in social and behavioral sciences.

#### **AFRAS 101B. Introduction to Africana Studies: Humanities (3) [GE]**

Interdisciplinary introduction to African American history, literature, other arts and religion. Subject areas include methodology and theoretical perspectives of Africana studies.

#### **AFRAS 120. Composition (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Satisfaction of the English Placement Test and Writing Competency requirements. (See the Graduation Requirements section of catalog.) **Proof of completion of prerequisites required:** Copy of EPT or competency scores or verification of exemption; proof of credit (Cr) in Rhetoric and Writing Studies 92A or 92B or 97.

Designed to develop and enhance composition and reading skills. Focus on writing skills that contribute to academic growth and development. Not open to students with credit in a higher-numbered composition course or American Indian Studies 120 or Chicana and Chicano Studies 111B or English 100 or General Studies 260A or Linguistics 100 or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 100 or 101.

**AFRAS 140. Oral Communication (3) [GE]**

Practice in speaking, critical listening, reasoning and organizing. Theory and techniques of communications used to evaluate the effect they have on the lives of Blacks and others. Not open to students with credit in Chicana and Chicano Studies 111A or Communication 103.

**AFRAS 170A-170B. Afro-American History (3-3) [AI]**

American history from a Black perspective. These courses satisfy the graduation requirement in American Institutions.

**AFRAS 200. Intermediate Expository Writing and Research Fundamentals (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Satisfaction of the English Placement Test and Writing Competency requirement and Africana Studies 120 or American Indian Studies 120 or Chicana and Chicano Studies 111B or English 100 or General Studies 260A or Linguistics 100 or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 100 or 101. **Proof of completion of prerequisites required:** Test scores or verification of exemption; copy of transcript.

Development of intermediate expository writing skills and application of practical research principles. Not open to students with credit in Chicana and Chicano Studies 200, English 200, General Studies 260D, Linguistics 200, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200.

**AFRAS 240. Africana Intellectual Thought (3) [GE]**

Major theories and theory-makers and production of a global black intellectual tradition. Thoughts and writings of major black leaders as they relate to liberation, struggle, resistance, and cultural production.

**AFRAS 250. Psychology of Blackness (3)**

Facts, principles, and concepts which are basic to understanding human behavior. An analysis of the psychological motivations and behavioral responses of and toward Afro-Americans.

**AFRAS 260. Africana Literary Study (3) [GE]**

Oral and written literature produced by people of African descent. How Africana people use language to communicate their history and culture. Basic literary vocabulary, techniques, and theories for the non-specialist.

**AFRAS 270. African Foundations of Africana Studies (3) [GE]**

African foundations of Africana studies from contemporary issues to forces that shaped Africa and its Diaspora.

**AFRAS 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)**

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES  
(Intended for Undergraduates)**

**AFRAS 320. Political Economy of Race and Class (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Political economy of urban growth, development, and redevelopment examined in historical and contemporary contexts. Focus on race and class inequality and conflict; effectiveness of public and private sector decisions and programs; evolution of African American urban poor and their communities.

**AFRAS 321. Black Political Participation in America (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Africana Studies 101A or 170A or 170B or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Afro-American political life and development in the United States. Interaction between Afro-Americans and various actors, institution processes, and policies of the American system of politics and governance.

**AFRAS 322. African American Political Thought (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Political and social thought underlying principles, goals, strategies developed by African Americans in struggle for social development and human rights. Focus on twentieth century thought.

**AFRAS 325. Public Policy and Afro-American Community (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

Impact of public policy on Afro-American community: theory and practice of policy formulation, implementation, evaluation, and modification for specific problems in Afro-American community; roles of governmental officials, administrative arrangements, organizational processes, and community groups in policy making.

**AFRAS 327. Critical Theories in Africana Studies (3)**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or 101B.

Major historical and contemporary theories and thinkers that have defined and continue to define discipline of Africana studies. Comparative analyses of diverse voices and perspectives.

**AFRAS 330. Black Child Development (3)**

Attitudes, needs and problems of the Afro-American child with emphasis on new approaches and insights into the development of positive changes for the child's growth and development.

**AFRAS 331. The Black Family (3)**

Structure and functions of the Black family in contemporary American society.

**AFRAS 332. Black Women: Myth and Reality (3)**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or 101B.

Images of Black women in America and how those images have been distorted.

**AFRAS 341. Cultural Patterns and African American Identity (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Impact of social institutions on African American identity and cultural patterns.

**AFRAS 351. Black Religions and Spirituality (3)**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101B.

Major Black religious and spiritual responses and expressions in Africa and Black diaspora, including creation of institutions to support and advance religious and spiritual matters.

**AFRAS 360. Communications and Community Action (3)**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 140 (field assignments are a major part of this course).

Application of the basic theories of communication through field projects. Study of the communication problems that exist between sociopolitical groups and the media.

**AFRAS 362. Rhetoric of Black America (3)**

Prerequisite: Three units of Afro-American history or communications.

Rhetoric of Black Americans from David Walker to the present, role rhetoric has played in history of Black people and an analysis of Black audience in terms of the Black experience.

**AFRAS 363. Sociocultural Analysis of Black Languages (3)**

Prerequisite: Three units in Africana Studies.

Social and cultural functions of Black languages, verbal and non-verbal, in Afro-American life, and their profound impact on larger society. Also, a probe into issues concerning validity of Black English.

**AFRAS 365A. African American Literature to 1900 (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101B or 260 or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Eighteenth and nineteenth century writing by African American authors. Issues of literary form, canon formation, and sociopolitical impact of the literature upon African American culture.

**AFRAS 365B. African American Literature After 1900 (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101B or 260 or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Writing by African American authors after 1900. Issues of literary form, canon formation and sociopolitical impact of the literature upon African American and American culture of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

**AFRAS 380. Blacks in the American Justice System (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Interpretation and application of constitutional principles and judicial decisions to political and social problems faced by Afro-Americans.

**AFRAS 385. African American Music (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101B or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

African American music from its African roots to present. Consideration of musical styles, events, significant contributors as well as role of sociocultural values in development of music.

**AFRAS 420. Afro-Americans and the Politics of Urban Education (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Struggle against Afro-American subordination and complexities, contradictions, and dilemmas of formulating and implementing quality education and equal opportunity policies. Interaction between politics and education during eras of machine, reform, and postreform politics.

**AFRAS 421. Black Urban Experience (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Major social science literature of international Black urban experience. Behavior, culture, and oppressions unique to urban environment.

**AFRAS 422. Modern Civil Rights Movement (3)**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or 101B.

Key events, strategies, and theoretical debates that emerged from struggle for black equality during modern civil rights movement in the United States from 1945 to present.

**AFRAS 423. Black Nationalism (3)**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or 101B.

Black nationalism in the world, with emphasis on comparative analysis of writings of leading nationalist (and Pan-Africanist) thinkers and theorists.

**AFRAS 445. Ethnicity and Social Psychology (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or 250 or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Major social psychological theories specifically focusing on how these theories relate to minority attitude/value formation and group behavior. Strategies for resolving social issues.

**AFRAS 455. Africana Class, Gender, and Sexualities (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Intersection of race, class, gender, and sexualities within Africana culture and experience and impact on Africana world-view.

**AFRAS 460. Black Images in Western Literature (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

How image of the Black has been portrayed in Western (white) literature and attitudes and images of non-Black writers towards Blacks.

**AFRAS 462. The Harlem Renaissance (3)**

Black literature of the 1920s from literary, historical, sociological and cultural perspectives.

**AFRAS 463. Black Literatures of the World (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101B or 260 or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities for nonmajors.

Afro-American literature in context of world literatures by Blacks. Cross-cultural influences between Africa and the Americas.

**AFRAS 464. Caribbean Literature (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101B or 260 or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities for nonmajors.

Political, religious, and musical paradigms in writing from 1900 to present. Politico-religious movements and related art forms (i.e. Rastafarian Reggae, Dub Poetry).

**AFRAS 465. Africa in Literature and Film (3) [GE]  
(Same course as French 465)**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities for nonmajors.

African cultural history through literature and film. Consistency/variety of African cultural expressions and conventions in literature and film. Taught in English.

**AFRAS 470. Comparative History: Afro-American and African Heritage (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Conceptual framework of African history and a comparative study of Afro-American institutions.

**AFRAS 471A. Black History, 1492-1877 (3)**

Afro-Americanization and African survivals in the U.S.; origins and development of slavery; growth of free Black communities; antislavery movements and Black nationalism; slavery's end and dawn of freedom.

**AFRAS 471B. Twentieth Century Black History (3)**

History of social movements and institutions from 1890 to the present. Focus on both leadership and life of the masses.

**AFRAS 472. Comparative Slavery (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Comparative history of enslavement of Blacks throughout western hemisphere. Uses United States as baseline. Further comparisons to ancient Mediterranean, African, and Middle Eastern societies; Nazi Germany; contemporary Asian cultures.

**AFRAS 476. History and Culture of Hip Hop (3)**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101A or 101B.

Genesis of hip hop as a worldwide culture, with attention to major Africana historical, political, sociological, cultural, and aesthetic precursors.

**AFRAS 481. Africana Aesthetics (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101B or completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Africana theory and cultural production relating to ideas of beauty and truth. African aesthetic practices and their transformations in Black diaspora.

**AFRAS 485. Blacks in the Arts (3)**

Prerequisite: Africana Studies 101B.

Academic and artistic perspectives on Black participation in and contributions to the creative and performing arts. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Maximum credit six units.

**AFRAS 490. Senior Seminar (3)**

Prerequisite: Open only to majors who have completed the first semester of junior year.

Capstone experience in which mastery of practice, theories, concepts, and issues central to Africana studies is demonstrated.

**AFRAS 496. Experimental Topics (1-4)**

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

**AFRAS 499. Special Study (1-3)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

---

---