

# AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, BA

Courses offered in the program enable students in all of the colleges within the university to pursue undergraduate sequences for enrichment or specialization in African American studies. Most courses offered through the St. Clair Drake Center for African and African American Studies are interdisciplinary and may be used to satisfy general education requirements as well as electives. The objectives of the African American studies program are:

- To provide a fundamental understanding of those economic, social, cultural, and political forces in Africa, Europe, and North and Latin America that have shaped the lives of African peoples throughout the African Diaspora, c. 1400 to the present.
- To better understand the unique history and relationships between Africans that live outside of the continent and those that have remained.
- To provide, through the Drake Center, a place to conduct basic and applied research.
- To provide resources to create materials that illustrate the problems and development of peoples of African descent in a variety of institutional settings. A major focus of the Drake Center continues to be the Chicago metropolitan area, including urban and suburban enclaves, most notably, the famed Black Metropolis.
- To influence and support conversations about Africa by providing accurate, timely, and appropriate information on selected topics.
- To provide multiple levels of understanding of unique problems of African Americans in contemporary American life and the space required to work toward solutions to those problems.
- To place African American men and women in the complex and often conflicted layers of American society and to show how each has contributed to the development of modern day American society.
- To develop an expanding curriculum and a body of research that informs and influences policy that affects the lives of African Americans.

Students interested in African American studies are encouraged to take courses in African history and politics. Interested students should consult the director of the Drake Center as early in their academic careers as possible.

The BA in African American Studies will help students gain an interdisciplinary understanding on past and present social, economic, and political conditions of Africans and people of African descent, and to connect their struggles for social and economic justice with those of disenfranchised peoples throughout the world.

## Standards

Students must complete all course work with a grade of C- or higher, with an overall GPA in the major of at least 2.0.

Requirements: Thirty credit hours of course work are required. With the approval of the program director, students select 21 credit hours from African American Studies courses, of which 12 credit hours must be at the 300 level. Also, 9 credit hours must be selected from courses in African history, politics, and culture. At least 15 credit hours of course work must be taken at Roosevelt University.

Courses listed below are only a portion of possible offerings. Check course schedules or meet with an advisor for additions.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>African American Studies Courses</b>		
<b>Introductory African American Studies Courses</b>		9
AFS 102	INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES	
AFS 207	INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE	
AFS 211	PSYCHOLOGY STUDY OF RACISM	
AFS 228	AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY:1619-1877	
AFS 229	AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY:1877-1960	
<b>Advanced 300 Level African American Electives</b>		12
AFS 317	THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN	
AFS 318	THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN MAN	
AFS 327	RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	
AFS 381	SPECIAL TOPICS IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES	
Additional Interdisciplinary Courses may apply. See Advisor.		
<b>African Studies Courses</b>		9
AFS 101	INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN STUDIES	
AFS 210	RACE IN AMERICAN POLITICS	
AFS 234	RACE & SEX IN JAMESTOWN	
AFS 240	INTRODUCTION TO AFRICA: CULTURE & HISTORY	
Additional Interdisciplinary Courses may apply. See Advisor.		
<b>General Education, University Writing Requirement, and Electives</b>		90
Total Credit Hours		120

## CORE Requirements (General Education)

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>First Year Success Course or Transfer Success Course</b>		
FYS 101 or TRS 101	FIRST YEAR SUCCESS COURSE TRANSFER SUCCESS 101	1
<b>Communication Requirement</b>		
ENG 101	COMPOSITION I: CRITICAL READING & WRITING	3
ENG 102	COMPOSITION II: INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC RESEARCH	3
LIBS 201	WRITING SOCIAL JUSTICE ( Transfer students with acceptable communication credit may be exempt from this requirement.)	3
<b>Ideas Across Disciplines</b>		
3 credits in coursework categorized as Ideas.		3
<b>Humanities and Fine and Performing Arts</b>		

9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Art History, English (excluding ENG 101 and ENG 102), History, Languages, Music, Philosophy, Theatre, Speech and Women's and Gender Studies	9
<b>Mathematics</b>	
MATH 110 QUANTITATIVE LITERACY (or above)	3
<b>Science</b>	
One biological science and one physical science required (at least one must be a four-hour lab). (Not applicable for science majors)	7-8
<b>Social Sciences</b>	
9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, History, Journalism, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies	9
<b>Experiential Learning</b>	
6 credits from coursework categorized as Experiential Learning.	
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>41-42</b>

These quantitative requirements also apply to degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences:

- Students must earn a minimum of 120 semester hours.
- Students may apply no more than 60 credit hours of 100-level courses toward the degree.
- Students must apply no fewer than 60 credit hours of 200- and 300-level courses toward the degree.
- Students must have at least 18 credit hours (of the 60 credit hours above) at the 300 level.
- Students may transfer in no more than 70 credit hours from community colleges.
- Students must take their final 30 hours at Roosevelt University. Note that some majors have additional requirements for RU hours.
- Students must have a grade point average of 2.0 or higher to graduate. Note that some majors have additional GPA requirements.
- Students may apply no more than 51 hours in the major (BA) or 57 hours in the major (BS)

Your degree map is a general guide suggesting courses to complete each term on the academic pathway to your degree. It is based on the most current scheduling information from your academic program. Your program's degree map is reviewed annually and updated as schedules change (although you retain the same course requirements as long as you are continuously enrolled in your degree program).

Always work closely with your academic advisor to understand curriculum requirements and scheduling, as each student's academic plan can look slightly different.

**Year 1**

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
ENG 101	3	ENG 102	3
FYS 101	1	Ideas Across Disci	3
MATH 110	3	Social Science #1	3
Intro AFS course <sup>5</sup>	3	Humanities #1	3
BIOL 111 or 112 <sup>4</sup>	4	Physical Science <sup>4</sup>	3

General Elective <sup>1</sup>	1	
	15	15

**Year 2**

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
LIBS 201	3	Intro AFS course <sup>5</sup>	3
Intro AFS course <sup>5</sup>	3	Social Science #3	3
Social Science #2	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
Humanities #2	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
Humanities #3	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
	15		15

**Year 3**

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
AFS 317 <sup>3</sup>	3	AFS 318 <sup>3</sup>	3
African Studies course <sup>6</sup>	3	African Studies course <sup>6</sup>	3
Experiential Learning #1 <sup>2</sup>	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
	15		15

**Year 4**

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
AFS 381 <sup>3</sup>	3	AFS 327 <sup>3</sup>	3
African Studies course <sup>6</sup>	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
Experiential Learning #2 <sup>2</sup>	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3	General Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
	15		15

Total Credit Hours 120

- <sup>1</sup> Or course towards an optional Minor
- <sup>2</sup> Experiential Learning class must be 200/300 level and satisfies CORE Experiential Learning requirement.
- <sup>3</sup> See AFS advisor for other interdisciplinary courses that may apply.
- <sup>4</sup> One Natural Science course must have a lab.
- <sup>5</sup> Choose from AFS 102, AFS 207, AFS 211, AFS 228 or AFS 229.
- <sup>6</sup> Choose from AFS 101, AFS 210, AFS 234 or AFS 240. See AFS advisor for other interdisciplinary courses that may apply.