AFRICAN & AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES (AFS)

AFS 101 - INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN STUDIES
Interdisciplinary approach to understanding the role of Africa and its peoples in world history. How Africans shaped their cultures and lives in both ancient and modern times.
Credits: 3
Attributes: International Studies, Non-western Culture, Social Science

AFS 102 - INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES
Interdisciplinary profile of worldwide experiences of persons of African descent from antiquity to the present. Emphasis on the American experience in the arts, the workplace, politics, religion, and race relations.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Non-western Culture, Social Science

AFS 207 - INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE
African American literature is a dynamic resource for understanding numerous individual, communal, and societal needs. This survey will highlight canonical and emerging African-American authors from the 18th-21st century (e.g. Dunbar, Johnson, Jacobs, Wells-Barnett, Hughes, Fauset, Wright, Hurston, Ellison, Brooks, Baraka, Sanchez, Young, Clifton, Reed, Hemphil, Beaty) through a range of genres, noting African, European, and “New World” influences. The writer’s role in a given community, an artist’s aesthetic considerations and unique voice, the function of the arts, and major movements (e.g. New Negro Harlem Renaissance and the Black Arts Movement) will be among the contexts for our study. Satisfies non-Western requirement.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Non-western Culture

AFS 210 - RACE IN AMERICAN POLITICS
This course examines ways in which issues of race manifest in the public sphere in the United States. The class pays particular attention to considering contemporary issues through the lens of historical and continued structural racism within the U.S., exploring issues of social justice, structural discrimination, and privilege in the politics surrounding the framing and implementation of public policy in the United States.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Non-western Culture, Social Justice Studies, Social Science
Course Notes: Open to freshmen.

AFS 211 - PSYCHOLOGY STUDY OF RACISM
The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with the field of psychology’s study of racism and prejudice; and engage the student an experiential investigation of racism and prejudice via group discussions, viewing of films on the topics, and additional readings as assigned.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Non-western Culture, Social Science
Course Notes: Sophomore standing.

AFS 228 - AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY:1619-1877
Evolution of slavery as a social and economic institution and role of free African Americans in American society up to and during Reconstruction. See Hist 228.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Non-western Culture, Social Science
Prerequisites: ENG 102
Course Notes: Soph Stand.

AFS 229 - AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY: 1877-1960
Survey of the African-American experience in America with attention to culture and participation in widespread social and political movements. See Hist 229.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Non-western Culture, Social Science
Prerequisites: ENG 102
Course Notes: Soph. Stand.

AFS 233 - AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS
This course will interrogate the definitions, chronology, and locations of the civil rights movement in American history. See HIST 233.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Non-western Culture, Social Science
Prerequisites: ENG 102
Course Notes: Sophomore standing.

AFS 240 - INTRODUCTION TO AFRICA: CULTURE & HISTORY
Africa from the development of human civilization; migration; formation of kingdoms and territorial states; spread of Islam and Christianity; and intracontinental and intercontinental trading networks. See Hist 240.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, International Studies, Non-western Culture, Social Science

AFS 241 - AFRICA UNDER EUROPEAN DOMINATION
Credits: 3
Attributes: International Studies, Non-western Culture
Course Notes: Sophomore standing

AFS 290 - TOP: AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES
This course explores a specific topic in African American Studies through a variety of disciplines, including sociology, political science, history, philosophy, literature among others.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Non-western Culture, Social Science

AFS 317 - THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN
Relationship of the African-American woman to institutions of society from slavery to present. Social policy issues related to legislation, employment, health care, child care, education, housing, and correction systems.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Non-western Culture, Social Science, Women Gender Studies
Prerequisites: AFS 101 or AFS 102
Course Notes: or consent

AFS 318 - THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN MAN
Historical, psychological, and sociological examination of issues and conflicts concerning the status, identity, and image of the African-American male in contemporary American society.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Non-western Culture, Social Science

AFS 326 - RACE, GENDER & THE MASS MEDIA
Relationship between U.S. media and social construction of race and gender; media’s role in perpetuating/challenging gender and racial stereotypes; perceptions and reaction to representations; critical consumption of media images/messages pertaining to disenfranchised groups.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Non-western Culture, Social Science, Women Gender Studies
Prerequisites: SOC 101
AFS 327 - RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS
Race and ethnicity in the US; history and present status of various racial and ethnic groups; political economy of race; changing public discourse of race and racial identities. See SOC 327.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Non-western Culture, Social Science
Prerequisites: SOC 101

AFS 329 - WHITENESS IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY
Course addresses the history, economics, politics and social construction of whiteness. Specific focus on three white deep-settler countries (countries that whites colonized, controlled, and stayed for generations): U.S.A., Australia and South Africa. These three countries share many similarities and by examining the differences we can develop a sophisticated understanding of the (re)production of white privilege, white power and the continuation of white supremacy world-wide.
Credits: 3
Attributes: International Studies, Non-western Culture, Social Science
Prerequisites: SOC 101 and 3 Credit Hours of Sociology
Course Notes: Sophomore standing or above.

AFS 364 - WHITE CITY & BLACK METROPOLIS
Chicago constructed the White City to host the world during the 1893 Columbian Exposition. A half-century later, two prominent African American sociologists called the same city the Black Metropolis. This course will interrogate the spaces between these metaphors across a century of Chicago history. Chronological topics will include: the birth of the city as Nature’s Metropolis; the Chicago Fire; the Exposition; the Haymarket affair; the Great Migration and 1919 riot; ethnic neighborhood associations of the 1920s; Depression radicalism and unionism in the 1930s; the greater migration of the 1940s; housing crises during the 1950s and beyond; civil rights and Black Power; and the shift from the "plantation politics" of Richard J. Daley in the 1960s to the election of the anti-machine candidate Harold Washington in the 1980s. Students taking this course will read secondary materials and conduct primary source research in local archives to analyze and discuss the power and construction of racial identity to better understand the rich and complex urban history of Chicago.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Non-western Culture, Social Science
Prerequisites: HIST 106 or HIST 107

AFS 381 - SPECIAL TOPICS IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES
This course explores an advanced specific topic in African American Studies through a variety of disciplines, including sociology, political science, history, philosophy, and literature, among others. See Red highlighted CRN on course schedule for term specific descriptions.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Non-western Culture, Social Science
Prerequisites: SOC 101

AFS 395 - INDEPENDENT STUDY
Directed study arranged one-on-one by the student in consultation with a faculty member.
Credits: 1-6
Attributes: Non-western Culture
Course Notes: Consent of instructor.