

AFRICANA STUDIES

FACULTY:

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Africana Studies is an academic discipline rooted in a social, historical, and cultural context that seeks to introduce students to knowledge and perspectives about the peoples of Africa and of the African Diaspora that are not typically covered in traditional disciplines. The knowledge and perspectives Africana Studies seek to impart to students are principally corrective. They tend to challenge long-standing epistemic and paradigmatic approaches of traditional disciplines to the study of people of African descent and their struggles for equality and social justice.

Our interdisciplinary-trained faculty help students investigate, analyze, and develop multidisciplinary competencies to interpret critically all facets of the historical and contemporary experiences of black women and men in the global community. Since its inception in 1968, the Department of Africana Studies (formerly the Black Studies Program) has prepared College of Wooster graduates to succeed and become leaders in an interdependent, multicultural world.

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 1000
- 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 1000
- 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, 20000-20029
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 20000-20029. ISSUES IN AFRICANA STUDIES (some sections cross-listed with: **Music, 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]*

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. Annually. Fall and Spring. [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 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. Fall. [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. Spring. [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. Spring. [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. [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. Spring. [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. [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.*

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. Fall. [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. [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

ARTH 22000. AFRICAN ART [C]

ENGLISH

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

FRENCH

FREN 33500. LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICA [C]

HISTORY

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

HIST 23100. AFRICA BEFORE 1800 [C, HSS]

HIST 23200. AFRICA SINCE 1800 [C, HSS]

MUSIC

MUSC 16500. GOSPEL CHOIR (.125 course credit)

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

MUSC 21700. SURVEY OF JAZZ [C, AH]

POLITICAL SCIENCE

PSCI 20800. RACE AND POLITICS [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]