

Africana Studies (AAS)

Courses

AAS 003 Introduction to Africana Studies 4 Credits

An interdisciplinary examination of the roots, culture, and politics of the modern black world through study of classic works in Africana Studies with emphasis on the continuities among African peoples worldwide and the social forces that have shaped contemporary black life in Africa and the Americas.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 005 (HIST 005) African Civilization 4 Credits

Sub-Saharan Africa through the millennia of the ancient world to the present. Human origins, state and non-state systems, the external slave trade; colonialism, resistance to European rule; independence movements; neocolonialism.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 025 (REL 025) Introduction to Black Religions and Hip-Hop 4 Credits

Rapper KRS ONE once stated that, "Rap is something you do and Hip-Hop is something you live." This course thinks through the global evolution of Hip-Hop culture and the public and academic study of Black Religions as responses to structural and historical inequality and the search for meaning in culture by considering themes of resistance, constraint, power, the body, deviance, and morality over and against race, class, gender, and sexuality from a range of academic and cultural sources.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 038 (ENGL 038) Introduction to African Literature 3 Credits

Sub-Saharan African literary themes and styles, historical and social contexts, African folk tales, oral poetry, colonial protest literature, postcolonial writing, films on contemporary Africa.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 039 Special Topics in Africana Studies 4 Credits

Study of a subject or issue in Africana Studies not covered in other courses. May be repeated for credit as subtitle varies.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

AAS 059 (THTR 059) West African Dance 2 Credits

This course will explore the dance movement and rhythms of West Africa. Students will learn African-based dance technique, characteristics, and the fundamental connection between the drums and the dance. Although some videos will be viewed, this is primarily a studio course; students should come prepared to move.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 062 (THTR 062) Black Theatre 4 Credits

Exploration of the theory and practice of Contemporary African American Theatre. Social, political and cultural impact of African American plays written and produced since 1990.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 066 (THTR 066) Hip Hop Dance 2 Credits

Techniques, vocabulary, and history behind the various elements of the Hip Hop Movement. Focus upon the cultural influence of Hip Hop dance styles, and the overall social influence of the Hip Hop Movement.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 095 1-4 Credits

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

AAS 102 (ENGL 102, JST 102, REL 102) Promised Lands: Jewish and African American Children's Literature 4 Credits

In the Hebrew Bible, Psalm 137 asks, "How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" For Jews, blacks, and black Jews, this was and is a poignant question. This course examines how these two rich, often overlapping and interacting groups tell their stories in literature for children and young adults, with a particular focus on the mediation of traumatic pasts. What does it mean to imagine promised lands beyond such pasts—and can they be reached?

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 103 (SOC 103) Race and Ethnicity in the Contemporary U.S. 4 Credits

Examines race and ethnicity from a sociological perspective. Focus on the role of the major racial and ethnic communities in modern American society. Explores the roles of race and ethnicity in identity, social relations, and social inequality. Topics include racial and ethnic communities, minority/majority groups, assimilation, prejudice/discrimination, identity and the social construction of the concept of "race."

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 106 (LAS 106, SOC 106) Race and Ethnicity in the Americas 4 Credits

How is it possible that someone who is officially considered black in the United States can embody different racial identities throughout current Latin America? Even more, how is it possible that people considered white nowadays were not officially so in early twentieth-century US (although they were viewed as white in the Latin American context at the same time period)? This course offers a historical comparative analysis of the nature and dynamics of race between the United States and Latin America.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 117 (PHIL 117) Race, Racism, and Philosophy 4 Credits

An introduction to the philosophy born of struggle against racism and white supremacy. We will read the work of philosophers, mostly European, who quietly made modern racism possible by inventing the category of race, but we will concentrate on the work of philosophers, mostly of African descent, who for 200 years have struggled to force a philosophical critique of the category of race and the practice of white supremacy.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 121 (ENGL 121) Topics in African-American Literature 4 Credits

Selected works of African American literature and/or the literatures of the African Diaspora. Must have completed six hours of first-year English. Cannot be taken pass/fail.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 124 (ART 124, GS 124) Arts of the Black World 16th-20th Centuries 4 Credits

This course covers artistic practices originating in Africa that subsequently influenced countless world cultures. The material covers artistic production and theory of arts of the enslaved populations in the AnteBellum South, early African American painting through the Harlem Renaissance, the religious arts of Haiti (Vodou) and Cuba (Santería), and contemporary production from Black Brazilian, American and European artists. Students should be prepared to attend Museums/galleries during the semester.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 125 (ART 125, GS 125) Art and Architecture of Africa from Colonial to Contemporary Times 4 Credits

This course is structured around case studies of art and architecture from early traditions up through the present. The focus is on cultural production, religious art and architecture (local as well as Christian and Muslim traditions), craftsmanship, style, materials, trade, and international exhibition of art objects in Museums. The literature draws from art historical, anthropological, and historical analyses as well as museum studies. Students should be prepared to attend Museums/galleries during the semester.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 128 (MUS 128) Jazz History I 3 Credits

A study of the roots of jazz. Starting in West Africa, the course traces the synthesis of African and European elements to 1945. Musicians covered are Gottshalk, Bolden, Morton, Armstrong, Hawkins, Basie, Ellington, and others.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 129 (MUS 129) Jazz History II 3 Credits

A survey of modern jazz from 1945 to present. Musicians covered include Parker, Gillespie, Monk, Davis, Coltrane, Hancock, and Coleman. Can be taken independently of Jazz History I, but the first course would be helpful.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 130 (HIST 130) African American History 4 Credits

Blacks in America from the first importation of Africans to the implementation of civil rights laws. West African origins, slave trade, slavery, free blacks and emancipation and study of Reconstruction, segregation, urbanization, and the struggle for racial equality.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 132 (THTR 132) Hip Hop Theatre 4 Credits

Introduction to the creation and performance of Hip Hop Theatre. Exploration of the history and culture of Hip Hop through original written material, live performance, music, film, video and web based content. Public Performances. Must have audition. Consent given by instructor.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 133 (FREN 133, HIST 133, LAS 133, MLL 133, POLS 133) Lehigh in Martinique: Globalization and Local Identity 3-4 Credits

History, culture and politics of the French Caribbean island of Martinique, from its position as a key site of the 18th century Atlantic World economy to becoming an official French department and outpost of the European Union. Interdisciplinary perspectives on the complex nature of social identity, historical memory and impact of globalization. No French is required. Offered during winter inter-term through Lehigh Study Abroad.

AAS 134 (HIST 134) History and Cultures of Ghana 4 Credits

Overview of Ghana's history and cultures from the fifteenth century, examining diversity among various ethnic groups and covering such themes as religion, literature, art, music/dance, gender, family and anti-colonial movements. The course will also explore how slave castles/forts contributed to the transatlantic slave trade, Pan-Africanism and global tourism.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 138 (ENGL 138) Introduction to African American Literature 4 Credits

Survey of African American prose narrative and poetry from the 18th century to the present. Features writers from the Harlem Renaissance, the Black Arts Movement, and the post Black Power era.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 139 Special Topics in Africana Studies 4 Credits

Study of a subject or issue in Africana Studies not covered in other courses. May be repeated for credit as subtitle varies.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

AAS 140 (THTR 140) African American Theatre 4 Credits

Foundations of African theater: historical, literacy, and practical.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 144 (SOC 144) Global Hip Hop and Social Change 4 Credits

Hip Hop has become a global phenomenon. We will analyze how and why socially Conscious Hip Hop, as a tool for social change, has expanded to Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 145 (WGSS 145) African American Women Writers 4 Credits

Literature by African American women writers with a focus on the experiences and images of black women in the U.S. Explores the written portraits and voices of 20th century black female novelists and poets, including Hurston, Petry, Morrison, Angelou, and Walker.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 155 (LAS 155, SOC 155) Afro-Latino Social Movements in Latin America & the Caribbean 4 Credits

This focuses on Afro-Latinos who make up nearly 70% of the population of the Americas. Despite the large amount of people of African descent living in the Americas, Afro-Latinos are an understudied population who face significant amounts of racial discrimination in their countries. Who are Afro-Latinos? Where do they live? How are they challenging the racism that they face? These are questions we will tackle in this course.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 163 (SOC 163) Sociology of Hip Hop Culture 4 Credits

Hip Hop culture is a complex form of artistic practices reflecting and impacting the environments in which they were produced. Through readings, music and video, this class will uncover the origins of Hip Hop by examining the musical history of the Afro-diaspora in the 20th century. Further study will reveal how the young Bronx, NY underclass in the 1970s fused elements of past musical styles with their own personal and political expression that sparked a worldwide phenomenon and culture industry.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 166 (SOC 166) Wealth and Poverty in the United States 4 Credits

Examines the sociology of wealth and poverty affluence and disadvantage, "rags and riches" in American Society. Focus is a critical analysis of the wealth gap, its causes, consequences and social context. We will consider the roles of wealth and poverty in determining life chances and structuring opportunity, as well as their roles in the perpetuation of social inequality across generations. We will address contemporary debates surrounding public policy, tax laws, antipoverty programs and other reform efforts aimed at decreasing the gap between the "Haves" and the "Have-Nots."

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 177 (LAS 177, SOC 177) Cuba: Race, Revolution and Culture 4 Credits

This course analyzes the role of race & "culture" in the Afro Cuban struggle for equality. By focusing on the arts: particularly music, film & literature, this course will analyze the development of race during Cuba's colonial period; the Afro Cuban challenge to the "race blind" political and cultural movements of the Cuban Republic. We will then wrap up the semester by addressing the significance of contemporary cultural movements that challenge the social issues currently facing Afro Cubans.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 179 (HIST 179) Black Political Thought in America 4 Credits

Black leadership, organizations, and philosophy in America from Reconstruction to the Civil Rights Era; ideas and programs of Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 183 (ANTH 183) Peoples and Cultures of Africa 4 Credits

Studies African modernity through a close reading of ethnographies, social stories, novels, and African feature films.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 205 (POLS 205) The Political Development of American Race Relations 4 Credits

This course examines the distinctive role race has played in shaping the political history of the United States.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 221 (ART 221, GS 221) Global Contemporary: Recent Art Movements Around the World 4 Credits

This course introduces contemporary artworks from around the world and artists that produce them. Topics include movements emerging in the last 40 years, some of which are: Revolutionary arts, Globalism, EcoArt, Postcolonial arts, phenomenological, experiential and new media arts. Global feminist projects, design/build production, graffiti and popular arts will be covered regularly. The Dakar, Venice and São Paulo Art Biennials as well as Documenta are explored as vectors for international artistic exchange and dissemination. Rotating case studies on the international on international built environment (e.g. : Qatar, Dubai, Singapore, Dakar) will be featured. Art Theory will be explored through iconographic, formal and contextual (political, social, financial) analysis. Movements will be situated against their historical frameworks as well as explored for their international scope and value.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 230 (POLS 230) Social Movements and Legacies of the 1960s 4 Credits

The lessons and legacies of 1960s social and political movements. Students examine civil rights, black power movements, the New Left, campus protests, the Vietnam war and antiwar movement, the counterculture, women's ecology movements and assess their connection to democracy, today's world and their own lives.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 239 Special Topics in Africana Studies 4 Credits

Study of a subject or issue in Africana Studies not covered in other courses. May be repeated for credit as subtitle varies.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

AAS 263 Caribbean Artistic and Cultural Traditions 4 Credits

Representation of contemporary popular culture in the Caribbean in literature, music, painting and other artistic expressions. Major attention is devoted to the influences on tradition, folklore and religion in modern Caribbean life.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 276 (COMM 276) Media and Race 4 Credits

Considers the role of print, broadcast and new media representations upon social reality. Focuses upon making the connections between information and entertainment media that perpetuate stereotypes and how such stereotypes create dominant, contemporary understandings of various groups. This course is writing intensive.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 277 (COMM 277) Race Representations & News Media 4 Credits

This course examines the representation of racial and ethnic minorities in American media and media outlets globally. It begins with a comparative analysis of majority/minority representations. It further analyzes the impact of such portrayals upon public opinion, public policy, and interpersonal life within the U.S. and abroad. Class discussions and assignments will address the role of print, broadcast and online media in shaping the contemporary dominant understandings of various racial groups in a globalized world and social constructions of reality.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 310 (SOC 310, WGSS 310) Gender, Race and Sexuality: The Social Construction of Differences 4 Credits

Students will engage with current debates about the meaning and use of racial and sexual classification systems in society. We will examine the historical and sociological contexts in which specific theories of racial and sexual differences emerged in the U.S. We will also explore the ways in which changes in the images have implications on the role racial, gender, and sexual identity plays in our understanding of the relationship between difference and inequality.

Prerequisites: SOC 103 or SSP 103

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 312 (FREN 312) Modernity in the Maghreb 4 Credits

Emergence of the modern self through a comparative study of textual as well as visual representations of postcolonial subjects by male and female writers and film makers. Study of the way the sociopolitical context of countries such as Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia informs the constitution of subjectivity within a multicultural and multilingual community. Issues such as patriarchy, nationalism, colonialism, post colonialism, identity, gender, and Islam in North African literature and film from Franco-Arab traditions.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 313 (SOC 313) Social Movements 4 Credits

Explores the origins, dynamics, and consequences of social movements through both sociological theory and empirical case studies. Covers questions of what constitutes a social movement, where and when social movements arise, who joins a social movement, and how social movements are able to contribute to change. Answers to these questions highlight issues of social movement recruitment and leadership, interactions between movements and the media, the state, and the broader public, ideology, strategies and tactics, and the factors contributing to the success and failure of social movements. Course readings drawn from case studies on civil rights, women's rights, gay rights, the environment, American Indians, abortion, globalization, antiapartheid, democratization, peace, and Islamic fundamentalism. Must have completed one 100-level SSP course.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 314 (GS 314, HMS 314, SOC 314) Infections and Inequalities: HIV, TB and Malaria in the Global South 4 Credits

This course will explore the social, economic, and environmental causes of HIV, TB, and malaria in developing nations, with a particular focus on the characteristics and causes of these diseases in Sub-Saharan Africa. Students will engage theories and perspectives on development, globalization, and social inequality to explain trends in HIV, TB, and malaria and to understand why certain groups are more vulnerable to infection than others. Prerequisite: Junior/senior standing with declared major/minor in SOC, ANTH, SOAN, HMS, GS, or AAS.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 318 (ENGL 318) African-American Literature and Culture 3,4 Credits

Special Topics in African American culture and/or the cultures of the African diaspora. Topics may be focused by period, genre, thematic interest or interdisciplinary method including, for example, "Nineteenth-century African American Literature and Politics", "African-American Folklore", "Black Atlantic Literature", "The Harlem Renaissance", "African-American Women Writers".

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

AAS 324 (ANTH 324, GS 324) Globalization and Development in Africa 4 Credits

This course examines the challenges Africa presents to expectations of modernization and development. It poses these questions: Have African societies been left behind by globalization, shut out from it, or do they merely reflect an unexpected side of globalization processes? What is Africa's place in the neoliberal world order? What role does "African culture" play in generating or blocking social change? And, how can anthropology illuminate prospects for change on what has long been regarded as the "dark continent"?

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 330 (HIST 330) Africans and the Atlantic World 4 Credits

This course chronicles the history of Africans and the Atlantic world from the fifteenth century. It explores cross-cultural interactions and exchanges between Africans and Europeans and covers major themes including trade, religion, slavery, abolition, identity, colonialism, gender, the "Back-to-Africa" movements and impact of Africans on Atlantic world history.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

AAS 331 (HIST 331) United States and Africa 4 Credits

Reciprocal relationships between North America and the African continent from the slave trade in the seventeenth century to the twentieth century Afrocentric movement; impact of Americans on shaping of modern Africa, Pan-African relations; influence of African Americans on U.S. policies toward Africa.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 332 (HIST 332) Slavery and the American South 4 Credits

The emergence and demise of the "peculiar institution" of African American slavery in British North America and the Old South. African background, colonial beginnings, 19th century slave community, the ruling race and proslavery ideology, the death of slavery and its aftermath, slavery and freedom in a comparative context.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 335 Special Topics in African History and/or Diaspora 3-4 Credits

Special Topics in African History and/or African diaspora. Topics may be focused by period, genre, thematic interest or interdisciplinary method.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

AAS 339 Special Topics in Africana Studies 4 Credits

Study of a subject or issue in Africana Studies not covered in other courses. May be repeated for credit as subtitle varies.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

AAS 341 (GS 341, HIST 341) Global Africa: Aid, Volunteerism, NGO's and International Studies 3-4 Credits

This course traces the origins of Aid to Africa, explores various volunteer activities, and investigates the role of NGOs, missionaries, philanthropists, medical practitioners, and global education. It examines the ways that cross-cultural interactions and exchanges between Africans and foreigners shaped African societies both positively and negatively.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 343 (ASIA 343, GS 343, POLS 343) Global Politics of Race: Asia and Africa 4 Credits

An examination of the concept of "race" and its impact on domestic and international politics.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 345 (SOC 345) Colonialism and the Black Radical Tradition 4 Credits

Karl Marx was not the only figure who developed an influential theory of social revolution. A cadre of theorists from the Global South have extensively theorized about the issues facing their particular nations, and they have developed social theories that have challenged social and global inequality. This course is a theory based course that will focus on the anti-colonial and post-colonial thought of radical black intellectuals from the Black America, the Caribbean, and West Africa.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 371 Independent Study 1-3 Credits

Independent study in advanced areas of Africana Studies. Independent research with an individual faculty member in the Africana Studies program. Consent of director.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: ND

AAS 372 Independent Study 2-3 Credits

Independent study in advanced areas of Africana Studies. Independent research with an individual faculty member in the Africana Studies program. Consent of director.

Attribute/Distribution: ND

AAS 375 (COMM 375) Global Media and Culture 4 Credits

Cultural Studies investigates dominant understandings; issues of identity and experience; and society. A Cultural Studies approach to understanding representations of difference in global media. Focus will center upon the role of media in shaping the contemporary dominant understandings of various groups in a globalized world; introductions to philosophies and theories that function as fundamental texts on the relationship between media, social life and human behavior; and the ways in which media socially construct a new, globalized reality.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 376 (COMM 376, WGSS 376) New Media, Race and Gender 4 Credits

This class explores the relationship among race, gender and new media. It examines depictions of racial minorities and women online; how users access and use new media across race and gender (including a look at the digital divide); and differences in use of social media websites across race and gender. The goal is for students to understand how existing racial and gender categorizations are/are not transmitted to the online community and do/do not become extensions of present social hierarchy.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 379 Race and Class in America 4 Credits

The ways in which race and class intersect in the social, economic, and political structures of American society. Through sociological literature, fiction, nonfiction, film, and other media we will explore the place of race and class in American society. We will examine how race and class operate on a personal, "micro" level, while at the same time operating on a large-scale, "macro" level.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

AAS 381 Special Topics 1-3 Credits

Attribute/Distribution: ND

AAS 382 Seminar on a topic in Africana Studies 1-4 Credits

Attribute/Distribution: ND

AAS 390 Honors Thesis 1-4 Credits

Directed undergraduate research thesis required of Africana Studies majors who apply for and qualify for graduation with program honors. Students must complete a minimum of 4 Honors Thesis credits and attain a 3.5 grade point average in the major and a 3.2 grade point average overall. Permission of the program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

AAS 391 Special Topics 3,4 Credits