
AAS African American Studies

#AAS 100 INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN STUDIES. (3)

This course provides a basic overview of African histories, cultures and societies. (Same as HIS 100.)

AAS 168 ALL THAT SPEAK OF JAZZ: AN INTELLECTUAL INQUIRY INTO JAZZ AND DEMOCRACY (3)

This course is a hybrid cultural studies seminar and creative composition course that explores jazz theory as a philosophical artistic practice rooted in American democracy. It investigates jazz aesthetics as a literary, visual, and musical art form, and it examines theories of jazz composition as philosophical statements in direct conversation with the principles of U.S. democracy. The course also explores the philosophical and aesthetic connections of jazz literature to surrealist and existentialist artistic movements in modern and postmodern cultural contexts. Artists to be discussed include James Baldwin, Harryette Mullen, and others. The theoretical aspects of this course will demonstrate how jazz has been a source of inspiration for a variety of twentieth-century literatures and theoretical practices. The readings include selections of fiction, poetry, drama, and essays with emphasis on jazz literary modes, creative trends, and political connotations specific to African American literature and culture. (Same as ENG 168.)

AAS 200 INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES. (3)

An interdisciplinary course which establishes the intellectual context for an examination of the African-American experience; it introduces students to the various approaches scholars use to analyze that experience. This course employs a topical framework which permits focus on issues reflecting the diversity and richness of African-American experience across geographic boundaries.

AAS 235 INEQUALITIES IN SOCIETY. (3)

This course seeks to promote an understanding of inequalities in American society by considering them in the context of the social origins, development, and persistence of inequalities in the United States and other societies. Bases of inequality that may be considered include race/ethnicity, class/status, gender/sexuality, age, political and regional differences as these relate to politics, social justice, community engagement, and/or public policy. Prereq: SOC 101 or CLD 102. (Same as SOC 235.)

AAS 253 HISTORY OF PRE-COLONIAL AFRICA. (3)

This course examines the early history of Africa, from human evolution to colonization by European powers in the late 19th century. Topics include: the development of states from kinship based forms of political organization, the political, cultural, and social transformations that accompanied African conversion to Islam, a close examination of oral epic poetry as a window into medieval empire-building in the Sahel, an extended conversation about the role of Africa in the transatlantic slave trade, and a discussion of the dilemmas faced by African rulers in the era of partition on conquest by European powers. Successful students will gain a thorough introduction to the major developments in the early history of Africa, which will serve as a solid foundation for further coursework in African history and other African studies courses. (Same as HIS 253.)

AAS 254 HISTORY OF COLONIAL AND POSTCOLONIAL AFRICA. (3)

This course is a survey of the history of Africa from the onset of colonial rule in the 1880s to the present. Its main objective is to introduce students to some of the major socio-political and economic developments that made Africa what it is today. The course will explore themes such as the European conquest of Africa and Africans' responses, African nationalism and struggles for independence, as well as post-colonial African politics and economic (under)development. (Same as HIS 254.)

AAS 260 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY TO 1865. (3)

A study of the Black experience in America through the Civil War. An examination of the African heritage, slavery, and the growth of Black institutions. (Same as HIS 260.)

AAS 261 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY 1865-PRESENT. (3)

This course traces the Black experience from Reconstruction to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's. The rise of segregation and the ghetto and aspects of race relations are examined. (Same as HIS 261.)

AAS 263 AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF FRENCH EXPRESSION IN TRANSLATION (Subtitle required). (3)

This course treats major cultural questions concerning the exchange between Africa and the Caribbean in terms of historical, sociological, political, and literary events. No knowledge of French is required. (Same as FR 263.)

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- AAS 264 INTRODUCTION TO BLACK WRITERS. (3)**
An introduction to written and oral works by Black authors of Africa, the Caribbean, and the United States. The course includes writers such as Chinua Achebe (Africa), Wilson Harris (Caribbean), and Toni Morrison (USA), as well as others from the diverse field of literature written by African-American authors and authors of color worldwide. Attention will be paid to student writing, particularly to devising a thesis, crafting an argument, and learning how to use supporting evidence. See departmental listings for different offerings per semester. Offers UK Core Credit for Intellectual Inquiry in the Humanities. Does not fulfill ENG premajor requirement. Can be taken for ENG Major Elective credit. Provides ENG minor credit. Credit will not be given to students who already have credit for ENG 264. Prereq: Graduation Writing Requirement Course – credit is awarded to students meeting the GWR prerequisite. (Same as ENG 260.)
- AAS 300 HISTORY OF JAZZ. (3)**
A listening survey course covering the chronological evolution of jazz from its West African and European roots, through its germination in America, to the present. Emphasis will be on the various styles and functions of jazz, particularly as they have been affected by changing social-cultural patterns during the twentieth century. (Same as MUS 300.)
- AAS 326 PEOPLE AND CULTURES OF SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. (3)**
A survey of indigenous societies and cultures of Africa south of the Sahara, with special attention to their adaptation of colonialism and post-colonial national development. Prereq: Sophomore standing or higher. (Same as ANT 326.)
- AAS 328 GEOGRAPHY OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA. (3)**
A comprehensive regional overview, emphasizing cultural adaptation to desert environments. The interrelationships among religions, cultures, and the physical environment will be examined, along with the region's position and influence in the global system. Prereq: GEO 152, GEO 160, GEO 172, or consent of instructor. (Same as GEO 328.)
- AAS 336 GEOGRAPHY OF SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. (3)**
This course focuses on the cultural and environmental geographies of the subcontinent, rural landscapes and cultures and environmental problems, the historical geography of precolonial and colonial Africa, and the social geography of contemporary economic development. Prereq: GEO 130 and 152, 160, or 172. (Same as GEO 336.)
- AAS 360 RACE AND SPORTS IN AMERICA. (3)**
This reading seminar examines the history of race and sport in America. (Same as HIS 360.)
- AAS 384 BLACK THEATRE WORKSHOP. (3)**
A workshop that explores the history, literature and performance of theater artists of the African diaspora. (Same as TA 384.)
- AAS 400 SPECIAL TOPICS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)**
Detailed investigation of a particular topic in African-American Studies, with emphasis both on content and existing research. Topics will vary from semester to semester and are announced the preceding semester. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits when identified by a different subtitle. Prereq: Twelve hours of African-American Studies minor courses, including AAS 200.
- AAS 401 INDEPENDENT READING AND RESEARCH IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES. (3)**
For African-American Studies minors. The student pursues a course of reading and research under the guidance of a staff member, completes a major research project, and takes an examination. A written contract defining the area of study is negotiated between student and instructor at the beginning of the course. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prereq: African-American Studies minor, 12 hours of African-American Studies minor courses, including AAS 200.
- AAS 417G SURVEY OF SUB-SAHARAN POLITICS. (3)**
A survey of sub-Saharan government and politics intended to give the student broad knowledge about the setting of African politics, precolonial African political systems, the political legacies of major European colonial powers, and problems of political development. Prereq: PS 210 or 212. (Same as PS 417G.)
- AAS 420 AFRICAN-AMERICAN RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE. (3)**
This course explores and examines how African Americans shaped and fashioned their religion to meet their own peculiar needs as they responded to historical occurrences.

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AAS 432 RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS. (3)

Analysis of relationships between racial and ethnic groups and the behavioral products thereof. Sources and consequences of prejudice and discrimination. Situation and prospects of minorities. Strategies of change and tension reduction. Prereq: Six hours of social science or consent of instructor. (Same as SOC 432.)

AAS 433 TOPICS IN SOCIAL INEQUALITIES (Subtitle required). (3)

A sociological study of topics relevant to social inequalities and stratification. May be repeated under different subtitles to a maximum of six credits. Prereq: Six hours of social science or consent of instructor. (Same as SOC 435.)

AAS 471 RACE, ETHNICITY AND POLITICS. (3)

An examination of the role that race and ethnicity play in the political arena. Students will explore the nature of race, racism, and ethnocentrism, as well as their impact on political institutions and public policy. Particular attention will be given to elections, public opinion, mass media and social movements in the United States. (Same as PS 471.)

AAS 523 SOCIAL PERSPECTIVES ON RACISM AND ETHNIC PREJUDICES IN AMERICA. (2-3)

The course is designed to provide the knowledge needed in understanding the dynamics of institutional racism from a broader perspective of five specific ethnic minorities in rural and urban America. Particular emphasis is placed upon planned community change and strategies pertinent to minority group communities. Students who wish to make a special, in-depth study of one of the specified content areas may take this course for one additional credit. Prereq: Consent of instructor. (Same as SW 523.)

AAS 535 ADVANCED TOPICS IN SOCIAL INEQUALITIES (Subtitle required). (3)

A sociological study of topics relevant to social inequalities and stratification. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitles. Prereq: Graduate student status; undergraduates with consent of instructor only. (Same as SOC 535.)

#AAS 545 PSYCHOLOGY OF THE BLACK EXPERIENCE. (3)

EDP 545, Psychology of the Black Experience, is an elective course in the Department of Educational, School, and Counseling Psychology and is cross-listed with the Africana Studies program and Psychology department. It is designed to offer enrolled undergraduate and graduate students opportunities to survey, explore, and critique classic and contemporary theories and research articulating the psychologies that inform both social and academic experiences and observed behaviors of Black people. While there are multiple objectives for this upper-level undergraduate and graduate-level seminar course, one central objective for the course is to expose all students to literature and research pertaining to the Black experience in the United States in an effort to develop and refine ideas and mindsets that will foster and reflect innovative ways of thinking about how to enhance the life experiences of Black persons. That is, in the course, the primary objective is to have the course material and critical discourse influence your thinking about and actions towards or on behalf of Black persons. Prereq: PSY 100 or AAS 200 or consent of the instructor. (Same as EDP 545.)

AAS 550 EDUCATION IN A CULTURALLY DIVERSE SOCIETY. (3)

This course assists future educators in developing strategies to create an equitable teaching/learning environment where all students are validated, stimulated, and nurtured. Course participants explore the rationale for their current belief systems and perceptions of other cultures; investigate how and why their personal attitudes, behaviors, and expectations affect the academic and social development of children and youth, and examine contemporary educational issues. (Same as EDC 550.)

AAS 587 THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE U.S. SINCE 1930. (3)

This course will focus on the struggle for African American equality in the U.S. during the midtwentieth century. It will examine key civil rights issues, events, strategies, leaders and organizations on both the local and national levels. Using historical documents and documentary film presentations this course will discuss the status of race relations in America over the past fifty years. (Same as HIS 587.)

AAS 601 THEORIES, PERSPECTIVES, TRENDS AND ISSUES IN MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION. (3)

This course provides students with a critical analysis of multicultural education theories, perspectives, current issues, and trends. Students will develop the competencies needed to write scholarly literature reviews, identify areas in multicultural education needing further research studies, and submit papers for review and presentation at professional meetings. Prereq: Graduate standing, EDP 557 or consent of instructor. (Same as EDC 601.)

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AAS 616 MULTICULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY.

(3)

This course is designed to increase one's sensitivity to and respect for individual differences. Models, frameworks, techniques and experiential exercises are presented to increase one's skill level in working with persons from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds. Prereq: EDP 600 or equivalent or consent of instructor. (Same as EDP 616.)

AAS 635 SEMINAR IN SOCIAL INEQUALITIES.

(3)

This course provides a graduate-level introduction to sociological theory and research on social inequalities and stratification. It includes both classic and contemporary works on topics such as political economy, the state, domination, democracy, work, poverty, welfare, resistance, class, race, ethnicities, and gender. The course serves as a foundational course for graduate students with interests in social inequalities, and is required for Sociology graduate students seeking a specialization in this area. Prereq: SOC 650 or SOC 651 or consent of instructor. (Same as SOC 635.)

AAS 654 READINGS IN MODERN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY.

(3)

Introduces graduate students to the historical literature on 20th century African-American history and major historiographical issues. (Same as HIS 654.)

AAS 656 BLACK AMERICAN LITERATURE.

(3)

An in-depth study of black American literature, with concentration on major texts by major black writers. (Same as ENG 656.)

AAS 657 RACE RELATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

(3)

This seminar focuses on the African American experience in the United States from Reconstruction to the present. Using primary documents and secondary readings, this course will examine the construction of race relations and the individuals, organizations, events, and issues significant to the shaping of the black experience. (Same as HIS 657.)

AAS 720 SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.

(2)

This second required course in the human behavior and social environment sequence builds upon the foundation course. The focus of this course is upon the effects of discrimination and oppression experienced by diverse population groups with special attention to the effects of racism, sexism, ageism, classism and geography upon vulnerable groups; and upon institutionalized societal and cultural themes in diversity; with implications for social work practice. Prereq: SW 620 or advanced standing in the MSW program. (Same as SW 720.)