African and African American Studies (AAST)

Dr. Valandra
Director
230 Memorial Hall
479-575-3001

African and African American Studies Website (https://fulbright.uark.edu/area-studies/african-and-african-american-studies/)

The African and African American Studies program promotes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the history, culture, and identity of Africans and African Americans. Students may pursue African and African American Studies as a second major alongside a primary major in Fulbright College. Students in any college may declare a minor. Advice on suitable primary majors to be taken with an African and African American Studies second major may be obtained from the program director of African and African American Studies.

Requirements for a Second Major in African and African American Studies:
A total of 21 hours in African and African American Studies courses in addition to the requirements for the departmental major including the following:

Requirement 1

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAST 1003</td>
<td>Introduction to African and African American Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or AAST 2023</td>
<td>The African American Experience</td>
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Requirement 2

Select one of the following:

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAST 3233/HIST 3233</td>
<td>African American History to 1877</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAST 3243/HIST 3243</td>
<td>African American History Since 1877</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAST 3253/HIST 3253</td>
<td>The History of Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAST 3293/PLSC 3293</td>
<td>African American Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAST 3853/ENGL 3853</td>
<td>Topics in African American Literature and Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAST 4153/SOCI 4153</td>
<td>Race and Society</td>
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Requirement 3

Fifteen hours from the following courses under the following conditions:

a. A maximum of nine of the fifteen hours may come from courses taken in any one department
b. At least six hours must be at the 4000 level or above

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>AAST 2003</td>
<td>Diversity, Pedagogy, &amp; Visual Culture</td>
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<td>AAST 3023</td>
<td>African Americans in Sport</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAST 3123</td>
<td>African American Students in Higher Education</td>
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<td>AAST 3263</td>
<td>African Americans in Film</td>
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<td>AAST 3923H</td>
<td>Honors Colloquium</td>
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<td>AAST 3973</td>
<td>South Africa: The Long, Ongoing Walk to Freedom</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAST 399VH</td>
<td>Honors African &amp; African American Studies Thesis</td>
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<td>AAST 4003</td>
<td>African &amp; African American Studies Study Abroad</td>
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<td>AAST 489V</td>
<td>African &amp; African American Independent Study</td>
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<td>AAST 499V</td>
<td>African and African American Studies Seminar</td>
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<td>ANTH 4513</td>
<td>African Religions: Gods, Witches, Ancestors</td>
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<td>ANTH 4583</td>
<td>Cultures of Africa</td>
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<td>ENGL 3263</td>
<td>African Americans in Film</td>
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<td>ENGL/AAST 3853</td>
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<td>ENGL/AAST 4853</td>
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<tr>
<td>JOUR/AAST/COMM/ENGL 3263</td>
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<td>JOUR/AAST 4923</td>
<td>History of the Black Press</td>
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<td>PLSC/AAST 4933</td>
<td>African American Political Ideology</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCWK/AAST 4163</td>
<td>African American Perspectives of Trauma, Loss, and Recovery</td>
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<td>Social Work with African American Families</td>
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<td>SOCI/AAST 4153</td>
<td>Race and Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWAH 1003</td>
<td>Elementary Swahili I</td>
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African and African American Studies must complete 12 hours of honors as established by the Honors Council, candidates for honors in graduation and the basic eligibility requirements for honors thesis. In addition to satisfying the general Fulbright College enriched courses and conduct independent research culminating in an junior and senior students of high ability the opportunity to enroll in The Honors Program in African and African American Studies gives the major and/or minor.

Interested students or those wanting further information should consult with the African and African American Studies Director for selection of appropriate classes and for information on other courses that can apply to the major and/or minor.

Requirements for a Minor in African and African American Studies:
A total of 15 hours in African and African American Studies courses in addition to the requirements for the departmental major including the following:

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The remaining nine hours shall be selected from the courses listed in Requirement 3 of the Requirements for a Second Major in African American Studies. A maximum of six of the nine hours may be submitted from courses taken in any one department.

Total Hours 21

Interested students or those wanting further information should consult with the African and African American Studies Director for selection of appropriate classes and for information on other courses that can apply to the major and/or minor.

Requirements for Honors in African and African American Studies:
The Honors Program in African and African American Studies gives junior and senior students of high ability the opportunity to enroll in enriched courses and conduct independent research culminating in an honors thesis. In addition to satisfying the general Fulbright College requirements for graduation and the basic eligibility requirements for honors as established by the Honors Council, candidates for honors in African and African American Studies must complete 12 hours of honors credit in partial satisfaction of requirements for the co-major. One to six of these may be thesis hours (AAST 399VH). The remaining six hours must be relevant honors colloquia or graduate courses (with permission) in one of the departments contributing to this interdisciplinary area of study. The 12 hours of honors credit will satisfy elective requirements in co-major requirement three above. The thesis committee shall include at least two faculty members affiliated with African and African American Studies. Successful completion of these requirements will be recognized by the award of the distinction “African and African American Studies Scholar Cum Laude” at graduation. Higher degree distinctions are recommended only in exceptional cases and are based upon the whole of the candidate’s program of honors studies.

Faculty
Banton, Caree A., Ph.D. (Vanderbilt University), M.A. (University of Ghana), M.A. (University of New Orleans), B.A./B.P.A. (Grambling State University), Associate Professor, Department of History, 2013.
Cleveland, Todd, Ph.D. (University of Minnesota), M.A., M.A. (University of New Hampshire), Associate Professor, Department of History, 2015.
D’Alisera, JoAnn, Ph.D., A.M. (University of Illinois-Urban-Champaign), B.A. (State University of New York at New Paltz), Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, 1999.
Gigantino, Jim, Ph.D. (University of Georgia), B.A. (University of Richmond), Professor, Department of History, 2010.
Murphy-Erby, Yvette, Ph.D. (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), M.S.W. (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), B.A. (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), Professor, School of Social Work, 2004.
Robinson, Charles F., Ph.D. (University of Houston), M.A. (Rice University), B.A. (University of Houston), Professor, Department of History, 1999.
Valandra, Ph.D., M.S.W. (University of Minnesota), M.B.A., B.S. (University of Nebraska at Omaha), Associate Professor, School of Social Work, 2013.
White, Calvin, Ph.D. (University of Mississippi), M.A., B.A. (University of Central Arkansas), Associate Professor, Department of History, 2007.

Courses
AAST 1003. Introduction to African and African American Studies. 3 Hours.
This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary study of Africa and African Americans and their impact on the world order and society with an emphasis on that impact’s manifestations in the United States of America. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

AAST 2003. Diversity, Pedagogy, & Visual Culture. 3 Hours.
Supports critical reflective thinking, which will provide students with foundational tools to address the issues of diversity within visual culture and their relationship to societal, curricular, and pedagogical practices. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

This course is cross-listed with ARED 2003.

AAST 2023. The African American Experience. 3 Hours.
Examines various facets of African American culture that collectively construct the African American experience including art, literature, drama, migration, film, and education. Covers issues facing African Americans through a cultural and socio-political context to understand and appreciate African American impacts on the United States. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

AAST 3023. African Americans in Sport. 3 Hours.
Historical, sociological, and political issues and debate surrounding African Americans in sport. Contemporary issues facing African American athletes and sports figures. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)
AAST 3033. The African American Experience in Business. 3 Hours.
This course is designed to provide the student with a comprehensive and critical analysis of the history of the African American experience as a member of the business sector of the United States economics. The course will review information that includes and demonstrates activities prior to slavery, during, and after slavery. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with WCOB 3033.

AAST 3123. African American Students in Higher Education. 3 Hours.
Examines the impact of college environments on African American students. Focuses on the following topics regarding African American students: retention, student demographics, student characteristics, current trends, issues and problems, student success, sub-populations, student values, and implications for higher education. (Typically offered: Irregular)

AAST 3133. History of Sports in Africa. 3 Hours.
This course considers the ways that Africans have strategically employed sports to confront and overcome both domestic and external challenges and how these approaches and the range of constituent strategies have changed over time. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 3133.

AAST 3193. The Making of the Modern Caribbean. 3 Hours.
History of the Caribbean from pre-Columbian to present times focusing in particular on indigenous origins, colonialism, slavery, rebellion, independence, nationalism, and political integration in the making of the modern Caribbean region. (Typically offered: Fall)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 3193.

AAST 3233. African American History to 1877. 3 Hours.
History of the African American experience in North America emphasizing economic, social, and cultural perspectives. Topics include the African slave trade, the creation of race and racism, the institution of slavery, free community formation in North, and the impact of the Civil War and Reconstruction on African Americans. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 3233.

AAST 3243. African American History Since 1877. 3 Hours.
The course will study the major social, political, and economical issues relating to the African American experience beginning with the late post-Reconstruction period and will include all of the major personalities and influences in the Civil Rights Movement, from 1877 to the present. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 3243.

AAST 3253. The History of Sub-Saharan Africa. 3 Hours.
Sub-Saharan African history from the 18th century to the present, with emphasis on the impact of the slave trade, colonization, Independence, and contemporary issues of the post-colonial period. Examination of the ways Africans experienced change in terms of culture, society, economics, gender, religion, politics, and labor. (Typically offered: Fall)

AAST 3263. African Americans in Film. 3 Hours.
A survey of the history of images of African Americans in film, especially as these images are examined in the context of stereotypical renditions and/or realistic representations of African American experiences. Issues of African American history, culture, and socio-political context will be addressed in the analyses of these films. Prerequisite: ENGL 1023 and junior or senior standing. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with ENGL 3263, JOUR 3263, COMM 3263.

AAST 3273. African Americans in Documentary Film. 3 Hours.
Exploration of the African-American image and experience in the context of time, historical record and varying production viewpoints from diverse documentarians. African-American history, culture and socio-political context are addressed in the analyses of these documentary films from the perspectives of mainstream media, independent filmmakers and minority documentarians. Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing. (Typically offered: Spring)
This course is cross-listed with JOUR 3273, COMM 3273.

AAST 3293. African American Politics. 3 Hours.
This is a survey course designed to provide students with a comprehensive overview of African American political participation in the United States. In addition to analyzing important events in African American Politics, the course attempts to explain evolving patterns of political participation in Black America. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with PLSC 3293.

AAST 3333. African American History to 1877. 3 Hours.
This course is cross-listed with JOUR 3333.

AAST 3393. Civil Rights Policy and Politics. 3 Hours.
This course will draw from linkages between the protest phase of the civil rights and American political institutions. The course explores the institutional impact of the civil rights movement on the presidency, congress, the courts, administrative regulatory agencies, and civil rights advisory organizations. (Typically offered: Spring)
This course is cross-listed with PLSC 3393.

AAST 3553. Topics in African-American Literature and Culture. 3 Hours.
The study of works of African-American literature, with attention to particular themes, genres, authors, literary movements, historical moments, or other organizing principles. Content varies. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 9 hours of degree credit.

AAST 3923H. Honors Colloquium. 3 Hours.
Treats a special topic or issue, offered as part of the honors program. Prerequisite: Honors candidacy (not restricted to candidacy in AAST). (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for degree credit.

AAST 3973. South Africa: The Long, Ongoing Walk to Freedom. 3 Hours.
Examines the country's complex history and also the ways that this past is both remembered and memorialized. Closely examines the initial motivations for the colonization of South Africa, the experiences of Africans under colonial and, subsequently, apartheid rule and the ongoing legacies of these periods in contemporary South Africa. (Typically offered: Irregular)

AAST 3983. Black Movements and Messiahs. 3 Hours.
Focuses on black movements and leaders across global African history since the Age of Revolutions to the present including political, economic, social, cultural, religious and artistic movements throughout Africa and the diaspora. (Typically offered: Irregular)

AAST 399VH. Honors African & African American Studies Thesis. 1-6 Hour.
Independent thesis research and writing under the direction of an AAST faculty member. Prerequisite: Junior standing. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

AAST 4003. African American Studies Study Abroad. 3 Hours.
Examination of selected topics in conjunction with student participation in the biennial African & American Studies Study Abroad program to Ghana. Topic variable, chosen by instructor. (Typically offered: Summer Even Years) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

AAST 4083. African American Students in Higher Education. 3 Hours.
This class explores popular cultural expression across Africa. Topics range from hip hop and film, to second-hand clothing fashions and the media. We will consider how popular culture, while often inspired by global trends, is rooted in local circumstances and often reflects attempts to grapple with important issues. (Typically offered: Irregular)
African and American Studies (AAST)

AAST 4093. The History of African Americans and Social Justice. 3 Hours.
Explores how the United States has extended social justice to African Americans during the nation's history. Examines social justice for blacks and the impact of historic policies and practices on black life today. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4093.

AAST 4123. Africa and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. 3 Hours.
Examines the trans-Atlantic slave trade with a primary focus on the role of Africa and Africans in creating the unique economy and culture of the trans-Atlantic world. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4123.

AAST 4153. Race and Society. 3 Hours.
Introduction to the sociological study of race and ethnicity within the United States, with emphasis on understanding how race and ethnicity operate within contemporary social institutions. Prerequisite: SOCI 2013 or AAST 1003 or AAST 2023. (Typically offered: Fall)
This course is cross-listed with SOCI 4153.

AAST 4163. African American Perspectives of Trauma, Loss, and Recovery. 3 Hours.
Explores dimensions of trauma, loss, and recovery within the lived experiences of African American individuals, families, and communities in the United States. Prerequisite: Junior standing or instructor consent. (Typically offered: Fall)

AAST 4173. Social Work with African American Families. 3 Hours.
An overview of historical and contemporary issues of African American families using culturally competent and strengths based frameworks. Focuses on the Black family as a social institution. Covers current trends affecting Black families, historical influences, evaluation of social policies, and programs of today. Prerequisite: Junior standing or instructor consent. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)
This course is cross-listed with SCWK 4173.

AAST 4263. Modern Africa. 3 Hours.
Examines the last half-century of Africa's history, focusing on the last few decades. Introduction of Africa's colonial past, revolutions and struggles for independence. Review of African development in the post-colonial and contemporary era, successes and failures of independent Africa, and the challenges the continent faces today. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4263.

AAST 4273. Comparative Slavery. 3 Hours.
Explores the meaning of slavery around the world, both in ancient and modern times. This examination of how slavery differed in various cultures over time will allow students to explore the complexity of this labor relationship and gain a better understanding of how slavery was an integral part of world history. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4273.

AAST 4323. Racial Identity, Politics, and Public Policy. 3 Hours.
Examines how race and perceived racial differences affect political discourse, mobilization, representation, and political outcomes. Prerequisite: PLSC 3293 or AAST 1063 or Junior standing. (Typically offered: Spring Even Years)
This course is cross-listed with PLSC 4323.

AAST 4383. The American Civil Rights Movement. 3 Hours.
Introduction to the history and development of the civil rights movement in the United States. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4383.

AAST 4483. African American Theatre History - 1950 to Present. 3 Hours.
A chronological examination of African-American theatre history from 1950 to the present through the study of African-American plays and political/social conditions. Upon completion of this course, the student should be familiar with the major works of African-American theatre and have a deeper understanding of American history. (Typically offered: Spring)

AAST 4473. Account Planning. 3 Hours.
An introduction to applied advertising research and account planning. Integrate consumers' perspectives into creative strategy to developing brand stories for clients. Write creative briefs, positioning statements and prepare copy-testing research instruments to evaluate messages. Utilize consumer research for creating messages for diverse cultures. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: Minimum 90 hours completed, no in-progress hours or coursework accepted, 2.5 overall GPA, JOUR 1033 with a grade of C or better, and ADPR 3723 and ADPR 3743, with a grade of B or better. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)
This course is cross-listed with ADPR 4473.

AAST 4483. African American Biographies. 3 Hours.
Introduction to the history and intellectual development of famous and not-so-famous African Americans. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4483.

AAST 4563. The Old South, 1607-1865. 3 Hours.
Survey of the political, social, and economic development of the antebellum South. (Typically offered: Fall Odd Years)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4563.

AAST 4583. Cultures of Africa. 3 Hours.
An exploration of the people and places of Africa from a variety of anthropological perspectives. Classic and contemporary works will be studied in order to underscore the unity and diversity of African cultures, as well as the importance African societies have played in helping us understand culture/society throughout the world. (Typically offered: Fall)
This course is cross-listed with ANTH 4583.

AAST 4813. Africans and Slavery in Colonial Latin America. 3 Hours.
Explores the diverse experiences of slaves and free Blacks in colonial Spanish and Portuguese America from 1500 to around 1888, demonstrating that bondage and the practice of African slavery was a pillar of political authority in colonial Latin America. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4813.

AAST 4823. Black Freedom in the Age of Emancipation. 3 Hours.
Comparative study of Atlantic World freedom movements from the perspective of the African Diaspora. Focuses on the histories, meanings, and legacies of the various types of black emancipation in the Atlantic World and the cultural technologies that enabled them. (Typically offered: Spring)

AAST 4833. Black Freedom in the Age of Emancipation. 3 Hours.
A comparative study of Atlantic World freedom movements from the perspective of the African Diaspora. It focuses on the histories, meanings, legacies of the various types of black emancipation in the Atlantic World and the cultural technologies that enabled them. (Typically offered: Spring)

AAST 4853. Studies in African American Literature and Culture. 3 Hours.
The study of works of African American literature, with attention to particular themes, genres, authors, literary movements, historical moments, or other organizing principles. Content varies. At least one major research paper will be required. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 9 hours of degree credit.
This course is cross-listed with ENGL 4853.

AAST 489V. African & African American Independent Study. 1-6 Hour.
An exploration of African & African American Studies topics independently with a faculty member. Topic variable with permission of faculty member. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

AAST 4923. History of the Black Press. 3 Hours.
Covers the historic context of contributions and innovations to U.S. newspapers by African Americans. Also investigates the role of the black press from its beginnings in 1827 through the civil rights movement. Prerequisite: Junior standing. (Typically offered: Spring Even Years)
This course is cross-listed with JOUR 4923.
AAST 4933. African American Political Ideology. 3 Hours.
A survey course designed to identify and examine characteristics and functions of several variants of black political ideology/thought. (Typically offered: Fall Odd Years)
This course is cross-listed with PLSC 4933.

AAST 4963. Third World Underdevelopment and Modernization. 3 Hours.
Examines key issues related to societal change in the Third World, including various views and theories of international development and modernization. Other major issues explored include social inequalities, food and hunger, population, environment, trade and globalization, international aid, and the roles of state, market, and civil society. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with HIST 4963.

AAST 4983. African American Art History. 3 Hours.
Survey of African American cultural production from the transatlantic slave trade to the present. (Typically offered: Fall)

AAST 499V. African and African American Studies Seminar. 1-12 Hour.
Explores the various aspects of the African & African American experience as it relates to the development of relationships in American society and the world at large. Variable topic each semester. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer) May be repeated for up to 12 hours of degree credit.