AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE, DOCTORAL MINOR

Students pursuing a Ph.D. in other departments may obtain a doctoral minor in African languages and literature. The requirements are:

- At least 9 credits in African language and literature at the graduate level, as determined by the program.
- Reading proficiency in an African language.
- GPA of 3.5 or better in the courses taken for the minor field.

ADMISSIONS

Applicants should have a minimum undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (out of a possible 4.0), though special cases may be considered for probationary admission. In addition to the online application, the department requires transcripts of all previous university studies, a statement of research interests showing how these relate to the department’s areas of expertise, and three letters of recommendation. Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores are needed for fellowship applicants, but are not otherwise required for admission. There is no application deadline, but it is recommended that materials be submitted as early as possible before the intended date of entry.

The deadline to apply and be considered for funding is November 15.

Admitted applicants who are judged by the department to have insufficient background in African cultural studies may be assigned course work in addition to the regular required coursework.

PEOPLE

Professors Cowell (Arabic language, linguistics, literature, and culture), Fair (media studies, popular culture, conflict and post-conflict studies), Olaniyan (African and African diaspora literature, literary theory, popular culture), Radano (U.S. and global black music, African musical diaspora, cultural theory), Schatzberg (African popular culture, African soccer, African political thought), Songolo (African and Francophone literatures, African and Francophone cinema, literary theory); Associate Professors El-Nossery (North African Middle Eastern Literatures, women’s writing, visual studies), Thompson (linguistic and literary ethnography, critical discourse analysis, less commonly taught language pedagogy); Assistant Professors Brown (African screen media, African literature, literary theory), England (Classical Arabic poetry and prose, Modern Arabic literature), Nimis (Francophone Africa, Lingala language and popular music, the Global South), Sajnani (Global HipHop studies, Africana critical theory, socio-political thought and social justice).

For more information about faculty research interests, see their website (https://african.wisc.edu/people).