

# AFRICAN STUDIES, CERTIFICATE

The African Studies Program (<https://africa.wisc.edu/>) supports research, teaching, and outreach at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, bringing together scholars in multiple disciplines, students, teachers, and community partners to consider all aspects of land and life in Africa. The African Studies Program is a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center for Africa, a unit in The International Division, and a member of the campus consortium of internationally oriented programs known as the Institute for Regional and International Studies (<http://iris.wisc.edu/>).

The program was established in 1961 by an interdisciplinary team of internationally respected scholars including Jan Vasina, Philip Curtin, Frederick Simoons, and Aristrde Zolberg. The center continues to enjoy a reputation for excellence, having awarded more degrees to Africa specialists than any other American university. No other university boasts such a depth and range of expertise in Africanist scholarship. Over 70 affiliated faculty offer more than 100 courses in 35 departments around campus. The Department of African Cultural Studies offers students an opportunity to study a number of African languages including Arabic, Hausa, Swahili, Yoruba, Wolof, and Zulu, as well as options for self-directed study of less-commonly taught languages.

Undergraduates from any department can benefit from access to our programs and top-ranked faculty by completing a certificate in African studies. The certificate is highly interdisciplinary and welcomes students with backgrounds in the humanities, social sciences, business, health, agriculture, or the environment. What unites certificate students is a shared interest in the people, places, and stories of the continent of Africa.

A certificate in African Studies indicates that a student has acquired an interdisciplinary knowledge about the African continent, its histories, its stories, and its people. African studies alumni serve in a number of important leadership positions in both the private and public sectors. Former students have gone on to serve as ambassadors, presidential advisors, and leaders of investment firms and Washington think tanks. Many undergraduate certificate holders launch their internationally oriented careers by joining the Peace Corps after graduation.

## HOW TO GET IN

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Students interested in declaring the undergraduate certificate should contact the African Studies Program undergraduate advisor ([advising@africa.wisc.edu](mailto:advising@africa.wisc.edu)).

## REQUIREMENTS

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15 credits in African Studies approved courses

At least two SUBJECTs represented: <sup>1</sup>

Code	Title	Credits
AFRICAN 100	Introduction to African Cultural Expression	3
AFRICAN/ HISTORY 129	Africa on the Global Stage	3-4
AFRICAN 201	Introduction to African Literature	3
AFRICAN 202	Introductory Topics in African Cultural Studies	3
AFRICAN 203	Introductory Topics in African Literature	3
AFRICAN 204	Introductory Topics in African Languages	3
AFRICAN/ FOLKLORE 210	The African Storyteller	3
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER 220	HipHop, Youth Culture, and Politics in Senegal	3
AFRICAN 212	Introduction to African Popular Culture	3
AFRICAN 230	Introduction to Yoruba Life and Culture	3
AFRICAN 231	Introduction to Arabic Literary Culture	3
AFRICAN 232	Introduction to Swahili Cultures	3
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER 233	Global HipHop and Social Justice	3
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ ANTHRO/GEOG/ HISTORY/POLI SCI/ SOC 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey	4
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ HISTORY/ POLI SCI 297	African and African-American Linkages: An Introduction	4
AFRICAN 300	African Literature in Translation	3
AFRICAN 303	African Literature and Visual Culture	3
AFRICAN 304	Soccer in Africa	3
AFRICAN 321	First Semester Arabic	5
AFRICAN 322	Second Semester Arabic	5
AFRICAN 323	Third Semester Arabic	4
AFRICAN 324	Fourth Semester Arabic	4
AFRICAN 329	Fifth Semester Arabic	3
AFRICAN 330	Sixth Semester Arabic	3
AFRICAN 325	Colloquial Arabic	2
AFRICAN 326	Colloquial Arabic	2
AFRICAN 331	First Semester Swahili	5
AFRICAN 332	Second Semester Swahili	5
AFRICAN 333	Third Semester Swahili	4
AFRICAN 334	Fourth Semester Swahili	4
AFRICAN 335	First Semester–A Language of Southern Africa	5
AFRICAN 336	Second Semester–A Language of Southern Africa	4-5
AFRICAN 338	Fourth Semester–A Language of Southern Africa	4

AFRICAN 339	First Semester Summer Arabic	4	AFRICAN 609	Advanced Topics in Global Black Music Studies	3
AFRICAN 340	Second Semester Summer Arabic	4	AFRICAN 669	Special Topics	3
AFRICAN 341	Third Semester Summer Arabic	4	AFRICAN 670	Theories and Methods of Learning a Less Commonly Taught Language	2
AFRICAN 342	Fourth Semester Summer Arabic	4	AFRICAN 671	Multilanguage Seminar	4
AFRICAN 343	Fifth Semester Summer Arabic	4	AFRICAN 672	Intensive Summer Multilanguage Seminar	8
AFRICAN 344	Sixth Semester Summer Arabic	4	AFRICAN 697	Directed Study of a Less Commonly Taught Language	3-5
AFRICAN 361	First Semester Hausa	5	AFRICAN 698	Directed Study	1-6
AFRICAN 362	Second Semester Hausa	4-5	AFRICAN 699	Directed Study	1-6
AFRICAN/ASIAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	3-4	AFROAMER/ ART HIST 241	Introduction to African Art and Architecture	3
AFRICAN 371	First Semester Yoruba	5	AFROAMER/ ART HIST 242	Introduction to Afro-American Art	3
AFRICAN 372	Second Semester Yoruba	5	AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 367	Art and Visual Culture: Women of the African Diaspora and Africa	3
AFRICAN 373	Third Semester Yoruba	4	AFROAMER 675	Selected Topics in Afro-American Culture	3
AFRICAN 374	Fourth Semester Yoruba	4	A A E/INTL ST 374	The Growth and Development of Nations in the Global Economy	3
AFRICAN 391	First Semester-A Language of West Africa	5	A A E/ECON 474	Economic Problems of Developing Areas	3
AFRICAN 392	Second Semester-A Language of West Africa	4-5	A A E/ECON 477	Agricultural and Economic Development in Africa	3
AFRICAN 393	Third Semester-A Language of West Africa	4	ANTHRO 120	Freshman/Sophomore Seminar in Anthropology	3
AFRICAN 394	Fourth Semester-A Language of West Africa	4	ANTHRO 333	Prehistory of Africa	3
AFRICAN 402	Theory of African Literature	3-4	ANTHRO 345	Family, Kin and Community in Anthropological Perspective	3
AFRICAN 403	Theories of African Cultural Studies	3	ANTHRO 348	Economic Anthropology	3-4
AFRICAN 405	Topics in African Cultural Studies	3	ANTHRO 391	Bones for the Archaeologist	3
AFRICAN 406	Topics in African Literature	3	ART HIST 579	Proseminar in African Art	3
AFRICAN 407	Topics in African Languages	3	DANCE 118	African Dance	1
AFRICAN 409	Topics in US and Global Black Music Studies	3	DANCE 165	Introduction to the Histories of Dance	3
AFRICAN 412	Contemporary African Fiction	3-4	DANCE/ THEATRE 218	African Dance Performance	2
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER 413	Contemporary African and Caribbean Drama	3-4	DANCE/ AFROAMER/ MUSIC 318	Cultural Cross Currents: West African Dance/Music in the Americas	3
AFRICAN/ RELIG ST 414	Islam in Africa and the Diaspora	3	ED POL 150	Education and Public Policy	3
AFRICAN 435	Fifth Semester Swahili	3	ENVIR ST/ GEOG 339	Environmental Conservation	4
AFRICAN 436	Sixth Semester Swahili	3	FRENCH 285	Rebellious Women	3-4
AFRICAN/ FRENCH 440	African/Francophone Film	3	FRENCH 461	French/Francophone Literary Studies Across the Centuries	3
AFRICAN/ COM ARTS/ L I S 444	Technology and Development in Africa and Beyond	3	FRENCH 462	French/Francophone Cultural Studies Across the Centuries	3
AFRICAN 445	Advanced Readings in Arabic Texts	3	FRENCH 665	Introduction to Francophone Studies	3
AFRICAN/ PORTUG 451	Lusophone African Literature	3	GEOG 355	Africa, South of the Sahara	3
AFRICAN 453	Modern African Literature in English	3-4	GEOG/C&E SOC/ ENVIR ST 434	People, Wildlife and Landscapes	3
AFRICAN/JEWISH/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 462	Muslims and Jews	3			
AFRICAN 475	Fifth Semester Yoruba	3			
AFRICAN 476	Sixth Semester Yoruba	3			
AFRICAN 500	Language and Society in Africa	3-4			
AFRICAN 605	Advanced Topics in African Cultural Studies	3			
AFRICAN 606	Advanced Topics in African Literature	3			

GEOG 538	The Humid Tropics: Ecology, Subsistence, and Development	3
HISTORY 105		3-4
HISTORY 225	Explorations in Third World History (H)	3-4
HISTORY 179	Afro-Atlantic Histories and Peoples, 1791-Present	3-4
HISTORY 278	Africans in the Americas, 1492-1808	3-4
HISTORY/ AFROAMER 347	The Caribbean and its Diasporas	3
HISTORY 444		3-4
HISTORY 445		3-4
INTL ST/ ED POL 335	Globalization and Education	3
INTL ST/ GEN&WS 535	Women's Global Health and Human Rights	3
JOURN 620	International Communication	4
LITTRANS 226	Introduction to Luso-Afro-Brazilian Literature	3
MUSIC/ FOLKLORE 402	Musical Cultures of the World	3
POLI SCI 329	African Politics	3-4
POLI SCI 330	Political Economy of Development	3
POLI SCI 345	Conflict Resolution	3-4
POLI SCI 348	Analysis of International Relations	3-4
POLI SCI 354	International Institutions and World Order	3-4
POLI SCI 356	Principles of International Law	3-4
POLI SCI 437	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict	3-4
POLI SCI 455	African International Relations	3-4
RELIG ST/ CLASSICS/ HISTORY 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean	3

<sup>1</sup> No more than two courses from any one SUBJECT may count toward the certificate. A cross-listed course may count in either—but not both—SUBJECTs in which it is cross-listed.

## RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- Minimum 2.000 GPA on all certificate courses
- At least 8 certificate credits must be completed in residence

## CERTIFICATE COMPLETION REQUIREMENT

This undergraduate certificate must be completed concurrently with the student's undergraduate degree. Students cannot delay degree completion to complete the certificate.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. (Historical Grounding) understanding the historical, political, and cultural forces and conditions that have given rise to the unity and diversity in the region today.
2. (Multi-disciplinarity) analyzing contemporary political, economic, and cultural realities in the region from at least two disciplinary perspectives, ideally including humanities, social sciences and sometimes natural science approaches.
3. (Depth of knowledge) mastering at the undergraduate generalist level a particular facet of life in the region by taking courses on a particular sub-region or country, or by studying a regional language, or by taking at least two courses on the region in one discipline.

## ADVISING AND CAREERS

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We require that students visit with the advisor at least once per semester. Advising for the certificate is run by the African Studies Program advisor, Aleia Ingulli McCord, [advising@africa.wisc.edu](mailto:advising@africa.wisc.edu), who can assist you in developing your plan of study for the certificate, track progress toward the certificate, explore study abroad and international internship options, and begin the career exploration process. We offer walk-in advising, advising workshops, and scheduled appointments.

We strongly encourage students to enroll in Africa: An Introductory Survey (AFRICAN/AFROAMER/ANTHRO/GEOG/HISTORY/POLI SCI/ SOC 277), to study an African language, and to study abroad on the continent.

### L&S CAREER RESOURCES

Every L&S major opens a world of possibilities. SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps students turn the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and other coursework into fulfilling lives after graduation, whether that means jobs, public service, graduate school or other career pursuits.

In addition to providing basic support like resume reviews and interview practice, SuccessWorks offers ways to explore interests and build career skills from their very first semester/term at UW all the way through graduation and beyond.

Students can explore careers in one-on-one advising, try out different career paths, complete internships, prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications, and connect with supportive alumni and even employers in the fields that inspire them.

- SuccessWorks (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/>)
- Set up a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Enroll in a Career Course (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/career-courses/>) - a great idea for first- and second-year students:
  - INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit)
  - INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Comm B General Education Requirement)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)

- INTER-LS 260 Internship in the Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Activate your Handshake account (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/handshake/>) to apply for jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers recruiting UW-Madison students
- Learn about the impact SuccessWorks has on students' lives (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/about/mission/>)

the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) Awards Office (<https://iris.wisc.edu/funding/>).

## PEOPLE

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Faculty members specializing on Africa are based in more than 40 departments throughout the university's schools and colleges: <https://africa.wisc.edu/about-us-intro/academics-faculty-members/>

African Studies Program Steering Committee: Nancy Kendall [nkendall@gmail.com](mailto:nkendall@gmail.com); Mary Hark [hark@wisc.edu](mailto:hark@wisc.edu); Janis Tupesis [jtupesis@medicine.wisc.edu](mailto:jtupesis@medicine.wisc.edu); Nevine El-nossery [elnossery@wisc.edu](mailto:elnossery@wisc.edu); Jeremy Foltz [jdfoltz@wisc.edu](mailto:jdfoltz@wisc.edu); Matthew Brown [matthew.h.brown@wisc.edu](mailto:matthew.h.brown@wisc.edu); Matthew Turner [mturner2@wisc.edu](mailto:mturner2@wisc.edu); Luis Madureira [lmadurei@wisc.edu](mailto:lmadurei@wisc.edu)

## WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

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As a regional center within the Institute for Regional and International Studies (<https://iris.wisc.edu/>), we support and enhance international and global awareness in our student communities and inspire informed thinking about the complexities of our world. We encourage our students to connect to international networks and our regional communities through our program's lecture series, film screenings, and varied outreach events and activities. We encourage our students to study abroad, do international internships, learn foreign languages, and expect them to gain an interdisciplinary grounding in global and regional affairs. We provide resources and expertise on our world area to students, and prospective students, and more broadly to K-12 teachers and students, postsecondary educators and graduate students, businesses, the media, the military, the community at large, and anyone else who is interested.

## RESOURCES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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Information about funding through the African Studies Program is available on our website ([http://africa.wisc.edu/?page\\_id=28](http://africa.wisc.edu/?page_id=28)). We also encourage our students to explore funding options available through