AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, B.A.

The Department of African American Studies at the University of Wisconsin–Madison offers students an opportunity to study those aspects of black history, culture, and society in ideal interdisciplinary models that reconstruct African American life. It challenges students to critically examine facts and issues that are historically and contemporaneously relevant to the African American experience. The department offers an undergraduate major and certificate. The M.A. program is based on personalized programs of study shaped to meet the needs of individual students, many of whom participate in the "Bridge" programs which enable them to move directly into Ph.D. programs in English and History. Faculty members and students are active in a broad range of activities, including hip-hop programs for at-risk youth, community theater, college classes for low-income adults, and the Public History Project. The department prides itself on positive working relationships with our colleagues in other disciplines, including the other ethnic studies programs, the departments of Gender and Women's Studies, African Cultural Studies, English, History, Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies, and the School of Education. A vibrant community of scholars and students who believe in the ideal of unity without uniformity, we welcome all those committed to a deeper understanding of race and ethnicity in America and the world.

HOW TO GET IN

Students should inform the Department of African American Studies office of their intention to major and be assigned an advisor within the department.

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext) section of the *Guide*.

General Education	• Breadth—Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits • Breadth—Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits • Breadth—Social Studies: 3 credits • Communication Part A & Part B * • Ethnic Studies * • Quantitative Reasoning Part A & Part B *

* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

Students pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. The College of Letters & Science allows this major to be paired with either a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science curriculum.

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Mathematics	Complete the University General Education Requirements for Quantitative Reasoning A (QR-A) and Quantitative Reasoning B (QR-B) coursework.
Foreign Language	• Complete the fourth unit of a foreign language; OR • Complete the third unit of a foreign language and the second unit of an additional foreign language.
L&S Breadth	• 12 credits of Humanities, which must include 6 credits of literature; and • 12 credits of Social Science; and • 12 credits of Natural Science, which must include one 3+ credit Biological Science course and one 3+ credit Physical Science course.
Liberal Arts and Science Coursework	Complete at least 108 credits.
Depth of Intermediate/Advanced work	Complete at least 60 credits at the intermediate or advanced level.
Major	Declare and complete at least one major.
Total Credits	Complete at least 120 credits.
UW-Madison Experience	• 30 credits in residence, overall; and • 30 credits in residence after the 86th credit.
Quality of Work	• 2.000 in all coursework at UW–Madison • 2.000 in Intermediate/Advanced level coursework at UW–Madison

NON–L&S STUDENTS PURSUING AN L&S MAJOR

Non–L&S students who have permission from their school/college to pursue an additional major within L&S only need to fulfill the major requirements. They do not need to complete the L&S Degree Requirements above.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

The major in African American Studies requires **a minimum of 30 credits.** 15 credits must be numbered 300 and above. Students must take 2 courses from each of the four areas listed below: 1) Literature; 2) History and Society; 3) Arts and Culture; 4) Seminars and Advanced Courses; and Electives to achieve a total of 30 credits.

LITERATURE

Code	Title	Credits
Two Courses From:		6
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 222	Introduction to Black Women Writers	
AFROAMER 225	Introduction to African American Dramatic Literature	
AFROAMER 227	Masterpieces of African American Literature	
AFROAMER 265	African-American Autobiography	
AFROAMER 337	The Harlem Renaissance	
AFROAMER 338	The Black Arts Movement	
Total Credits		**6**

HISTORY AND SOCIETY

Code	Title	Credits
Two Courses From:		6
AFROAMER 151	Introduction to Contemporary Afro-American Society	
AFROAMER 231	Introduction to Afro-American History	
AFROAMER 272	Race and American Politics from the New Deal to the New Right	
AFROAMER/ HISTORY 321	Afro-American History Since 1900	
AFROAMER/ HISTORY 322	Afro-American History to 1900	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 324	Black Women in America: Reconstruction to the Present	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 326	Race and Gender in Post-World War II U.S. Society	
AFROAMER/ HISTORY 393	Slavery, Civil War, and Reconstruction, 1848-1877	
Total Credits		**6**

ARTS AND CULTURE

Code	Title	Credits
Two Courses From		6
AFROAMER 154	Hip-Hop and Contemporary American Society	
AFROAMER 156	Black Music and American Cultural History	
AFROAMER/ ART HIST 241	Introduction to African Art and Architecture	
AFROAMER/ ART HIST 242	Introduction to Afro-American Art	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 267	Artistic/Cultural Images of Black Women	
AFROAMER 303	Blacks, Film, and Society	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 367	Art and Visual Culture: Women of the African Diaspora and Africa	
Total Credits		**6**

SEMINARS AND ADVANCED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
Two Courses From		6
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 624	African American Women's Activism (19th & 20th Centuries)	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 625	Gender, Race and the Civil Rights Movement	
AFROAMER/ HISTORY 628	History of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States	
AFROAMER 631	Colloquium in Afro-American History	
AFROAMER 669	Interdisciplinary Studies in the Arts	
AFROAMER 671	Selected Topics in Afro-American History	
AFROAMER/ ENGL 672	Selected Topics in Afro-American Literature	
AFROAMER 673	Selected Topics in Afro-American Society	
AFROAMER 675	Selected Topics in Afro-American Culture	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 677	Critical and Theoretical Perspectives in Black Women's Writings	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 679	Visual Culture, Gender and Critical Race Theory	
Total Credits		**6**

ELECTIVES

Code	Title	Credits
Two Courses From		6
AFROAMER/ AMER IND/ ASIAN AM/ CHICLA/ FOLKLORE 102	Introduction to Comparative US Ethnic and American Indian Studies	
AFROAMER 155	They: Race in American Literature	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 221	Introduction to Black Women's Studies	
AFROAMER 271	Selected Topics in African American Culture	
AFROAMER/ AFRICAN/ HISTORY/ POLI SCI 297	African and African-American Linkages: An Introduction	
AFROAMER 302	Undergraduate Studies in Afro-American History	

AFROAMER/ DANCE/ MUSIC 318	Cultural Cross Currents: West African Dance/Music in the Americas	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 323	Gender, Race and Class: Women in U.S. History	
AFROAMER/ GEN&WS 333	Black Feminisms	
AFROAMER/ HISTORY 347	The Caribbean and its Diasporas	
AFROAMER 456	Soul Music and the African American Freedom Movement	
AFROAMER 469	Interdisciplinary Studies in the Arts	
AFROAMER/ POLI SCI 519	African American Political Theory	
AFROAMER/ HIST SCI/ MED HIST 523	Race, American Medicine and Public Health	
AFROAMER/ ED POL 567	History of African American Education	
Total Credits		**6**

RESIDENCE & QUALITY OF WORK IN THE MAJOR

2.000 GPA in all AFROAMER and major courses

2.000 GPA on at least 15 credits of upper-level work in the major, in residence[2]

15 credits in AFROAMER, taken on the UW–Madison campus

2

Upper-level in the major includes AFROAMER courses numbered 300 and above and courses that count for the major that are designated as Intermediate or Advanced level.

HONORS IN THE MAJOR

Students may declare Honors in the African American Studies Major in consultation with the African American Studies undergraduate advisor(s).

HONORS IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

To earn Honors in the Major in African American Studies, students must satisfy both the requirements for the major (above) and the following additional requirements:

- 3.300 University GPA
- 3.500 GPA in all AFROAMER courses, and all courses accepted in the major
- Complete at least one course with a cross-cultural or comparative focus:

Code	Title	Credits
AFROAMER/ ART HIST 241	Introduction to African Art and Architecture	3
AFROAMER/ ANTHRO/C&E SOC/ GEOG/HISTORY/ LACIS/POLI SCI/ SOC/SPANISH 260	Latin America: An Introduction	3-4
AFROAMER/ AFRICAN/ANTHRO/ GEOG/HISTORY/ POLI SCI/SOC 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey	4
AFROAMER/ AFRICAN/HISTORY/ POLI SCI 297	African and African-American Linkages: An Introduction	4
AFROAMER/ HISTORY 347	The Caribbean and its Diasporas	3
AFROAMER/ AFRICAN 413	Contemporary African and Caribbean Drama	3-4

- Complete at least 15 credits in AFROAMER at the 500 or 600 level, to include a two-semester Senior Honors Thesis in AFROAMER 681 and AFROAMER 682, for a total of 6 credits.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Total Degree	To receive a bachelor's degree from UW–Madison, students must earn a minimum of 120 degree credits. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. Students should consult with their college or department advisor for information on specific credit requirements.
Residency	Degree candidates are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits in residence at UW–Madison. "In residence" means on the UW–Madison campus with an undergraduate degree classification. “In residence” credit also includes UW–Madison courses offered in distance or online formats and credits earned in UW–Madison Study Abroad/Study Away programs.
Quality of Work	Undergraduate students must maintain the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, or academic program to remain in good academic standing. Students whose academic performance drops below these minimum thresholds will be placed on academic probation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Familiar with the history, culture and social conditions of African Americans in the United States and, secondarily, in the African diaspora.
2. Prepared to interact effectively in a multicultural world.
3. Prepared to share the results of academic research in the area of race with their communities in Wisconsin, the U.S., and the world.
4. Prepared for careers working in institutions that address the needs of multicultural communities.
5. Develop an understanding of the connection between different disciplinary approaches to the study of race.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

This Sample Four-Year Plan is a tool to assist students and their advisor(s). Students should use it—along with their DARS report, the Degree Planner, and Course Search & Enroll tools—to make their own four-year plan based on their placement scores, credit for transferred courses and approved

examinations, and individual interests. As students become involved in athletics, honors, research, student organizations, study abroad, volunteer experiences, and/or work, they might adjust the order of their courses to accommodate these experiences. Students will likely revise their own four-year plan several times during college.

First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Communication-A (complete during your first year)	3	AFROMAER major course	3
Quantitative Reasoning-A (complete during your first year)	3	AFROMAER major course (Literature)[2]	3
Foreign Language	4	AFROAMER elective (Ethnic Studies)[3]	3
AFROAMER Arts & Culture course[1]	3	AFROMAER major course (History & Society)[4]	3
Elective (eg. SEED = 1 credit)	1-3	Elective	3
	16		**15**

Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Quantitative Reasoning-B	4	Communication-B	3-4
INTER-LS 210 (Elective)	1	AFROMAER major course numbered 300-above (History & Society)	3
AFROMAER major course (Arts & Culture)	3	Physical Science Breadth	3
Biological Science Breadth	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
	14		**15**

Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Declare the Major (before 86 credits)[4]		AFROAMER major course numbered 300-higher (Literature)	3
I/A Comp Sci, Math or Stats (if required for BS)	3	AFROMER major course numbered 300-higher	3
AFROAMER major course numbered 300 and higher	3	Science Breadth	3
Science Breadth	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3		
	15		**15**

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
AFROAMER seminar	3	AFROMER Seminar	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
	15		**15**

Total Credits 120

1

Many AFROAMER courses from Arts & Culture carry Humanities breadth and will also meet the L&S Breadth requirement for Humanities (up to 6 credits).

2

AFROAMER literature courses will satisfy the L&S Literature Breadth requirement (6 credits of Literature course work).

3

Nearly all AFROAMER courses carry the Ethnic Studies (ESR) designation and will apply to General Education and the major. Students should complete ESR within first 60 credits.

4

Many AFROAMER courses in History & Society will carry Social Science Breadth and also meet the L&S Breadth requirements for Social Science (12 credits) course work.

5

Students must declare a major by the time they reach 86 credits.

ADVISING AND CAREERS

ADVISING

Students are limited to a maximum of 6 credits of Directed Study courses (AFROAMER 199 Directed Study or AFROAMER 699 Directed Study in Afro-American Studies). With consent of the undergraduate adviser, students may substitute directed studies or thesis credits to satisfy requirements for the major.

The Department of African-American Studies encourages our majors to begin working on their career exploration and preparation soon after arriving on campus. We partner with SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science. L&S graduates are in high demand by employers and graduate programs. It is important to us that our students are career ready at the time of graduation, and we are committed to your success.

Success!

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CAREERS

African American Studies Main Office:

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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/)

PEOPLE

Professors Adell, Clark-Pujara, Greene, Plummer, Whitmire

Associate Professor Davis

Assistant Professors Collin Wilkins, Edmonds, Ifatunji