

AFRICAN STUDIES, CERTIFICATE

The African Studies Program 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 US 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 Aristride 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 sector. 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

Students interested in declaring the undergraduate certificate should contact the African Studies Program office (asp@africa.wisc.edu) or the undergraduate advisor (advising@africa.wisc.edu).

REQUIREMENTS

CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

15 CREDITS IN AFRICAN STUDIES APPROVED COURSES

At least two SUBJECTs represented: ¹

Code	Title	Credits
AFRICAN 100	Introduction to African Cultural Expression	

AFRICAN/ HISTORY 129	Africa on the Global Stage
AFRICAN 201	Introduction to African Literature
AFRICAN 202	Introductory Topics in African Cultural Studies
AFRICAN 203	Introductory Topics in African Literature
AFRICAN/ FOLKLORE 210	The African Storyteller
AFRICAN 211	The African Autobiography
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER 220	HipHop, Youth Culture, and Politics in Senegal
AFRICAN 212	Introduction to African Popular Culture
AFRICAN 230	Introduction to Yoruba Life and Culture
AFRICAN 231	Introduction to Arabic Literary Culture
AFRICAN 232	Introduction to Swahili Cultures
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER 233	Global HipHop and Social Justice
AFRICAN/ FOLKLORE 270	The Hero and Trickster in African Oral Traditions
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ ANTHRO/GEOG/ HISTORY/ POLI SCI/ SOC 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ HISTORY/ POLI SCI 297	African and African-American Linkages: An Introduction
AFRICAN 300	African Literature in Translation
AFRICAN 303	African Literature and Visual Culture
AFRICAN 321	First Semester Arabic
AFRICAN 322	Second Semester Arabic
AFRICAN 323	Third Semester Arabic
AFRICAN 324	Fourth Semester Arabic
AFRICAN 329	Fifth Semester Arabic
AFRICAN 330	Sixth Semester Arabic
AFRICAN 325	Colloquial Arabic
AFRICAN 326	Colloquial Arabic
AFRICAN 331	First Semester Swahili
AFRICAN 332	Second Semester Swahili
AFRICAN 333	Third Semester Swahili
AFRICAN 334	Fourth Semester Swahili
AFRICAN 335	First Semester-A Language of Southern Africa
AFRICAN 336	Second Semester-A Language of Southern Africa
AFRICAN 337	Third Semester-A Language of Southern Africa
AFRICAN 338	Fourth Semester-A Language of Southern Africa
AFRICAN 339	First Semester Summer Arabic

AFRICAN 340	Second Semester Summer Arabic	AFRICAN 605	Advanced Topics in African Cultural Studies
AFRICAN 341	Third Semester Summer Arabic	AFRICAN 606	Advanced Topics in African Literature
AFRICAN 342	Fourth Semester Summer Arabic	AFRICAN 609	Advanced Topics in Global Black Music Studies
AFRICAN 343	Fifth Semester Summer Arabic	AFRICAN 669	Special Topics
AFRICAN 344	Sixth Semester Summer Arabic	AFRICAN 670	Theories and Methods of Learning a Less Commonly Taught Language
AFRICAN 361	First Semester Hausa	AFRICAN 671	Multilanguage Seminar
AFRICAN 362	Second Semester Hausa	AFRICAN 672	Intensive Summer Multilanguage Seminar
AFRICAN/ASIAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	AFRICAN 697	Directed Study of a Less Commonly Taught Language
AFRICAN 371	First Semester Yoruba	AFRICAN 698	Directed Study
AFRICAN 372	Second Semester Yoruba	AFRICAN 699	Directed Study
AFRICAN 373	Third Semester Yoruba	AFROAMER/ ART HIST 241	Introduction to African Art and Architecture
AFRICAN 374	Fourth Semester Yoruba	AFROAMER/ ART HIST 242	Introduction to Afro-American Art
AFRICAN 391	First Semester-A Language of West Africa	AFROAMER/ AFRICAN/ ANTHRO/GEOG/ HISTORY/ POLI SCI/ SOC 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey
AFRICAN 392	Second Semester-A Language of West Africa	AFROAMER/ AFRICAN/ HISTORY/ POLI SCI 297	African and African-American Linkages: An Introduction
AFRICAN 393	Third Semester-A Language of West Africa	AFROAMER/ AFRICAN 413	Contemporary African and Caribbean Drama
AFRICAN 394	Fourth Semester-A Language of West Africa	AFROAMER/ ART 674	Selected Topics on Afro-American Artists
AFRICAN 402	Theory of African Literature	AFROAMER 675	Selected Topics in Afro-American Culture
AFRICAN 403	Theories of African Cultural Studies	A A E/ INTL ST 374	The Growth and Development of Nations in the Global Economy
AFRICAN 405	Topics in African Cultural Studies	A A E/ECON 474	Economic Problems of Developing Areas
AFRICAN 406	Topics in African Literature	A A E/ECON 477	Agricultural and Economic Development in Africa
AFRICAN 407	Topics in African Languages	ANTHRO 120	Freshman/Sophomore Seminar in Anthropology
AFRICAN 409	Topics in US and Global Black Music Studies	ANTHRO/ AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ GEOG/HISTORY/ POLI SCI/ SOC 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey
AFRICAN 412	Contemporary African Fiction	ANTHRO 333	Prehistory of Africa
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER 413	Contemporary African and Caribbean Drama	ANTHRO 345	Family, Kin and Community in Anthropological Perspective
AFRICAN 435	Fifth Semester Swahili	ANTHRO 348	Economic Anthropology
AFRICAN 436	Sixth Semester Swahili	ANTHRO 391	Bones for the Archaeologist
AFRICAN/ FRENCH 440	African/Francophone Film	ART HIST/ AFROAMER 241	Introduction to African Art and Architecture
AFRICAN 445	Advanced Readings in Arabic Texts		
AFRICAN/ PORTUG 451	Lusophone African Literature		
AFRICAN 453	Modern African Literature in English		
AFRICAN/ FOLKLORE 471	Oral Traditions and the Written Word		
AFRICAN 475	Fifth Semester Yoruba		
AFRICAN 476	Sixth Semester Yoruba		
AFRICAN 493	Fifth Semester, A Language of Southern Africa		
AFRICAN 494	Sixth Semester, A Language of Southern Africa		
AFRICAN 495			
AFRICAN 496			
AFRICAN 500	Language and Society in Africa		
AFRICAN 501	Structure and Analysis of African Languages		
AFRICAN 503	African Linguistic Structures- Morphology and Syntax		

ART HIST 579	Proseminar in African Art	HISTORY/ AFROAMER 347	The Caribbean and its Diasporas
DANCE 118	African Dance	HISTORY 377	History of Africa, 1500 to 1870
DANCE 165	World Dance Cultures: Traditional to Contemporary	HISTORY 444	History of East Africa
DANCE/ THEATRE 218	African Dance Performance	HISTORY 445	History of Equatorial Africa
DANCE/ AFROAMER/ MUSIC 318	Cultural Cross Currents: West African Dance/Music in the Americas	INTL ST/ ED POL 335	Globalization and Education
ECON/A A E 474	Economic Problems of Developing Areas	INTL ST/ A A E 373	Globalization, Poverty and Development
ED POL 150	Education and Public Policy	INTL ST/ A A E 374	The Growth and Development of Nations in the Global Economy
ENVIR ST/ GEOG 339	Environmental Conservation	INTL ST/ GEN&WS 535	Women's Global Health and Human Rights
ECON/A A E 477	Agricultural and Economic Development in Africa	JOURN 620	International Communication
FOLKLORE/ AFRICAN 210	The African Storyteller	JOURN 621	Mass Communication in Developing Nations
FOLKLORE/ AFRICAN 270	The Hero and Trickster in African Oral Traditions	LITTRANS 226	Introduction to Luso-Afro-Brazilian Literature
FOLKLORE/ MUSIC 401	Musical Cultures of the World	MUSIC/ FOLKLORE 401	Musical Cultures of the World
FOLKLORE/ AFRICAN 471	Oral Traditions and the Written Word	MUSIC/ FOLKLORE 402	Musical Cultures of the World
FRENCH 461	French/Francophone Literary Studies Across the Centuries	POLI SCI/ AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ ANTHRO/GEOG/ HISTORY/ SOC 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey
FRENCH 462	French/Francophone Cultural Studies Across the Centuries	POLI SCI/ AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ HISTORY 297	African and African-American Linkages: An Introduction
FRENCH 665	Introduction aux etudes francophones	POLI SCI 329	African Politics
GEOG/AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ ANTHRO/ HISTORY/ POLI SCI/ SOC 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey	POLI SCI 330	Political Economy of Development
GEOG/ ENVIR ST 339	Environmental Conservation	POLI SCI 345	Conflict Resolution
GEOG 355	Africa, South of the Sahara	POLI SCI 348	Analysis of International Relations
HISTORY 105	Introduction to the History of Africa	POLI SCI 354	International Institutions and World Order
HISTORY/ AFRICAN 129	Africa on the Global Stage	POLI SCI 356	Principles of International Law
HISTORY 225	Explorations in Third World History (H)	POLI SCI 437	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict
HISTORY/ AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ ANTHRO/ GEOG/POLI SCI/ SOC 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey	POLI SCI 455	African International Relations
HISTORY 278	Africans in the Americas, 1492-1808	PORTUG/ AFRICAN 451	Lusophone African Literature
HISTORY 279	Afro-Atlantic History, 1808-Present	RELIG ST/ CLASSICS/ HISTORY 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean
HISTORY/ AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ POLI SCI 297	African and African-American Linkages: An Introduction	SOC/AFRICAN/ AFROAMER/ ANTHRO/GEOG/ HISTORY/ POLI SCI 277	Africa: An Introductory Survey

¹ 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 & 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

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

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, 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

SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science helps students leverage the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and liberal arts degree; explore and try out different career paths; participate in internships; prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications; and network with professionals in the field (alumni and employers). In short, SuccessWorks helps students in the College of Letters & Science discover themselves, find opportunities, and develop the skills they need for success after graduation.

SuccessWorks can also assist students in career advising, résumé and cover letter writing, networking opportunities, and interview skills, as well as course offerings for undergraduates to begin their career exploration early in their undergraduate career.

Students should set up their profiles in Handshake (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/handshake/>) to take care of everything they need to

explore career events, manage their campus interviews, and **apply to jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers around the country.**

- SuccessWorks (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/>)
- Set up a career advising appointment (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit, targeted to first- and second-year students)—for more information, see Inter-LS 210: Career Development, Taking Initiative (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/inter-ls-210-career-development-taking-initiative/>)
- INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Com B General Education Requirement)
- Handshake (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/handshake/>)
- Learn how we're transforming career preparation: L&S Career Initiative (<http://ls.wisc.edu/lsci/>)

PEOPLE

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Faculty members specializing on Africa are based in more than 40 departments throughout the university's schools and colleges.
African Studies Program Steering Committee: Kodesh (Faculty Director, History), Callaci (History), Goldberg (Veterinary Medicine), Kendall (Education Policy), McCord (African Studies Program), Naughton (Geography), Thompson (African Cultural Studies).

WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

As a regional center within the Institute for Regional and International Studies, 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

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

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