

THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
Africana Studies Program
Spring 2017



Director: Dr. David Ikard

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www.as.miami.edu/africanastudies

About the Program:

The interdisciplinary program in Africana Studies is a flexible one that provides opportunities for students to learn about continental Africa and the experiences of people of African descent in the Black Atlantic societies of North America, the Caribbean and Latin America. Africana Studies courses explore the multifaceted political, economic, social, and cultural traditions of Africans and peoples of African descent. The program prepares students for admission to Graduate school or for careers in Journalism, Education, Law, International Relations, and Politics among several others.

Major/Minor:

Major in Africana Studies (ten courses-30 credits)

Africana Studies majors must complete the following core courses:

- AAS 150: Introduction to Africana Studies
- AAS 490: Senior Seminar in Africana Studies
 - HIS 201: History of Africa I (to 1800)
 - HIS 209: African-American History to 1877
- OR
- HIS 210: African-American History since 1877
 - ENG 260: African American Literature

One course in Caribbean Studies:

- ENG 361: Caribbean Literature
- ENG 374: Caribbean Women Writers
 - APY 385: Caribbean Cultures
- GEG 212: Middle America and the Caribbean
 - HIS 318: Modern Caribbean History

The remaining courses must be selected from the list of acceptable approved courses:

Africana Studies minors must complete AAS 150.

Africana Studies minors must complete either HIS 201 or HIS 209

The remaining courses must be selected from the list of acceptable courses approved by the program.

A minimum of six credits must be numbered 300 or higher.

A grade of C or better with an overall GPA of 2.0 is required in each course taken for the minor.

Spring 2017

AAS 150 – Introduction to Africana Studies

Section B: MWF 9:05AM - 9:55AM

Instructor: Carolina Villabla

Class attribute: Writing

The purpose of this course is to explore the experiences of African American and other African-descended peoples with emphases on social, cultural, political, etc.

AAS 150 – Introduction to Africana Studies

Section H: MW 3:35PM - 4:50PM

Instructor: Jafari Allen

Class attribute: Writing

The purpose of this course is to explore the experiences of African American and other African-descended peoples with emphases on social, cultural, political, etc.

AAS 290 – Housing the Black Literary Imagination

Section E: MWF 12:20PM - 1:10PM

Instructor: Donette Francis

Co-listed ENG 396, AMS 339

Full course title: **Housing the Black Literary Imagination**. Satisfies the English Literature major requirement for a course in literature since 1900. For further information, see the English Department Course Booklet for Spring 2017, which will be available in the fall at <http://www.as.miami.edu/english/undergraduate/course-booklets/>. This course is combined with one or more courses outside of the English Department; to count the course toward an English major or minor, you must enroll under the ENG number.

AAS 290 - #BlackLivesMatterToo

Section Q: TuTh 12:30PM - 1:45PM

Instructor: David Ikard

Class Attributes: Writing

This course will engage the emerging Black Lives Matter Movement as an extension of the Civil Rights Movement. Students will be introduced to a host of theorists, activists, and artists who critique not only white supremacist ideology and systems of power but also the ways in which blacks and oppressed groups unconsciously reinforce status quo power relations. Upon completion of the course students will have a grasp of the political-social, cultural, and economic – that inform the Black Lives Matter Movement and its historical antecedents.

AAS 290 – Caribbean Popular Culture

Section Q1: TuTh 12:30PM – 1:45PM

Instructor: Patricia Saunders

Co-listed: ENG 388, LAS 350

We will explore literary forms of popular expression, considered in relation to politics, ideology, gender, or race; comparison to other forms of popular culture in print, music, or the visual media.

AAS 390 – Race and Ethnic Relations

Section J2: Mo 5:00PM – 7:40PM

Instructor: Jomills Braddock

Class Attributes: Civic

Co-listed: SOC 387

The influence of racial distinctions on individual and social behavior.

AAS 390 – The Black Ghetto

Section N: TuTh 8:00AM – 9:15AM

Instructor: Marvin Dawkins

Class Attributes: Civic

Co-listed: SOC 388

The course examines the origin and evolution of the “ghetto” as a concept and the social and historical significance of the ghetto in understanding the development of black community life in urban America.

AAS 390 – Criminology, Mass Incarceration, and the New Jim Crow

Section D: MWF 11:15AM - 12:05PM

Instructor: Carolina Villalba

This special topics course explores how modern mass incarceration has been influenced by racialized constructions of criminality from the pre-Civil War era to the present. Today, black inmates constitute almost half of the American prison population, outnumbering all other race or ethnic groups. Drawing from the work of scholars like Michelle Alexander and Angela Davis, this course considers the legal and historical trajectory that has made criminality nearly synonymous with blackness. We will examine the effects of the 13th Amendment on the American criminal justice system and discuss the relationship between War on Drugs legislation and earlier forms of racially codified lawmaking like the vagrancy statutes, the black codes, convict leasing, debt peonage, chain-gang labor, and the Jim Crow laws. We will also consider how post-War-on-Drugs law enforcement practices and more recent legislation, like mandatory minimums and “three-strikes” laws, contribute to over-incarceration in the black community.

We will work with various genres, including fiction, poetry, autobiography, historical analysis, legal studies, film, and music. Texts will include Alexander’s *The New Jim Crow*, Davis’s *Are Prisons Obsolete?*, James Baldwin’s *If Beale Street Could Talk*, as well as prison poetry, convict-labor songs, and Ava DuVernay’s documentary film *13th*.

AAS 390 – Gender, Race, Class

Section T: TuTh 5:00PM - 6:15PM

Instructor: Sumita Dutt

Class Attributes: Civic, People and Society

Co-listed: WGS 315

We will interrogate common sense thinking about gender, race, and class drawing on the social sciences and humanities.

AAS 490: Hip Hop and Social Justice

Section S: TuTh 3:30PM - 4:45PM

Instructor: David Ikard

Since Sugar Hill Gang dropped its hit single “Rapper Delight” in 1979 and effectively ushered hip hop music and culture into the mainstream, the genre and culture have been beset with controversy. The most venomous claims are that the music celebrates and encourages misogyny, gangsta activities (including drug dealing, murder, violence, and robbery) and hyper-consumerism. However, legitimate many of these claims may be, it is undeniable that hip hop music and culture have also become the go-to medium for hashing out the social ills—especially white supremacist policing and economic exploitation—facing the most vulnerable black communities. Indeed, hip hop music has become popular the world over and is routinely employed and appropriated to challenge all manners of social injustices from racism to illegal occupation. This course will engage these fascinating phenomena and consider the possibilities and challenges of using hip hop music/culture to advocate for social justice within and beyond black spaces.