African-American Studies Courses

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AAST 100S. Introduction to African American Studies. 3 Credits.
An interdisciplinary examination of the African American experience in America. The course examines the historical and contemporary conditions of African American people. It also explores the various modes of artistic expression, values and philosophical underpinnings of African American culture.

AAST 305. Africa in Transition. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to examine various contemporary social movements in Africa from the 1960s to the present day. In addition, this course examines how these social movements have impacted various groups' human, cultural, economic, political, and social capital. Prerequisites: General education human behavior course.

AAST 310. Human Rights and Social Change in Africa. 3 Credits.
This course examines historical social movements in Africa such as economic, ethnic, women’s, political, and religious social movements. This course will also link micro-level, meso-level, and macro-level implications for the social structures and cultures of various African nations and communities. Prerequisites: General Education human behavior course.

AAST 320. Introduction to Research Methods. 3 Credits.
This course is an introduction to social research methods. The primary purpose of this course is to survey the major research designs and research techniques that are the core of contemporary approaches used to study social phenomena as well as the lives and experiences of African Americans. Ethical implications of social research and data analysis will also be covered. Prerequisites: General Education human behavior course.

AAST 368. Internship. 3 Credits.
Individual practical experience in community-based organizations, public bureaucracies, administrative agencies and other organizations and firms. Student can gain exposure in the not-for-profit and profit sectors. Prerequisites: Permission of program director.

AAST 395. Topics in African American Studies. 3 Credits.
These courses are open to majors and non-majors. Ethnic studies majors may take these courses to satisfy requirements for the concentration. These courses will appear in the course schedule, and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: AAST 100S or permission of the instructor.

AAST 396. Topics in African American Studies. 3 Credits.
These courses are open to majors and non-majors. Ethnic studies majors may take these courses to satisfy requirements for the concentration. These courses will appear in the course schedule, and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: AAST 100S or permission of the instructor.

AAST 410. Africana Intellectual Thought and Economic Development. 3 Credits.
This course examines Africana philosophical and theoretical thought as it pertains to issues of race, labor and production. Through an examination of the social and economic legacy of slavery and colonialism, this course investigates how systems of exploitation have influenced the underdevelopment of Africa, the Caribbean and North America in its contribution to Western Capitalism. Prerequisites: General Education human behavior course.

AAST 420W. African American Political and Social Thought. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to introduce students to the historical and contemporary experiences of “Blackness” as it has been constructed, contested and affirmed in various historical, political and narrative contexts. Embracing the theme of duality, the course examines what it means for a culture and people to be both integral to and excluded from the American political and social community. This is a writing intensive course. Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C and a General Education human behavior course.

AAST 490. Senior Seminar. 3 Credits.
This course will introduce students to the key concepts involved in developing and executing an interdisciplinary research project. Students will read and interpret research literature, execute a research project, write a final research paper, and present research findings in a professional setting. Prerequisites: AAST 320.

AAST 495. Topics in African American Studies. 3 Credits.
This course focuses on a variety of selected topics in African American Studies. These courses will appear in the course schedule, and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: Senior standing.

AAST 497/597. Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.
Students are exposed to opportunities to conduct independent research and/ or study in areas focused on the political, social and cultural experiences of people of African descent in the U.S. and the African Diaspora. Prerequisites: Junior standing or permission of instructor.

AAST 597. Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.
Students are exposed to opportunities to conduct independent research and/ or study in areas focused on the political, social and cultural experiences of people of African descent in the U.S. and the African Diaspora. Prerequisites: Permission of instructor.