

Africana Studies

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Africana Studies (AFAM), an academic discipline, offers an intellectual approach to the study of African people both nationally and globally. It seeks to provide historically accurate assessments of the roles and contributions of people of African descent to America and to human history. An interdisciplinary program, this minor offers students the opportunity to communicate more effectively across cultural lines and to explore the social, political, and economic reality of the black experience in the United States. The minor encourages creative research, the acquisition of practical experiences, and the development of intellectual expertise in Africana Studies. Several departments at Valdosta State University offer courses that support these goals.

Selected Educational Outcomes

1. AFAM minors will recognize the founding of the discipline of Africana Studies and key figures, concepts, and theories in the intellectual genealogy and development of the field.
2. AFAM minors will describe and analyze the experiences of people of African descent in all parts of the world, especially African Diaspora in the Americas, the Caribbean, and Africa.
3. AFAM minors will identify and analyze forms and traditions of thought or expression in relation to the cultural, historical, political, and social context of people of African descent as, for example, dance, literature, music, film, and philosophical and religious traditions.
4. AFAM minors will collect, analyze, and synthesize qualitative and quantitative data using interdisciplinary techniques to explain the impact of societal, psychological, economic, historical, and political factors on people of African descent with particular focus on the impact of racial classification, class, and gender.
5. AFAM minors will engage in experiential learning activities and projects that demonstrate civic responsibility and cultivate community empowerment while upholding the values of collective work, responsibility, and self-determination.

Requirements for the Minor in Africana Studies

Code	Title	Hours
AFAM 2000	Introduction to Africana Studies	3
AFAM Elective Hours at 3000-4000 level ¹		12
Select from the following:		
AFAM 3030	African to African American Philosophy and Religious Studies	
SOCI 3060	Race and Ethnic Relations	
AFAM 3090	Africa: Inequalities Past and Present	
AFAM/ENGL 3220	Studies in African American Literature	
AFAM 3225 or ENGL 3225	Introduction to African American Literacy Criticism	
AFAM 3280 or POLS 3280	African American Politics	
AFAM/ENGL 3320	Studies in African Literature	
AFAM 3600	Special Topics in Africana Studies	
AFAM 4010	Internship in Africana Studies	
AFAM/HIST 4231	African American History to 1865	
AFAM/HIST 4232	African American History Since 1865	
AFAM 4233 or HIST 4233	African American Cultural History	
AFAM 4234 or HIST 4234	African American Intellectual History	
AFAM 4235 or HIST 4235	Nazi Germany and the Jim Crow South	
POLS 4330 or POLS 4330	African Politics	
AFAM 4550	The Caribbean World	
AFAM 4551	Women in the African Diaspora	

¹ Students may count one course at the 2000 level, beyond AFAM 2000, as approved by program coordinator.

Certificate in Africana Studies

The Certificate in Africana Studies will be awarded to undergraduates who complete 12 hours of Africana Studies coursework but do not complete the necessary 15 hours for the minor.