

AFRICANA STUDIES (MA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/sca/>)

NYSED: 20200 HEGIS: 2211.00 CIP: 05.0201

Program Description

The Africana Studies Program in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis offers a Master of Arts degree with a broad interdisciplinary curriculum in the study of Africans and Afro-descendants globally, focusing mainly in the following geographical areas: Africa, North America, Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia-Pacific, and the Middle East. Students can concentrate in any one of these areas, compare and contrast between two or more areas, or take courses in all five of these areas.

The Master of Arts Program in Africana Studies prepares students interested in applying for PhD programs in history, literature, American studies, anthropology, communications, political science, sociology, economics and cinema studies, and for careers in education, cultural institutions, documentation, and public service.

Additionally, an MA can be pursued as a joint degree with either Journalism, Economics, Library Information Science, or a concentration in Museum Studies. More information about the Africana MA and joint programs can be found in the Programs in Africana Studies (<https://as.nyu.edu/nyu-as/as/departments/africanastudies/graduate/programs-in-africana-studies.html>)page.

Admissions

All applicants to the Graduate School of Arts and Science (GSAS) are required to submit the general application requirements (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc.html>), which include:

- Academic Transcripts (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/academic-transcripts.html>)
- Test Scores (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/test-scores.html>) (if required)
- Applicant Statements (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/statements.html>)
- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- Letters of Recommendation (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/letters-of-recommendation.html>), and
- A non-refundable application fee (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc.html#fee>).

See Africana Studies (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc/programs/africana-studies.html>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements ¹		
AFRS-GA 2000	Proseminar in Africana Studies	4
AMST-GA 3310	SCA Pro-Seminar: The Art of Research	4
Electives		
Africana Studies Electives		22
Total Credits		30

¹ At least 24 credits must be within SCA. No more than 6 credits may be transferred from other graduate schools.

Additional Program Requirements

Capstone

To qualify for the M.A. degree, students must write a thesis at the conclusion of their final semester of coursework. By the beginning of the second semester students should select their thesis project advisor and confirm topic choice with advisor. By the end of the second semester students should submit a Thesis Proposal with summer research plan and chapters outlined. A first draft of the thesis should be submitted no later than two months into intended term of graduation (ex. Nov. for January graduates; March for May graduates). A final draft (approved by the advisor and a second reader) is due no later than two weeks prior to graduation deadline. The M.A. thesis should be based upon original research and should approximately 40 to 60 pages in length and determined in consultation with your thesis advisor.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
AFRS-GA 2000	Proseminar in Africana Studies	4
Africana Studies Elective		4
Africana Studies Elective		4
Credits		12
2nd Semester/Term		
AMST-GA 3310	SCA Pro-Seminar: The Art of Research	4
Africana Studies Elective		4
Africana Studies Elective		4
Credits		12
3rd Semester/Term		
Africana Studies Elective		4
Credits		4
4th Semester/Term		
AFRS-GA 3210	Readings in Africana Studies (Independent Study for Thesis Completion)	2
Credits		2
Total Credits		30

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will have:

1. Development of literacy in a range of transdisciplinary research methods appropriate to the field of Africana Studies: a) textual analysis, 2) ethnography, c) historical analysis, d) data analysis.
2. Ability to critically analyze, apply and discuss theories, concepts and critical issues in the field.
3. Proficiency in written and oral communication appropriate to the field.
4. Demonstration of mastery of one or more research methodologies in the production of work of publishable quality.
5. The ability to make a significant contribution based upon original research to the field of interdisciplinary Africana Studies, and specifically the production of a thesis with particular emphasis on methods of historical, textual and ethnographic analysis.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

Graduate School of Arts and Science Policies

Academic Policies for the Graduate School of Arts and Science can be found on the Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).