African Studies in Social and Behavioral Sciences

AFS 101-F, 102-F Themes in the Black Experience I, II
An historical survey of the experience of black people against the background of a thorough review of American history and the events which impacted the black experience in America. This course also examines the responses of African Americans to the changing historical circumstances that they encountered in the United States. Consideration is also given to the similarities and differences among the lifestyles of people of African descent in America. The first semester treats themes to 1865. The second semester treats themes from 1865 to the present. 3 credits per course

AFS 221-J Introduction to Modern African History
Historical themes in 19th and 20th-century Africa. Topics include social and political relations in African states; slavery and the slave trade in West Africa; the impact of Christianity and Islam on African colonialism; colonialism and its consequences; nationalist movements and de-colonization; pan-Africanism and the politics of African unity; the postcolonial state project; the relationship of the African diaspora to Africa; and the political and social history of both African and African states and international politics of the Cold War era. This course is offered as both AFS 221 and HIS 221.
Advisory Prerequisite: One D.E.C. category F course 3 credits

AFS 239-J Introduction to the Caribbean Experience
An introduction to the political economy of contemporary Caribbean societies with emphasis on the historical roots of their present underdevelopment. 3 credits

AFS 240-J Issues in Caribbean Society
An analysis of the process of social change in the English, Spanish, and French Caribbean with special emphasis on those societies undergoing rapid transformation. Advisory Prerequisites: AFS 101, 102, and 239 3 credits

AFS 277-K The Modern Color Line
An exploration of the significance of race in 19th- and early 20th-century America. Topics include forms of political organization and collective struggle; the social and psychic consequences of racist subjection; the relationship among race, racism, and culture; and the cultural politics of race and gender. This course is offered as both AFS 277 and HIS 277.
Advisory Prerequisites: AFS 101 and 102; completion of D.E.C. categories I and J 3 credits

AFS 283 Community Service
Through field experience, readings, research, and discussion, students focus on social and educational problems relating primarily to the African American experience. Specific programs may include working with children from low-income families, educational and cultural enrichment projects, tutoring in various institutional settings, and other projects to be announced. May be repeated once.
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor 3 credits, S/U grading

AFS 300-K Blacks in the City
The urban experiences of blacks as a force in determining the character, culture, and social climate of the American city. A central theme is that blacks have greatly impacted U.S. urban life and made important contributions to its sense of vitality and cultural diversity.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing 3 credits

AFS 310-K American Attitudes Toward Race
An historical examination of the growth and development of racism in America from the arrival of the first Africans to the continent to the present day. The focus is on African Americans and their relationships with the American system, its institutions, and culture. References are made to other ethnic groups to give balance to the examination of social conditions and attitudes shaping American society throughout.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing 3 credits

AFS 319-F The Politics of Race
An analysis of political concepts often associated with racism and the tracing of the origins of the concept of race. Forms in which racism manifests itself today are identified and discussed showing the similarities and differences where they exist.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing 3 credits

AFS 320-K Black Popular Culture and the Terrain
A study of black popular culture in 20th century America through close readings of text, music, and film. We will examine black cultural production and its relationship to black political activism, particularly in the urban terrain. Enables students to interrogate the relationship between African Americans, culture and American society during the 20th century.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of one D.E.C. category F course 3 credits

AFS 325-K The Civil Rights Movement
A detailed study of the movement for civil rights from its origins, examining the establishment of the NAACP, race relations between whites and blacks since 1890, the role of the Supreme Court and the federal government, and the turn to militancy in the 1960s and after. This course is offered as both AFS 325 and HIS 325.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisite: HIS 104 or AFS 101 or 102 3 credits

AFS 337-J The Politics of Africa
A study of nationalism, political thought, and political institutions in Africa. Consideration is given to the quest for unity, the problems of liberation, and the political implications of social change. This course is offered as both AFS 337 and POL 337.
Prerequisites: Two AFS or POL courses 3 credits

AFS 339-K Recent African American History
A study of recent African American history. Topics will include the dramatic increase in the number of black elected officials, rise of the black middle-class, the urban crisis, contemporary civil rights struggles, affirmative action, the decline of black radicalism, and the incorporation of black leadership. Enables students to examine the relationship between African Americans and American society during the past 100 years, particularly since 1970. This course is offered as both HIS 339 and AFS 339.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of one D.E.C. category F course 3 credits

AFS 345-J Culture and Gender: Women in Africa and the Caribbean
Comparative analysis of the status and role of women in colonial and contemporary societies of Africa and the Caribbean. Exploration of the forces that shape women’s lives and the ways in which women have contributed to the development of these societies.
Prerequisite: AFS 239 or 240
Advisory Prerequisite: Two AFS or HIS courses 3 credits

AFS 346-J Political and Social History of Africa
An exploration of theoretical perspectives in the historical sociology and comparative politics of Africa. Topics include the crisis of state legitimacy; the patriarchal society; ethnicity, religion, and politics; the politics of modernization; development and the environment; population growth and underdevelopment; globalization, neoliberal economic policy and the postcolonial state; and the history of state and society relations. This course is offered as both AFS 346 and HIS 346.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisites: Two AFS or HIS courses 3 credits

A crosscultural survey of the history of black women in the context of the struggles for social justice in the Caribbean (English- and Spanish-speaking), Africa, and the United States. Several major topics are covered: the slave resistance and the anti-slavery movement; the anti-colonial struggle in Africa and the Caribbean; the trade union movement in the United States and Africa; the struggle against underdevelopment in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Jamaica; and the apartheid movement in South Africa. This course is offered as both AFS 350 and WST 350.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisites: Completion of D.E.C. category F 3 credits

AFS 360-K African-American Social Commentary
A study of African-American responses to the social order in America. The course concentrates on the various ways African Americans have conceptualized and described their condition since their arrival in America. Discussion of the solutions proposed by African-American spokespersons from the Civil War period to the present day.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing 3 credits

AFS 363-F Blacks and Mass Media
An historical examination of the major media characterizations of black Americans and the Black Experience, and the impact of these portrayals on African-American society at large. The roles of newspapers, books, magazines, plays, radio, movies, television, and advertisements are studied.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing 3 credits

AFS 365-J Introduction to African Society
Examination of the ways that the slave trade and colonization affected African societies’ incorporation into the world economy as well as the development of their social and political institutions. The nature of African institutions, organizations, and belief and value systems before the colonial impact and how these histories were understood and experienced by African men and women are considered. The historical continuities and discontinuities in contemporary African societies as well as the effects of globalization and modernization in Africa are examined. This course is offered as both AFS 365 and SOC 365.
Prerequisite: SOC 105 or AFS 101 or 102 or POL 101 or 103
Advisory Prerequisite: AFS 221
3 credits
AFS 370-K The African American Family
The African American family from the early 1800s to the present day. The nature and structure of that family, the obstacles it has faced, and its interrelationships with the African American community and the diversity of American society.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisites: Completion of D.E.C. categories I and J
3 credits

AFS 372-K African American Political Thought
A critical analysis of the major architects of black political thought and their movements in the context of their distinctive historical development. Emphasis is on the intellectual and ideological ferment of the 19th and 20th centuries.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisites: Completion of D.E.C. categories I and J
3 credits

AFS 375-F Slavery
The historical experience of blacks in slavery from a social and historical perspective with emphasis on the American South and with comparative references to slave systems as they developed in the western hemisphere.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

AFS 380-J Race and Ethnicity in Latin America and the Caribbean
Concepts and theories of race and ethnicity in Latin American and Caribbean settings. The historical evolution and the contemporary social and cultural significance of racial and ethnic identities within the region are explored. Specific examples of social relations characterized by ethnic or racial conflict are presented. This course is offered as both AFS 380 and ANT 380.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisite: AFS 240 or LAC 200
3 credits

AFS 381-H AIDS, Race, and Gender in the Black Community
Review of current biological and epidemiological knowledge about the HIV virus, and examination of the virus’ social impact on the Black community. This course is offered as both AFS 381 and WST 381.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; one D.E.C. category F course
3 credits

AFS 388-J Slavery in Latin America and the Caribbean
The institution of slavery and its impact on plantation societies in the Americas, with particular attention to Brazil and the Caribbean. Topics include conquest and enslavement, the formation of slave communities, African culture in Latin America, resistance and oppression, the process of emancipation, and race relations. This course is offered as both AFS 388 and HIS 388.
Prerequisite: One of the following: AFS 239, AFS 240, AFS 277, HIS 213, HIS 214, or LAC 200
3 credits

AFS 392-K The Black Power Movement
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisite: One D.E.C. category F course
3 credits

AFS 394-K Black Nationalism in America
A study of the history of black nationalism in America. Centered around racial pride, unity, and self-determination, black nationalism has been a potent strain within African Americans’ long struggle for liberation on America’s shores and beyond.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisite: One D.E.C. category F course
3 credits

AFS 395-J Religions of the Caribbean
An ethnographic approach to the relationship among religion, social organization, and identity politics through studying cultural and historical bases of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and their related religious manifestations in the Caribbean. Class stratification, ethnic conflict, and fundamentalist movements are explored. This course is offered as both AFS 395 and ANT 395.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisite: ANT 351
3 credits

AFS 396-K Topics in African American History
Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific descriptions when course is offered. Topics may include titles such as Urban African-American history Since 1865; and Slavery, Abolition, and Emancipation 1600-Present. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic relating to African American history. Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge of 1) a basic narrative of American history, political, economic, social, and cultural, including knowledge of unity and diversity within American society; 2) knowledge of common institutions in American society and how they have affected different groups; and 3) an understanding of America’s evolving relationship with the rest of the world. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes.
Prerequisite: AFS 101 or 102 or HIS 103 or HIS 104
3 credits

AFS 400 Ancient Egypt (KMT): Historical and Contemporary Views
An exploration of the rise and development of ancient Egypt (KMT) through study of Egyptian peoples, religions, cultural transformations, and monument building. Examines the periods of the Old Kingdom, Middle Kingdom, and New Kingdom and introduces students to the museum culture that has fueled ongoing interest over time. Particular attention to scholarly debates about the nature and composition of Egyptian society, including interpretations of ethnicity and identity.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

AFS 421, 422 Topics in Africana Studies
Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisites: AFS 101 or 102 or two other courses in the social sciences
3 credits per course

AFS 447 Readings in Africana Studies
Individually supervised readings in selected topics in the Black Experience. May be repeated once.
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor
1-3 credits

AFS 475, 476 Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I, II
Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member’s regularly scheduled classes. The student is required to attend all the classes, do all the regularly assigned work, and meet with the faculty member at regularly scheduled times to discuss the intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course. Not for major or minor credit. In AFS 476, students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. The course in which the student is permitted to work as a teaching assistant must be different from the course in which he or she previously served. Not for major or minor credit.
Prerequisites: To AFS 465. Africana studies major or minor; U4 standing; permission of instructor
Prerequisites to AFS 476: AFS 475; permission of instructor
3 credits per course, SU grading

AFS 487 Research in Africana Studies
Individual research projects in the Black Experience carried out under the direct supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated to a limit of 6 credits.
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor
0-6 credits

AFS 488 Internship
Participation in public and private agencies and organizations under the supervision of a faculty sponsor. Students are required to submit a proposal and a final written report on their experiences to the faculty sponsor. May be repeated up to a limit of 12 credits.
Prerequisites: Africana studies major or minor; 15 credits in AFS courses; permission of instructor and program director
0-6 credits, SU grading