The Department of Africana Studies is an interdisciplinary unit that focuses on the histories, sociology, philosophy, literatures, politics, anthropology, religions, and experiences of people of African heritage. Our faculty encourage social commitment, promote sensitivity to the civil rights of all people, and teach responsibility to community.

Since 1968, Africana Studies has existed as an academic unit at Stony Brook. Like other Black Studies programs, it was established as a result of the heated conflicts, debates, and civil unrest that affected civil society in the U.S. throughout the 1960s. Over the years, the undergraduate program has enrolled thousands of students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Programs

Bachelor of Arts in Africana Studies
Minor in Africana Studies
Tracks in Health and Disease, Human Rights and Social Justice, and Africana Studies

Skills you’ll acquire

- Clear and critical thinking
- Deep understanding of African culture
- Cross-cultural understanding
- Interpretation of maps and data
- Knowledge of human evolution and history
- Didactic skills
- Communication skills
- Rhetorical analysis
- Argumentative skills
- Writing skills

For more information, visit stonybrook.edu/africana-studies
A sampling of our courses

• Hip Hop and the Intellectual Tradition
• Philosophy of Race
• The Modern Color Line
• Human Rights and Africa

Careers to explore

You’ll gain the knowledge and skills to work in many different professions, including:

• Teaching
• Law
• Social Work
• Medicine

We are interested in shedding light on the various meanings, transmutations, and locations of “Blackness” in the global ecumenism of the 21st century, the emergence of transnational identities among the black immigrant populations worldwide, the notions of Black nationalism and Pan-Africanism, the evolutionary intersections of race, class, and gender, and the changing characteristics of “Black” writing and literary criticism, as well as the multifarious manifestations of Black activism, community involvement, and social commitment, in order that our students will make a difference in, and contribute significantly to, the life realities of the 21st century and beyond.

Gerardy Uzochi Jean-Philippe II ’18, an Africana Studies major, Asian and Asian American Studies minor who studied in China in summer 2018 as a Gilman scholar recipient. He is a 2019 Fulbright scholar who served as an English Teaching Assistant in Taiwan.