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Africana Studies Courses

AFST 101 Introduction to Africana Studies

An interdisciplinary and thematic approach to the African diaspora throughout the Americas, including its motivations, dimensions, consequences, and the importance of its study. Beginning with the encounters between Africans and the Portuguese in the 15th century, this class will open up diverse paths of inquiry to understand the presence and implications of Africans in the New World.

AFST 201 The Rumors of War Seminar

History of slavery and colonization with attention to the world before and after 1492. The course uses this approach to closely examine the history of the land of UR within a broader context of the 1492 moment, from the earliest days of the land being claimed by European settlers, to its purchase by free Black families, to its current owners - the University of Richmond.

AFST 301 Seminar in Africana Studies

Surveys multidisciplinary approaches to Africana Studies, with specific emphasis on the wide range of theories and methods employed by scholars in the field; could be cross-listed from within our current curriculum.

AFST 401 The W.E.B. DuBois Senior Seminar

Senior-year course offered in the Fall that delves deep into the work and life of one major scholar in the field (such as W.E.B. DuBois, Angela Davis, Walter Rodney, Sylvia Wynter, C.L.R. James, Kwame Nkrumah, etc.). This senior seminar will serve as the main research capstone of the major, providing a foundational, historical analysis of the development of Black Studies, along with key theories of the field.

Anthropology Courses

ANTH 271 COVID-19 in International Perspective

Analyzes our current and ongoing covid-19 pandemic from a cross-cultural and global perspective. Delves into the history and politics of global pandemics, with a focus on how political responses and social inequalities such as race, class, and gender are bound to pandemics. Examines how communities and individual bodies experience and make sense of COVID-19 related illness.

ANTH 272 Global Women's Health

Analysis of reproductive practices and inequities in pregnancy, birth, and postpartum care around the globe. We look at discrimination of minoritized people and their poor birth outcomes. We ask why the U.S. has the highest infant and maternal mortality rates of the industrialized world. We compare and contrast best and worst biomedical reproductive health practices and the myths and truths about midwives and doulas.

ANTH 305 Health and Migration

Provides a socio-cultural perspective on migration and health at a global level. Considers theoretical frameworks and case studies of particular migrant groups and health issues, such as kidney disease, trauma, and mental health. Explores how groups, such as Doctors Without Borders, have addressed issues related to migration and health. Examines power relations involved in migration and health policies and programs.

Art History Courses

ARTH 312 Medieval Art in Western Europe is now ARTH 212

ARTH 315 Art of the Italian Renaissance is now ARTH 215

ARTH 316 Art in the Age of Reform is now ARTH 216

ARTH 209 Medieval African Art

Examines the art, architecture, and archaeological remains of medieval Africa (ca. 300–1700 CE). During this period, caravans of gold traversed the African continent. The long-distance trade drove the movement of people, merchandise, and religious convictions. The writings of medieval adventurers (e.g., Ibn Battuta), recent scholarly publications, and film excerpts will guide our study of Africa's medieval history, social structures, and cultural diversity.

ARTH 211 Islamic Art

Examines Islamic art from approximately 700 to 1700 CE. The geographic scope includes the Mediterranean region, Western Africa, and the Indian subcontinent. Through readings, discussions, research projects, and oral presentations, students will grapple with the question of what makes Islamic art, both religious and secular, Islamic.

ARTH 219 Contemporary Art, 1945–Present

Surveys major questions that have engaged art and its historians since World War II, exploring how ideas rooted in the postwar period shaped artistic practice through the turn of the twenty-first century. The course focuses primarily on European and American art histories,

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while highlighting the “global turn” in art theory and exhibition in order to address the vexed relationship between globalization and attempts to challenge historical margins and centers. Through this attention to movement in time and space, the course critically examines changing ideas about when and where the contemporary is found in art.

ARTH 220 Public Art: From Monuments to the Internet

Focusing primarily on the United States, this class will explore the many forms public art has taken since the turn of the twentieth century, tracing its development from monumental statuary to the internet. Throughout, we will see how art addresses questions of publicness in relation to space, access, and the environment; mourning, memorialization, and history; speech, privacy, and activism; and identity and social relationships. By the end of the class, we will understand not only how our definitions of public art have changed over time, but also what art can tell us about our changing experiences of public life.

ARTH 229 Women Artists, Agents, and Influencers in Early Modern Europe

Examines the ways in which gender affected and informed theories of creativity, artistic style, critical reception, patronage, collecting and training in early modern Europe and its colonies. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, women artists, patrons and “influencers” emerge as significant agents in a rapidly expanding world of cultural exchange. While the course provides a broad historical context for this development, it focuses on specific women, whose work or influence substantially affected the developing canon of western European art: artists such as Artemisia Gentileschi (1593–c. 1654) or Queen Mary of Hungary, whose collection of paintings by Titian surpassed her Habsburg male relatives.

ARTH 230 Power and Desire: A History of Collecting and Museums

Examines the history and theory of collecting, from Renaissance studios and curiosity cabinets in Europe to international contemporary museums, focusing on the collection of art and other forms of cultural and scientific interest and marvel. Why works of art and natural objects were and are collected and displayed, what was and is worthy of display and study and how these objects were and are displayed, organized and accessed constitute the basic questions considered in this seminar. The perception and determination of value--aesthetic, cultural and material--are also central to this history. Controversies related to cultural patrimony, repatriation, race and contemporary calls to de-colonize museums will also inform our investigations of collecting practices during the modern period and class discussions.

Biology Course

BIOL 385 The Biology of Memory and Forgetting

Explores groundbreaking scientific discoveries about the complex biological mechanisms of memory and forgetting. The course focuses on the physiology of synapses and neural circuits to understand how memories form, how some are forgotten, and how scientists can modify memory and forgetting in experimental studies. We will also evaluate ethical issues regarding the physiological manipulation of memory and forgetting. Prerequisite: BIOL 202 with a grade of C- or better.

Dance Courses

DANC 255 Composition

Explores a variety of dance-making methodologies. Using individual and collaborative approaches, students will compose and perform movement studies in group, duet, and solo forms for both concert dance and site-specific locations. The course will culminate in a public sharing of work created throughout the semester.

DANC 335 Dance Projects

A continuation of DANC 255 Composition. Students will develop a creative or research project that will culminate in a public presentation. Prerequisite: DANC 255

Data Science and Statistics Courses

DSST 189 Introduction to Statistical Modeling (formerly MATH 209)

DSST 389 Statistical Learning (formerly MATH 389)

Education and Society Courses

The subject code for courses in the education and society minor will now be EDSO rather than EDUC. The impacted courses are EDUC/EDSO 220, 333, 337, 340, 341, 345, 346, 347, 376, and 440.

EDUC 440 is now EDSO 440 Contemporary Issues in Education

French Course

FREN 430 What are the Liberal Arts For? A French Perspective

Explores the connection between education and civic duties within the French context.

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Health Studies Courses

HS 203 Health Ethics

Explores the origins and evolution of health and healthcare ethics in the United States by examining both examining historical case studies and current ethical problems encountered in the health sector. Prerequisite: HS 100 or HS 101

HS 305 Human Nutrition

Examines digestion, absorption, transport, and metabolism; the sources and functions of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, vitamins, and minerals; nutrition, growth, health, noncommunicable diseases, and physical performance; and nutrition across the lifespan.

HS 400 Capstone (formerly HS 390 and 391)

Integrate and apply multidisciplinary perspectives on health through reflection on personal and professional experiences and goals, examination of the ethics and values of the health professions, and exploration of current public health issues. Prerequisite: HS 250, Health Studies major, senior

History Courses

HIST 203 Slavery and Freedom

Explores the history of slavery and freedom in Early America, from the beginnings of the Atlantic slave trade to the eve of the Civil War. Throughout the course, we will pair primary and secondary sources to ask how historians locate, interpret, and write about slavery's archive.

HIST 205 Tobacco

An examination of US, global, and local history through the lens of tobacco, one of the world's most significant and revolutionary commodities.

HIST 211 Supreme Court Cases of the 20th Century

Cases decided by the US Supreme Court in the 20th century. Topic areas vary from semester to semester. Emphasizes thinking historically about courts and the law by focusing on the social, political, and cultural context in which cases are brought to the court and the impact of Court decisions on US society.

HIST 212 Modern U.S. Social Movements

The historical study of efforts by individuals to act collectively to change political, social, economic, and cultural systems in the modern US.

HIST 213 Lawrence v Texas

Examines the 2003 US Supreme Court decision that found laws criminalizing private consensual sodomy unconstitutional and the impact of historical scholarship in this landmark decision. In addition to an in-depth examination of the case, topics include the history of sodomy laws, origins of the LGBT movement, the Lavender Scare of the 1950s, and the constitutional theories of liberty and privacy that formed the basis for the Court's opinion.

HIST 214 Scottsboro Trials

An examination, in its historical context, of a famous 1931 legal case in which nine Black teenagers were falsely accused of raping two white women in Scottsboro, Alabama.

HIST 224 Crusades

Examines the roots of the crusading movement; the ways in which the crusades brought three world cultures (the West, Byzantium, Islam) into contact and confrontation; the vitality of the crusading idea in Western Europe; and how crusade history has moved from a very Christian-centered view to take into account the experiences of those non-Christians who encountered the crusaders.

HIST 232 British Business History

Survey of British business history from the late eighteenth century until the present with an emphasis on intersections between business history and the histories of society, culture, and imperialism.

HIST 237 Witches, Heretics, and Unbelievers

Exploration of the history of popular belief, witchcraft, and the Enlightenment in early modern Europe, addressing such questions as: How did popular ideas about church reform shape the German Peasants' War? How do we explain the rise and fall of the European "witch hunts"? What effect did Enlightenment beliefs have upon legal definitions of religious toleration?

HIST 241 Marie Antoinette and Joan of Arc

Centers on the lives of two French, female icons: Joan of Arc and Marie-Antoinette, as a window into the history of early modern women, gender and sexuality. Examines representations of these iconic female figures over the centuries in film, plays, portraiture, popular and scholarly literature, advertising, and propaganda.

HIST 243 Nazi Germany

An exploration of the rise and fall of the Nazi regime, World War II, and the Holocaust, emphasizing how Hitler's rise to power impacted society, culture, and everyday life in Germany. Topics include: political and economic turmoil; international conflict, militarism, and warfare; the persecution of Jews, Roma and Sinti, homosexuals, and other minority groups; the role of women under Nazism; art, architecture, and propaganda; and postwar representations of the Nazi period in museums, monuments, films, and popular culture.

HIST 245 Stalin's Terror

The USSR's experience with political repression and dictatorship under Stalin between 1917 and the height of the Great Terror in 1936-1938. Topics for investigation include ideology, propaganda, state violence and the most important schools of thought concerning what motivated this bout of bloodletting.

HIST 253 Opium Wars

The "Opium War" of 1839-1841 is the popular shorthand for the first Sino-British War, a pivotal event in modern Chinese history. It is the first war that the China fought with a Western power in the modern era and is commonly cited as the beginning of China's "One Hundred Years of Humiliation," a century in which China suffered greatly at the hands of rapacious Western imperialists and which continues to inform Chinese understandings of its place in the world today. Examines this conflict in detail, while providing an introduction to the field of historical studies.

HIST 263 History of the US-Mexico Borderlands

Explores some of the many histories of the U.S.-Mexico border from 1846 to the contemporary era and concepts and questions related to borderlands. Important questions to consider include: What are borders and borderlands? How have they been created? How are borders artifacts of history and geography? How do borders change over time and what impact does change have on the lives of people? Since borderlands are frequently located at the peripheries of empires and nations, they shape how centers of national power (e.g. cities, national capitals, etc.) have defined their relation to issues such as sovereignty, immigration, labor, community formation, along with race and ethnicity.

HIST 273 Great War in the Middle East

Focusing on the Ottoman Empire, this is a social, cultural, and political history of the war and the mandate period from 1914-1922. It covers a range of topics, including the experiences of the common soldier, changing gender roles, the home front, public health and disease, famine, ethnic violence, and how the war has been remembered in the post-war years.

HIST 280 Changing South Africa

Examines the past and the historiography of South Africa, focusing on South Africans' practices of race, nationhood, and class. The class centers on South Africans' construction and contestation of ideas of race, civilization, segregation, apartheid, non-racialism and Black Consciousness and ends by examining the new South Africa after 1994, and how South Africans continue to struggle with that complex historical legacy.

Latin American, Latino, and Iberian Studies Courses

LAIS 307 Medical Spanish: Health and Medicine in the Community

A selection of readings and conversational practices in Spanish from the medical and health care fields with a professional, historical, linguistic and cultural perspective focused on Spanish speaking communities will form the basis of this course. Prerequisites: LAIS 221, or instructor's approval

LAIS 339 Stories from Elsewhere: Africa, Asia, Brazil, Portugal

A selection of short fiction from Portuguese and Spanish speaking areas in Africa, Asia, America, and Europe. Critical and theoretical tools for engaging these literary texts, with a focus on the 20th and 21st centuries. Readings and discussions in Spanish; students may opt to register for a C-LAC component in basic Portuguese language. Prerequisite: LAIS 321 or 322 or 331 or 332

Linguistics Course

LING 105 American Sign Language

Introduction to basic American Sign Language (ASL) skills and to Deaf history and Deaf culture. Covers fingerspelling, basic vocabulary and grammatical structures, and the development of visual receptive and gestural expressive skills. Designed for students with little or no previous knowledge of ASL.

Math Course

MATH 345 Advanced Linear Algebra

Abstract vector spaces, inner product spaces, spectral theorem, matrix factorization theorems, Schur's theorems, applications of linear algebra to related fields in mathematics and engineering. Prerequisite: Math 245

Political Science Course

PLSC 490 Research Prospectus

Independent study devoted to the preparation of a research prospectus for the honors thesis. The prospectus is completed under the direction of the student's intended thesis advisor. Department approval required. 0.5 units.

Religious Studies Courses

RELG 263 (Religion and the Arts) is now RELG 215

RELG 268 (Religion and Literature) is now RELG 205

RELG 287 (Ninety Nine Names of God) is now RELG 105

Sustainability Course

SUST 101 Introduction to Sustainability (formerly GEOG/ENVR 201)

Provides a foundation for sustainability knowledge and problem solving. It explores the relationships between people and natural systems, examines pressing global challenges, and outlines leadership solutions to wicked challenges. Students will gain deeper understanding of the most urgent concerns tied to living out of balance with the planet that sustains life.

Africana Studies Major

The grade point average of the coursework comprising the major must be no less than 2.00 with no course grade below C- (1.70). At least two elective units must be at the 300-level or higher

10 units, including

AFST 101 Introduction to Africana Studies
AFST 201 The Rumors of War Seminar
AFST 301 Seminar in Africana Studies
AFST 401 The W.E.B. DuBois Senior Seminar

2 units from Group A – Gender and Sexuality
ENGL 230: Women and Modern Literature
RHCS 245: Digital Humanities
SOC 319: Sociology of Gender and Sexuality
WGSS 200: Introduction to WGSS
WGSS 379/490: Race in Feminist & Queer Thought
WGSS 400/379: Care, Touch, & Collectivities

1 unit from Group B – Research Methods
ANTH 211: Field Methods in Ethnography
ENGL 376: Modern Literary Theory
HIST 398: Historiography
PSYC 200: Methods and Analyses
PSYC 300 Core Methods
SOC 211: Sociological Research Methods and Data Analysis
VMAP 112-117: Introduction to Drawing; Painting; Sculpture; Printmaking; Photography; and Film, Sound and Video

3 units from Group C – Electives
AMST 201 Introduction to American Studies
AMST 381 Richmond Seminar
ARTH 319 Medieval Africa
DANC 204 Hip-Hop Dance
DANC 210 Salsa Dance
DANC 214 Contemporary African Movement Practices (CAMP)
DANC 319 Collaborative Arts Lab Dance, Humanities, and Technology
EDSO 220 Education in America
EDSO 345 Urban Education
EDSO 376 Social Justice in Education
ENGL 206 The Harlem Renaissance Then and Now

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ENGL 299 Black Style
ENGL 299 Black Protest Literature and Culture
ENGL 299 Black Vernacular in Richmond
ENGL 299 African-American Theater
ENGL 299/AMST 391 Black Hair International
ENGL 299 American Identities and Mythologies
ENGL 299 Literatures of Empire (Bridge to Success Program)
ENGL 337 Postcolonial Literature
ENGL 370 Slavery and the Post-Black Imagination
FREN 328 Introduction to Maghrebian Literature and Culture
FREN 471 Francophone Studies
HS 397 Health and Housing
HS 397 Health Disparities
HIST 214 The Scottsboro Trials
HIST 203 Slavery and Freedom in Early America
HIST 240/WGSS 203 Human Rights in the Atlantic World, 1750-1850
HIST 260 Colonial Latin America
HIST 262 The Making of Modern Brazil
HIST 270 Early Islamic World
HIST 272 The Ottoman Empire, 1299-1808
HIST 280 Changing South Africa
HIST 281 Africa c1500-c1900—Kings, Slaves, Trade, Jihad, and Conquest
HIST 291 Histories of Public Health and Biomedicine in the Global South
HIST 299 Women & Gender in African History
LAIS 314 Luso-Brazilian Studies-A Global Perspective
LAIS 397 Contemporary Novel in Francophone, Hispanophone, and Lusophone Africa
LAIS 421 Christians, Jews, and Muslims from Frontier to Empire Medieval Spain
LAIS 431 Imperial Spain The Age of Conflict
LAIS 475 Writing Sex and Gender in Latin America
LAIS 483 The Art of Embodiment Space and Body in Colonial Spanish America
LAIS 497 Gender, Race & Performance Across the America
MUS 114 Popular Music of the 1970s and 1980s
MUS 122 America's Music and Media
MUS 235 "I Want My MTV" Music Video and the Transformation of the Culture Industry
MUS 238 Popular Music and the Margins
PHIL 120 Contemporary Moral Issues
PLSC 323 Black Politics and Policy
PLSC 379 Critical Race Theory
PSYC 359 African-American Psychology
RELG 294 Islam in America
RHCS 354 Communication Theory and Race
RHCS 349 Memory and Memorializing in the City of Richmond
SOC 218 Sociology of the Black Experience
SOC 316 Race and Ethnicity in the United States

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SOC320 Race, Class, and Schooling
SOC 379 Sociology of Hip-Hop
ANTH 328 Anthropology of Race
THTR 210 Performing Diversity A Cultural Odyssey
THTR 239 Latinx on Stage From the Barrios to Broadway
THTR 312/AMST 391/LAIS 497 Gender, Race, and Performance Across the Americas

Africana Studies Minor

The grade point average of the coursework comprising the minor must be no less than 2.00 with no course grade below C- (1.70).

5 units, including

AFST 101 Introduction to Africana Studies
AFST 201 The Rumors of War Seminar
3 elective units chosen from those listed above

Data Science and Statistics Minor

The grade point average of coursework comprising the minor must be no less than 2.00, with no course grade below C- (1.70).

6 classes

1 unit in introductory statistical methods, chosen from
DSST 189 Introduction to Statistical Modeling
BIOL 320 Experimental Design and Biostatistics
CHEM 300 Measurement Statistics
PSYC 200 Methods and Analysis
RHCS 245 Digital Humanities

DSST 289 Introduction to Data Science
DSST 389 Statistical Learning
RHCS 345 Data and Society

Two additional electives, chosen from:

BIOL 336 Eco-epidemiology with Lab
CHEM 301 Quantitative Methods of Chemical Analysis
CHEM 314 Physical Chemistry Laboratory I
CHEM 315 Physical Chemistry Laboratory II

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CMSC 325 Database Systems
CMSC 327 Machine Learning
GEOG 260 Foundations of Geospatial Analysis
GEOG 360 Environmental Remote Sensing
GEOG 365 Advanced Spatial Analysis
MATH 329 Probability
MATH 330 Mathematical Statistics
PSYC 300 Methods and Analyses Core Project
PSYC 343 Psycholinguistics

Health Studies Major

10 units

HS 100 Health Policy
HS 101 Global Health
HS 250 Epidemiology and Health Research Methods
HS 400 Capstone

Statistical analysis, 1 course chosen from

BIOL 320
BUAD 303
MATH 209

Humanities perspectives on health, 1 course chosen from

ANTH 271
ANTH 272
ANTH 302
ANTH 305
CLSC 210
HIST 291
HIST 361
HIST 390
HS 200
HS 203
HS 240
LDST 377
PHIL 265

Social science perspectives, 1 course chosen from

GEOG 345
GEOG 370

HS 202
LAIS 307
MGMT 355
PLSC 365
PSYC 323
SOC 340

Natural science perspectives on health, 1 course chosen from

BIOL 220
BIOL 322
BIOL 324
BIOL 336
BIOL 340
BIOL 344
BIOL 346
BIOL 354
ENVR 322
HS 305
MATH 304
PSYC 331
PSYC 341

Two additional electives chosen from the lists above. No more than two courses from the same department can apply to the requirements above.

Health Studies Minor

5 units

HS 100
HS 101
HS 202

2 units, which must come from two different departments, chosen from

ANTH 271
ANTH 272
ANTH 302
ANTH 303
ANTH 305
CLSCL 210
ENVR 322
GEOG 345
GEOG 370
HIST 291

HIST 361
HIST 390
HS 200
HS 203
HS 240
HS 250
HS 305
LDST 377
MATH 304
MGMT 355
PHIL 265
PLSC 365
PSYC 323
PSYC 331
PSYC 341
SOC 340

History Major

A grade of not lower than C (2.0) is required for each course in the major. At least 8 units must be at the 200-level or above. At least two courses must be at the 300-level. No more than two 100-level courses will be accepted for major credit.

10 units

One unit in U.S. history

One unit in European history

One unit in the histories of Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, or Africa

HIST 400 Research Seminar

Six electives in history

Math Major and Minor and Mathematical Economics Major

DSST 389 Statistical Learning may fulfill one of the 300-level mathematics electives within the major/minor

Political Science Major

10 units

One unit, chosen from:

PLSC 220 Introduction to American Government

PLSC 260 Introduction to Public Policy

One unit, chosen from:

PLSC 240 Introduction to Comparative Politics

PLSC 250 Introduction to International Relations

PLSC 270 Social Science Inquiry

One unit, chosen from:

PLSC 311 Classical Political Thought

PLSC 312 Modern Political Theory

PLSC 315 American Political Theory

PLSC 400 Senior Seminar

Four elective units at the 300 level

Sustainability Minor

5 courses, including

SUST 101

SUST 345

1 course in Economic Sustainability, chosen from

ECON 211 Economic Development in Asia, Africa, and Latin America

ECON 230 Environmental Economics

ECON 234 Urban Economics

ECON 330 Environmental and Resource Economic Theory

MGMT 348 Environmental Management

MGMT 353 Sustainability and Accountability in Business

GEOG 370 Economic Geography and Globalization

1 course in Environmental Sustainability, chosen from

BIOL 109 Introduction to Ecology

BIOL 111 Marine Biology of the Chesapeake Bay

BIOL 199 Introduction to Biological Thinking (selected sections, including Coastal Marine Ecology, Conservation Biology, and Biological Invasions)

CHEM 110 Pollutants in the Environment

ENVR 201 Introduction to Environmental Studies

GEOG 215 Geography of the James River Watershed

GEOG 250 Planet Earth: Wind, Water, Fire

GEOG 315 Landscape Ecology

GEOG 322 Global Impact of Climate Change

1 course in Social Sustainability, chosen from

GEOG 220 Ecotourism

GEOG 210 Planet Earth: People and Place

PHIL/ENVR 269 Environmental Ethics

ENGL 299 Imagining Nature

PLSC 379 Environmental Justice

GEOG 320 Power, Space, Territory: Geographies of Political Change

GEOG 333 Geographies of Amazonia

ENVR 362 Environmental Law and Policy

SOC 379 Environmental Sociology