

# AFRICAN AMERICAN AND BLACK DIASPORIC STUDIES

[www.creighton.edu/program/african-american-black-diasporic-studies-minor](http://www.creighton.edu/program/african-american-black-diasporic-studies-minor) (<https://www.creighton.edu/program/black-studies-minor/>)

African American and Diasporic Studies Minor is the interdisciplinary study of American history, literature, politics, social sciences, education, and the arts through the prism of the African American experience. African American and Diasporic Studies enables students to investigate, more widely, areas in the Humanities and Social Sciences connected to their major or track, to help them develop cultural competency (applicable to medicine, social work, pharmacy and other professions). As contemplatives in action, students and faculty will draw from the study of the African American experience to engage with the local, national and global community as men and women for others. Independent studies and independent research are available to advanced students.

## African American and Diasporic Minor requirements: 18 credits\*

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core courses</b>		<b>6</b>
Select two of the following:		
HIS 271	Conquest, Piracy, and Slavery: A History of the Atlantic	
BKS/AMS/ MUS 353	Jazz in American Culture	
BKS/HIS 367	The African-American Experience	
BKS/AMS/ ENG 393	African-American Literature	
<b>Black Diaspora</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one of the following:		
PLS 330	Cuba and the U.S.: Revolution and Restitution	
PLS/HIS 352	Puerto Rico and the U.S.: Citizenship, Colonialism, and Cultural Nationalism	
ANT 421	Public Health and Social Justice in Haiti	
HIS 470	Conquest, Slavery and Piracy in the Atlantic World, 1492-1825	
<b>Race in America</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one of the following:		
COM 177	Being Color Brave: Race, Privilege, Oppression, and Justice	
BKS 341	Race and Justice	
BKS 372	Equality, Minorities, and Public Policy	
BKS 482	Race In America: Idea And Reality	
PHL 426	The Carceral State: Police Violence, Adjudication, and Mass Incarceration	
PLS/AMS 327	Minority Politics in America	
Two additional courses from any of the following:		<b>6</b>
<b>The African World</b>		
ANT 179	Encountering Africa: Experiencing our Shared Humanity	
BKS 486	Women and Gender in Africa	
BKS 356	Christianity in Africa	

ENG 390	Introduction To African Literature	
HIS 172	Globalization and Leadership in Africa	
HIS 277	Medicine in Africa and the African Diaspora	
BKS/AFS/HIS 489	Southern Africa: The Politics Of Race	
<b>Anthropology/Sociology/Psychology/Theology</b>		
ANT 178	Global Citizenship	
PHL 170	Slavery and Freedom	
BKS 309	The Urban Social System	
SOC 323	Crime, Victimization and Public Health	
AFS 356	Christianity in Africa	
ANT 361	(De)Colonizing Bodies	
BKS/PSY 428	Cross-Cultural Issues in Psychology	
BKS 589	The Rwanda Genocide as a Challenge for the Church	
<b>Literature/Fine Arts</b>		
BKS 390	Introduction To African Literature	
BKS 398	Literature Of Francophone Africa	
BKS/AFS/ENG 470	Seminar in Film Studies: African and African American	
MUS 354	Theorizing Hip Hop Music and Culture	
<b>Research and Independent Studies</b>		
BKS 396	Seminar in Black Studies	
BKS 493	Directed Independent Readings	
BKS 497	Directed Independent Research	
<b>Extra Electives</b>		
BKS/AFS/PLS 311	Politics of Africa	
BKS 384	Black History Through Literature	
BKS 388	Origins of Modern Africa	
BKS 485	Society And Belief Systems In Africa	
BKS/AFS/HIS 484	Nationalist Movements In Colonial Africa	
BKS 487	History of West Africa	
BKS 489	Southern Africa: The Politics Of Race	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

\* Kingfisher Concentration requirements: Choose any 9 credits from list above.

## Courses

**BKS 309. The Urban Social System. 3 credits. FA (Same as SOC 309)**  
Examination of the process of urbanization as it affects the lives and institutions of local populations and incorporates them into much larger national and international systems.

**BKS 311. Politics of Africa. 3 credits. AY, FA (Same as AFS 311, PLS 311)**  
Introduction to politics of sub-Saharan Africa. Covers traditional African cultures, societies and politics; independence movements; and post-colonial politics. Discusses political parties, military interventionism, ethnic conflict, development policy and democratic reform. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 341. Race and Justice. 3 credits. FA (Same as AMS 341, ANT 341, SOC 341, CRJ 341)**

This course focuses on racial and ethnic inequality in the U.S. criminal justice system. What are the determinants and consequences of prejudice and discrimination; of race and ethnicity; of ethnocentrism; sex/gender norms and class structure, as they relate to racial/ethnic minority groups/members affected by the criminal justice system? How is the society and culture we live in different from that of our parents and that of our grandparents or our great grandparents? What led to the changes we see today? Are there alternative social arrangements that may yield more equality, more efficiency, and more social justice? The goal of this course is to provide you with the basic concepts, theories, and historical context required to critically analyze and answer these questions with regard to racial/ethnic minority groups/members affected by the criminal justice system. P. Sophomore standing.

**BKS 353. Jazz in American Culture. 3 credits. OD (Same as AMS 353, MUS 353)**

Examines the relationship between American society and the development of jazz in the course of the twentieth century and beyond. Special attention will be given to those cultural, economic, and political factors which could influence jazz trends on a regional or national level.

**BKS 356. Christianity in Africa. 3 credits. OD (Same as AFS 356, THL 356)**

Introduction to religion among Africans and Africans in the diaspora. African religious concepts of time, creation, the place of humans in creation, initiation rites, marriage, procreation, death. The relationship between the ecclesial and non-ecclesial dimensions; development of the Black sacred cosmos, ritual, music, folk tradition and performance practice.

**BKS 367. The African-American Experience. 3 credits. AY (Same as HIS 367)**

Slavery, emancipation, "separate but equal", and the drive for full equality. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 372. Equality, Minorities, and Public Policy. 3 credits. AY, SP (Same as AMS 372, HIS 372, PLS 372)**

Incorporates continuing discourses between a historian and a political scientist. Exploration of the political processes whereby minorities have influenced the formulation and implementation of policy and governmental responses to demands for equal treatment. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 384. Black History Through Literature. 3 credits. OD (Same as HIS 384)**

History of Americans of African descent as found in journals, novels, and "studies." P. So. stdg.

**BKS 388. Origins of Modern Africa. 3 credits. AY (Same as AFS 388, HIS 388)**

Examination of the European impact on Africans and their institutions. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 390. Introduction To African Literature. 3 credits. OD (Same as AFS 390, ENG 390)**

Contemporary African literature. Relationship between African literature and society, emergence of national and cross-African literatures, issues of cultural conflict, language and oral tradition, and other topics. P. Critical Issues in Human Inquiry; Contemporary Composition.

**BKS 393. African-American Literature. 3 credits. SP (Same as AMS 393, ENG 393)**

A survey of representative African American literature from its inception to the present. The particular representative authors and genres and the historical focus of the course may differ each semester. P. Contemporary Composition course.

**BKS 396. Seminar in Black Studies. 3 credits. OD**

Topical seminar with topics changing in different semesters. Examination of particular ideas, developments, and issues of relevance to Africa and the African diaspora. Topics in different semesters might include detailed examination of justice and ethnicity, politics and ethnicity, comparative slave systems, slave narratives, or colonial rule in Africa and the Caribbean. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 398. Literature Of Francophone Africa. 3 credits. (Same as AFS 398, ENG 398)**

Sample of representative Francophone African literature. Nature and functions of this literature, relation between it and society. Impact of non-Western cultural context on Western literary genres. P. Contemporary Composition course.

**BKS 428. Cross-Cultural Issues in Psychology. 3 credits. FA, SP (Same as PSY 428)**

Explores gender, ethnic, and cultural factors that influence the beliefs, values, behaviors, and experiences of individuals. Provides a fundamental understanding of one's own culture and behavior through exploration of a variety of cultures.

**BKS 470. Seminar in Film Studies: African and African American. 3 credits. (Same as AES 470, ENG 470, COM 470)**

Topical seminar with topics changing in different semesters. Examination of particular areas of film and popular culture. Topics in different semesters might include detailed examination of a film genre (e.g., the western, science fiction, detective films), or film and culture studies (e.g., women and film; film and developing nations). May be repeated for credit to a limit of six hours. P. Contemporary Composition course.

**BKS 482. Race In America: Idea And Reality. 3 credits. OD (Same as AMS 482, HIS 482, PHL 482, PLS 482,)**

An examination of the idea and reality of race during key phases of U.S. history, with an emphasis on the contemporary situation. To understand the multiple meanings and experiences of race, the course draws on sources from science, literature, law, and philosophy. P. Philosophical Ideas course.

**BKS 484. Nationalist Movements In Colonial Africa. 3 credits. SP (Same as AFS 484, HIS 484)**

Examination of the social institutions of black Africa; the roles and meaning of the "tribe", ethnicity and the family. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 485. Society And Belief Systems In Africa. 3 credits. SP (Same as AFS 485, HIS 485)**

History of Africa south of the Sahara and west of the Cameroons Highlands, African cultural traditions, contact with Islam and the West, the State building, the European invasions, the colonial period, and re-emergent states. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 486. Women and Gender in Africa. 3 credits.**

A study of the roles and representations of women and gender as conceptual and analytical categories in African history and society. P. So. Stdg.

**BKS 487. History of West Africa. 3 credits. OD (Same as AFS 487, HIS 487)**

History of Africa south of the Sahara and west of the Cameroons Highlands, African cultural traditions, contact with Islam and the West, the State building, the European invasions, the colonial period, and re-emergent states. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 489. Southern Africa: The Politics Of Race. 3 credits. OD (Same as AFS 489, HIS 489)**

Examination of the historical development of the social and political structures of modern Southern Africa. Primary focus on South Africa, Rhodesia-Zimbabwe, and Namibia. Analysis of the place of "race" in national policies. Includes apartheid, black nationalism, decolonization, guided democracy, and the interrelationship between economic developments and the social and political systems. P. So. stdg.

**BKS 493. Directed Independent Readings. 1-3 credits. OD**

Course designed to allow an individual student with an interest in a particular area to pursue it under the direction of a willing faculty member. P. BKS Coordinator's consent.

**BKS 497. Directed Independent Research. 1-3 credits. OD**

Independent research course. P. IC.

**BKS 589. The Rwanda Genocide as a Challenge for the Church. 3 credits.**

Exploration of the 1994 Rwanda Genocide in historical, theological, and political contexts with particular focus on roles played by majority Catholic Church. P. THL 100.