

African American Studies, BA

African American Studies Program

Mission and Vision

African American Studies is an interdisciplinary academic field that explores and illuminates the lived experiences of people of African descent in the United States and across the globe. The African American Studies Program equips the next generation of scholars, educators, and leaders with the intellectual foundations necessary for academic inquiry and social engagement. Grounded in the original mission of Black Studies, the program seeks to: (1) document Black life, achievements, and contributions; (2) produce rigorous academic research and prepare future researchers; and (3) promote interdisciplinary, multi#perspective, and critical thinking for understanding and advancing the African American experience.

Program Goals

1. To advance student mastery of foundational theories, key scholars, philosophical traditions, policies and laws, historical trends, and major lines of research essential to understanding, examining, and transforming the African American experience.
2. To prepare students to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, analytical reasoning, social research methods, research writing, and the oral and visual presentation of research.
3. To explore diverse perspectives and intersecting identities in order to deepen understanding of the lives, histories, and cultures of African Americans.
4. To engage students in community leadership praxis aimed at advancing and strengthening African American communities

Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies Degree Program Requirements

Complete Core Curriculum Listing at <https://catalog.pvamu.edu/universitycorecurriculum/>.

Core Curriculum 42 Credit Hours

Communication (Select Two)	6
Mathematics (Select One)	3
Life and Physical Sciences (Select Two) ¹	6
Language, Philosophy and Culture (Select One)	3
Creative Arts (Select One)	3
American History (Select Two)	6
Government/Political Science	6
POSC 2305 American Government	
POSC 2306 Texas Government	
Social and Behavioral Sciences (Select One)	3
Component Area Option One (Select One)	3
Component Area Option Two (Select One)	3
Foreign Language Requirements (One Language)	6

Major Requirements

AFAM 1301 Race Class and Gender in America	3
AFAM 2302 Introduction to Research Methods and Writing in African American Studies	3
AFAM 4301 Seminar in African American Studies	3
AFAM 4302 Internship in Public History	3
HIST 2381 African-American History	3
HIST 3301 Introduction to Public History	3

Restricted Electives

Area I Social Sciences (Select Two)	6
COMM 2355 Communication, Globalization, International Media	
CRIJ 3393 Minorities and the Criminal Justice System	
HDFM 2355 Human Development: Life Span	
PHIL 2307 African American Philosophy	
POSC 3341 Gandhi and King	
POSC 3355 African Politics	
POSC 3342 Political Resistance and Social Change	

POSC 4324	Race, Gender and Public Policy	
SOCG 2319	Sociology of Minorities	
SOCG 2302	Black Families	
SOWK 2317	Multicultural Issues in Mental Health	
SOWK 3321	Human and Cultural Diversity Social Work	
Area II Humanities and Arts (Select Two)		6
AFAM 4331	Special Topics in African American Studies	
ARTS 2328	African American Art	
DRAM 2322	African American Theatre II	
ENGL 2324	Introduction to African Literature	
ENGL 3305	Survey of African-American Literature	
ENGL 3306	Studies in African-American Literature	
HIST 3322	Women in History	
HIST 3350	American Chattel Slavery	
HIST 3353	Civil Rights Movement	
HIST 3360	Atlantic World	
HIST 3361	Colonial Latin Amer & Carrib	
HIST 3375	African Diaspora	
HIST 4381	African-American Hist to 1876	
HIST 4382	African-Amer Hist Since 1876	
HUMA 1305	Survey of Mexican-American Culture	
Area III Historical and Cultural Preservation (Select Two)		6
DGMA 2317	Fundamentals of Digital Imaging	
DGMA 2318	Fundamentals of Interactive Media	
GEOG 2311	Introduction to Geographic Information System	
HIST 2300	Intro to Historical Methods	
SOCG 3315	African American Urban Life	
SOCG 4363	Cultural Sociology	
Upper Level Elective (Select Two) ¹		6
Unrestricted Electives		12
Minor ²		18
Total Hours		120

¹ Students may choose a 3000 or 4000 level elective in any of the three areas.

² Total SCH for minor may vary; please consult your academic advisor.

Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies Degree Sequence

Core: <https://catalog.pvamu.edu/universitycorecurriculum/> (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/academicprogramsanddegreeplans/coas/cchd/aast-ba/%20https://catalog.pvamu.edu/universitycorecurriculum/>)

Freshman

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
AFAM 1301		3 HIST 2381	3
Communication Core		3 Communication Core	3
American History Core		3 American History Core	3
Government/Political Science Core		3 Government/Political Science Core	3
POSC 2305		POSC 2306	
Mathematics Core		3 Social and Behavioral Sciences Core	3
Total		15 Total	15

Total Hours: 30

Sophomore

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
AFAM 2302		3 Component Area Option Two Core	3
Area I Social Sciences Course		3 Life and Physical Sciences Core	3
Component Area Option One Core		3 Area I Social Sciences Course	3
Life and Physical Sciences Core		3 Area II Humanities and Arts Course	3
Creative Arts Core		3 Area II Humanities and Arts Course	3
Total		15 Total	15

Total Hours: 30**Junior**

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
Foreign Language Requirement		3 Foreign Language Requirement	3
Language, Philosophy, and Culture Core		3 Minor Requirement	3
Area III Historical and Cultural Preservation Course		3 3000 or 4000 Level Elective	3
Area III Historical and Cultural Preservation Course		3 3000 or 4000 Level Elective	3
Minor Requirement		3 HIST 3301	3
Total		15 Total	15

Total Hours: 30**Senior**

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
AFAM 4301		3 AFAM 4302	3
Minor Requirement		3 Minor Requirement	3
Minor Requirement		3 Minor Requirement	3
Unrestricted Elective		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
Unrestricted Elective		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
Total		15 Total	15

Total Hours: 30

Name	Unit
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Total Semester Credit Hours: 120

Marketable Skills

Marketable skills, as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30TX Plan (<http://www.60x30tx.com/>), include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas, are valued by employers, and can be either primary or complementary to a major. Marketable skills are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities.

BA African American Studies***Degree Skills***

1. Identify, discuss, and explain the cultural, political, and historical contributions of African Americans and African descendant people
2. Appropriate grounding in the field's major themes and ability to place these themes in a historical context and use the knowledge to address the social science issues of race, racism, and inequality in African Americans' lives
3. Applied experience in preservation work and completion of substantial research projects

Concentration Skills

1. Ability to construct a research proposal and/or produce oral presentations
2. Analysis of how the multiple and complex intersections of race, sex, and gender, and other identities affect the lives of African Americans
3. Emphasize the importance of diverse perspectives and intersecting identities in understanding the lives of African Americans

Co-curricular and Extracurricular Skills

1. Promote civic and community engagement activities among students and faculty to enhance African American communities
2. Integrate course work and experiential learning projects to contribute to diverse communities
3. Critical, analytical, research, writing, and oral skills