

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, B.A.

Our program investigates Black experiences in an interdisciplinary field that examines the history, culture, beliefs and actions of people of African descent in the United States and across the world.

A Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies provides students skills to work collaboratively in various career fields, from education and criminal justice to law or journalism.

Students learn to apply awareness and empathy to solve challenging problems, develop oral and written communication skills, explore the multi-dimensional experiences of people of color in local and global contexts, conduct research, take courses across diverse departments and work with an engaged, award-winning faculty. Our program allows students to build a unique course of study with abundant opportunities for learning and service.

Learning Outcomes

1. Majors will learn the importance of the principal movements, pivotal figures, and conceptual ideas that shape the academic study of African American experiences. Students will acquire the tools for contextualizing the dynamic realities of race in America and for analyzing their social, political, and cultural implications.
2. Majors will work across academic disciplines in the humanities and social sciences to synthesize the multiple roots and routes of intellectual inquiry within African American Studies. Students will interpret primary and secondary source material using both individual and collaborative methods of study.
3. Students will develop as scholars and researchers in African American Studies through effective oral, written, and aesthetic forms of communication. Assignments will emphasize the tasks of rigorous scholarship, including: critical thinking, creative expression, precise writing, constructive discussions, and standards of professional engagement.