

African-American Studies

FACULTY Professors Gill (Political Science), Lermack (Political Science); Associate Professors Conley (English), Gorin (Sociology), Kasambira (Education), Worley (English).

The African-American studies program at Bradley is the scholarly pursuit of knowledge about the history, philosophies, ethics, psychologies, attitudes, religious experiences, and cultural manifestations as they exist within the context of African-American people in American society, i.e., the African-American experience. African-American studies also has a subsidiary, yet corollary, focus on African and Caribbean ideologies as they influence the progression and development of the African-American community.

In addition, African-American Studies at Bradley has a multidisciplinary approach with a two-fold emphasis: (1) to investigate the African-American experience from within the context of criteria established by Afrocentric scholars; and (2) to investigate the African-American experience from a comparative basis, i.e., the established criteria of Eurocentric scholars. Inherent in that approach is one of the primary objectives of an institution of higher learning: to develop the critical and analytic skills of all students in assessing factual and subjective information. A subsidiary objective is to provide students with the skills to understand, carefully and adequately, the particulars of "race" as they extend to universal (national and international) implications. Further, African-American studies is also an approach to understanding self, community, and nation through concrete examples taken from the African-American experience. Since universal ideas are equally implicit in all humans, regardless of social status, gender, sexual preference, religious persuasion or race, African-American studies is an attempt to illustrate how African-Americans are the "same but different" in terms that transcend time, place and generic differences. Although African-American studies will use the context of the African Diaspora as a means to explore predispositions about gender, status, religion or race, the overall objective is to help students become critical thinkers.

Minor in African-American Studies (18 Credit Hours)

Required Courses (9 Credit Hours)

AAS 210 African-American History: From Slavery to 1877	3
AAS 211 African-American History: From 1877 to Present	3
AAS 300 Contemporary Issues in African-American Studies	3
	9

Elective Courses (9 Credit Hours)

Category I (select two) 6

Approximately one-half of the course reading and instruction in these courses will focus on issues pertaining to Black people, i.e. African-Americans, Africans or West Indians.

IS 275 Problems of the Developing World

IS 420 Caribbean States in the

International System

IS 440 Problems in African Development

ENG 129 African American Literature

SOC 313 Race, Ethnicity and Minority Relations

ENG 329 Studies in African American Literature

Category II (select one) 3

Approximately one-quarter of the course reading and instruction in these courses will focus on issues pertaining to Black people, i.e. African-Americans, Africans or West Indians.

PLS 360 Judicial Politics

PLS 422 Urban Politics

ECO 313 American Economic History

Total Hours

18

A 2.0 gradepoint average in African-American studies courses is required for satisfactory completion of the African-American studies minor. It is expected that each African-American studies minor will have a knowledge of a language other than English.

Course Descriptions

AAS 210 African-American History: From Slavery to 1877

3 hrs. (Gen. Ed. SF)

The African Diaspora and the African-American experience from slavery to emancipation and reconstruction. Issues of major importance to African Americans in the context of American history.

AAS 211 African-American History from 1877 to Present

3 hrs. (Gen. Ed. SF)

Black reconstruction; the rise of the KKK; the black exodus; 30 years of lynchings; the civil rights movement; major African-American leaders; current issues of major importance. Prerequisite: AAS 210.

AAS 300 Contemporary Issues in African-American Studies

3 hrs.

Topics of special interest which may vary each time course is offered. Topic stated in current Schedule of Classes. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.