

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 (15 Credit Hours)

Required Courses (6 Credit Hours)

AAS 200 Introduction to African-American Studies.....	3
AAS 400 Directed Research in African American Studies	3
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	6

Elective Courses (9 Credit Hours)

Category I (select two)	6
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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 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	
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Total Hours	15
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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 200 Introduction to African-American Studies 3 hrs. Interdisciplinary course; examines changing economic, political, and social status of African-Americans. Examines contemporary issues in African-American studies.

AAS 400 Directed Research in African-Studies 3 hrs. Directed readings or research for a paper which analyzes, synthesizes, and interprets an area of African-American studies. Prerequisites: AAS 200; 9 hrs. of African-American studies elective courses; or consent of instructor.