



African-American Studies

1119 Taliaferro Hall
(301) 405-1158

<http://www.aasd.umd.edu/landing/Undergraduate>

College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Key Features of an African-American Studies Major

- This major includes social and cultural studies of racism, colonialism, and slavery as well as the art, music, and literature of black people in Africa and the Americas.
- African American Studies also provides rigorous training in analytical problem solving, policy research, and public management in the search of solutions to contemporary problems confronting the African American community.
- African American Studies offers students a choice of major in a cultural and social concentration or a public policy concentration.
- The African American Studies Department works closely with various colleges, departments, programs, and faculty on campus such as the Driskell Center, Woman's Studies, and the Consortium on Race, Gender and Ethnicity, to provide students with the most informed, up-to-date, and innovative scholarly study available today.
- The quantitative analytical skills generic to social science research are put to use in the examination of the socio-economic problems confronting African-American communities in the United States.

Career Options and Salaries with an African-American Studies Major

Opportunities for majors and certificate holders include entry level positions in business, government, state, and local agencies, as well as non-profit organizations. Graduates also find themselves well-prepared for careers in public management, urban studies, social work, law, education, criminal justice, and the liberal arts.

African American Studies majors are social scientists and can anticipate an income similar to other social scientists (as of December 2015):

Anthropologists/Archaeologists	\$61,220
Geographers	\$74,260
Historians	\$55,800
Political Scientists	\$99,730
Sociologists	\$73,760

Other professions include:

Urban/Regional Planners	\$68,220
Social Workers	\$45,900
Teachers (elementary, middle, high school)	\$54,550 - \$57,200
Public Relations Specialist	\$56,770

*All salary information from *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2016-17* (<http://stats.bls.gov/ooh/>)

Advising

If you are considering a major in African American Studies, you can easily meet with an advisor in the African American Studies Department to answer any questions you may have.

- To can set up an appointment by phone: (301) 405-1158
- There is also an online contact form you may use: <http://www.aasd.umd.edu/webform/contact-us/>

Declaring an African American Studies Major

- *African American Studies is not a Limited Enrollment Program. If you have decided to major in this field, you can declare immediately!*

When you declare your major in African American Studies, you are also declaring you will be a student in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSOS) which houses the African American Studies Department. There are two levels in your process of declaring and later advising: the Department (African American Studies) and the College (Behavioral and Social Sciences). The College will advise you regarding your CORE/GenEd requirements, and the Department will advise you regarding your major requirements.

- 1) Review the website of the Department of African American Studies, focusing on the information for undergraduates (<http://www.aasd.umd.edu/landing/Undergraduate>)
- 2) Call the African American Studies Department at (301) 405-1158 and ask for an appointment to see Mrs. Valencia Skeeter, Academic Advisor, for information on the Application process for the African American Studies Major, Minor, or Certificate. You must meet with the department advisor **PRIOR** to attending an online or in-person BSOS Graduation Planning Workshop.
- 3) Register on-line for an academic planning workshop with BSOS Advising at www.bsosworkshops.umd.edu. Workshops are held several times a semester.
- 4) After the workshop, complete an academic plan and submit it to BSOS Advising in 2148 Tydings Hall for review.
- 5) Wait to hear from BSOS advising by email. They will contact you if you need to amend your academic plan or to notify you that you have been officially added as an African American Studies Major to the college of BSOS. This can take as little as a few days or as long as three weeks. Declaring at the end of the semester will take longer than declaring at the beginning or middle of a semester.

Four Year Plan (CORE)
Cultural and Social Analysis Concentration

First Year:

ENGL 101	3
AASP 100 (req. course 1)	3
MATH 110	3
HA	3
UNIV 100	2
	14 credits

AASP 101 (req. course 2)	3
HL	3
PS/LS	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	15 credits

Second Year:

Required Course 3	3
SB	3
PL/LL	4
Elective	3
Elective	3
	16 credits

Required Course 4	3
Course of Choice 1	3
PS/LS/MS/IE	3
AASP395	3
Elective	3
	15 credits

Third Year:

Course of Choice 2	3
Course of Choice 3	3
Course of Choice 4	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	15 credits

Course of Choice 5	3
AASP 297	3
ENGL 39x	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	15 credits

Fourth Year:

AASP 397	3
AASP Seminar Course	3
Advanced Studies CORE 1	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	15 credits

Course of Choice 6	3
Advanced Studies CORE 2	3
UL Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	15 credits

TOTAL = 120 credits

Four Year Plan (CORE)

Public Policy Concentration

First Year:

ENGL 101	3
AASP 100 (req. course 1)	3
MATH 110	3
HA	3
UNIV 100	2
<hr/>	
14 credits	

AASP 101 (req. course 2)	3
HL	3
PS/LS	3
STAT100	3
Elective	3
<hr/>	
15 credits	

Second Year:

Required Course 3	3
ECON 200	4
PL/LL	4
Elective	3
Elective	1
<hr/>	
15 credits	

Required Course 4	3
ECON 201	4
Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
<hr/>	
16 credits	

Third Year:

AASP 301	3
Analytical Course of Choice	3
ENGL 39x	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
<hr/>	
15 credits	

AASP 297	3
AASP 303	3
AASP 305	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
<hr/>	
15 credits	

Fourth Year:

AASP 397	3
Policy Course 1 UL	3
Policy Course 2 UL	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
<hr/>	
15 credits	

Elective UL	3
Advanced Studies CORE 2	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
<hr/>	
15 credits	

TOTAL = 120 credits

Four Year Plan (GEN ED)
Cultural and Social Analysis Concentration

First Year:

ENGL 101	3		
MA (Fundamental Math)	3	NL*	4
NS*	3	OC	3
AASP 100	3	AASP 200	3
AASP 101	3	Elective	3
UNIV 100	1	Elective	3
16 credits		16 credits	

Second Year:

AR	3	SP*	3
HU*	3	AASP Course of Choice 1	3
SP* (non-major)	3	Elective	3
AASP 202 (UP)	3	Elective	3
AASP 395	3	Elective	3
15 credits		15 credits	

Third Year:

AASP Course of Choice 2	3	AASP Course of Choice 3	3
AASP 386	3	AASP 297	3
Elective	3	ENGL 39x	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	1	Elective	3
13 credits		15 credits	

Fourth Year:

AASP 400 or 402	3	AASP 396	3
AASP Course of Choice 4	3	AASP Course of Choice 5	3
Elective	3	AASP Course of Choice 6	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
15 credits		15 credits	

TOTAL = 120 credits

***Important Planning Notes:**

- All students must take two Distributive Studies courses that will also count for the I-Series requirement (I-series are not listed separately in this plan).
- Understanding Plural Societies will be satisfied by completing AASP100 and AASP202.

Four Year Plan (Gen Ed)

Public Policy Concentration

First Year:

ENGL 101 (AW)	3	OC	3
STAT 100 (MA & AR & AASP Anlyt. Skills Devt)	3	NL*	4
NS*	3	SP (non-major)*	3
AASP 100 (HS & UP)	3	AASP 101 (HS)	3
Elective	3	<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>UNIV 100</u>	<u>1</u>		16 credits
	16 credits		

Second Year:

AASP 200 (HU)	3	AASP 202 (UP)	3
HU*	3	Elective	3
SP*	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>
	15 credits		15 credits

Third Year:

AASP 301	3	ENGL 39x (PW)	3
AASP 386 (Junior Standing)	3	AASP 297 (Junior standing)	3
ECON 200	4	ECON 201	4
<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>
	13 credits	<u>Elective</u>	<u>2</u>
			15 credits

Fourth Year:

AASP 396 (Senior Standing)	3	AASP 303	3
AASP Policy Course 1 Upper Level	3	AASP 305	3
AASP Analytical Skills Course of Choice	3	AASP Policy Course 2 Upper Level	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>
	15 credits		15 credits

TOTAL = 120 credits

*Important Planning Notes:

- All students must take two Distributive Studies courses that will also count for the I-Series requirement (I-series are not listed separately in this plan).
- Understanding Plural Societies will be satisfied by completing AASP100 and AASP202.

Q & A

If I am interested in learning about African American Studies, but I do not want to major in African American Studies, is there a minor?

There is not currently a minor in African American Studies. Instead, all University of Maryland students have the opportunity to earn a certificate in African American Studies (21 credits); however, through a joint venture with the Women's Studies Department, African American Studies does offer a minor in Black Women's Studies (15 credits).

I've heard something about a combined Bachelor's and Master's Degree in African-American Studies. What is that?

The Department of African American Studies offers a joint Bachelor of Arts in African-American Studies and Masters of Public Management. Sponsored by the Department and the School of Public Affairs, this special degree combines African-American history and culture with the study of public policy, analysis, and research. The program consists of 150 credits and you must meet the following criteria in order to apply:

- 3.5 GPA
- Declare a major in African-American Studies with a concentration in Public Policy
- Be enrolled at UM with less than 60 credits.

If you are interested, you may contact Valencia Skeeter, Programs Coordinator, 1119 Taliaferro Hall, (301) 405-1158.