

**CREDIT-BEARING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM PROPOSAL  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**I. Background Information**

**A. Title of Program:** Africana Studies

**B. Department(s)/Program(s):** History; Sociology; Economics; English; Music and Theatre Arts; Political Science, Philosophy and Religious Studies; Psychology; Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

**C. Administrative Home:** History

**D. Division:**  **Undergraduate** (Requires approval by APC\*)  **Graduate** (Requires approval by GC\*\*)

**E. Effective Year and Term for Implementation of Action:** Fall 2019

**II. Unit Approvals**

	Signatures	Date
<b>A. Department Chair(s)/Program Director(s)</b>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/11/18</u>
	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/11/18</u>
	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>11/1/18</u>
	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/11/18</u>
	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/12/18</u>
	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/12/18</u>
	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/15/18</u>
<b>B. Dean of College</b>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10-25-18</u>
<b>C. Chair, Academic Policies Committee</b>	_____	_____
<b>D. Chair, Graduate Council</b>	_____	_____

**III. Certificate program proposals should originate at the department/program level; all affected departments/programs must endorse proposals. Each proposal will include the following:**

**A. Context for the certificate program (any predecessor programs, relationship to existing programs, alignment with university mission);**

Student interest in pursuing Africana studies (that is, primarily, the study of Africa, the African diaspora, and African American experiences) has mainly been captured through topical minors in this area. This interdisciplinary certificate will enable students to pursue their interests in a formal manner. It also allows us to contribute to EDI efforts with a curriculum that examines the diverse experiences of people of African descent.

**B. Rationale explaining need for the program (e.g., target audience(s), evidence of long-term need, anticipated enrollment);**

Target audience is anyone who is interested in Africana studies, throughout the University. We also anticipate that the certificate will be of particular interest to black students who will find ways to access their own histories and cultures through the variety of courses offered. In this way it will parallel existing programs in Latin American Studies, American Indian Studies, and Hmong Studies. We anticipate an initial enrollment of around 8 students based on topical minor programs previously constructed on the topic. Longer term, we anticipate enrollments of approximately 15 certificate students.

**C. Statement of benefits to students, the department(s)/program(s), college(s), and university;**

The certificate will give students a more cohesive way of approaching the study of African, African diasporic, and especially African-American experiences. Its existence will also serve to validate the scholarly study of Black lives, and serve as a credential for students seeking to demonstrate their engagement with issues of diversity and social justice. We're hoping that for the College of Arts and Sciences departments offering courses as part of the certificate, it will draw more students, but also help to connect faculty around a shared commitment, and eventually sustain co-curricular programming (for example, a group of instructors from the certificate could work together on a panel for Black History Month). For the University, it promotes a more welcoming environment for students of color and is consistent with EDI efforts more broadly.

**D. Description of the academic component including:**

**i. Learning goals and outcomes for students;**

Students will: 1) Demonstrate social, cultural and political knowledge of major events, experiences, and cultural products of people of African descent. 2) Critically examine the major historical events that have created and shaped the African diaspora, particularly blacks in the U.S. 3) Analyze contemporary issues faced by peoples of African descent in the U.S.

**ii. Specification of any program admission requirements, minimum GPA requirements for courses, GPA requirements for certificate completion above the university minimum, applicability of the S/U option;**

There are no admission requirements for the program and the university minimum for certificate completion will apply. While there are no prerequisites for the Certificate in Africana Studies, there may be prerequisites for some of the courses that are a part of the Certificate (although on the whole, the prerequisites for the courses are minimal, where they do exist).

**iii. Course array, including specification of new, required and elective courses. If electives are allowed within the certificate program, an explanation of the proposed electives in light of the need for program cohesion should be included.**

The certificate consists of a minimum of 12 credits. Students must take at least 6 credits at the 300 level or above. They can take no more than two courses from the same prefix. Courses applied to the certificate cannot be applied to the major.

There is one required course: HIST 210 African American History 1865 to Present (3 credits). As a survey of African American experiences, this course serves as an introduction to the topic, but also will allow students to create a framework within which other courses in the certificate can be applied.

The remaining 9 credits should be chosen from courses that focus centrally on Black experiences (Core Options), though it is allowable to take one course from the Related Electives (courses that include Black experiences but are not centrally focused on those experiences):

Core Options (minimum of 6 credits)

MUSI 114 Evolution of Jazz  
ENGL/WGSS 332 Women in African Literature  
ENGL 368 Topics in American Ethnic Literature (when African American literature/culture is the course focus)  
ENGL 468 Seminar in American Ethnic Literature (when African American literature/culture is the course focus)  
HIST 344 African American Civil Rights Movement, 1914-Present  
HIST 345 Civil Rights and American Memory  
HIST 383 Modern Africa  
RELS 342 African American Religion  
POLS 353 Afro-American Politics  
PSYC XXX Black Psychology (in development)  
WGSS 215 African-American Feminism in the Humanities  
WGSS 222 WGSS Travel Seminar (when offered as Women and the Civil Rights Movement)

Related Electives (maximum of 3 credits)

SOC 312 Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.  
ECON 330 Economics of American Minorities  
ENGL 268 Survey of American Ethnic Literature (when African American literature/culture is the course focus)  
MUSI 111 Global Roots of Music in the United States  
POLS 350 Group and Minority Politics  
WGSS 315 Women of Color Feminisms

Special topics, internships, and umbrella courses with a focus on Africana studies may be applied to the certificate with approval of the certificate advisor.

**E. Description of the administration, staffing, and budgeting for the program, including:**

**i. Faculty/staff participating in the certificate program;**

This will include faculty teaching courses that are part of the certificate, such as Selika Ducksworth-Lawton, Louisa Rice, David Jones, David Shih, Tess Onwueme, Ryan Jones, Frank Watkins, Pete Myers, Steve Fink, Sandibel Borges, Stacey Jackson.

**ii. Proposed frequency of offering for courses included in the certificate program;**

The required course, HIST 210, is offered every semester, usually with two sections offered. Most of the other classes are offered at least once in an academic year, although a few are less frequent. We believe there is sufficient choice for students to be able to move through the certificate in a timely manner.

**iii. Proposed arrangements for ongoing advising for students in the certificate program;**

Dr. Ducksworth-Lawton, Professor of History, will be the advisor for the certificate. She also teaches the required core course, HIST 210.

**iv. Anticipated need for student support services for students enrolled in the certificate program;**

None anticipated

**v. Identification of an administrative home for certificate programs involving more than one academic department/program;**

History

**vi. Funding needs to initiate and maintain the certificate program, including source(s) of funding and any needed resource reallocation;**

None anticipated

**vii. Impact on existing courses and programs.**

None anticipated