

AFRICAN AND AFRICAN DIASPORA STUDIES, BA

African and African Diaspora Studies examines cultures, societies and political economies of peoples of African origin and descent. This includes not just peoples of the African continent but everyone with African roots around the globe, often referred to as the African diaspora. The study of African and African Diaspora Studies is relevant to everyone, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, nationality or religion. You will find value in the program if you are interested in working within the U.S. or internationally in health services, education, journalism, social work, politics, law, business, the non-profit sector, trade, the arts and government agencies.

Through coursework in history, literature, political science, economics, and more, students will examine a variety of issues and themes through an African-centric lens. Along the way, they will be honing their skills in communication, information analysis, and research - all skills cited by employers as critically important in their hiring process.

Requirements

| Code | Title | Credits |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| | General Education Requirements | 30 |
| | L&S Requirements (general degree and major requirements) | 75 |
| | Electives | 15 |
| Total Credits | | 120 |

Credit numbers reflect total possible credits towards degree. Due to the ability to count courses towards more than one requirement, credit amounts will vary. Please work with your academic advisor on your plan of study.

Preparatory Coursework

Based on individual placement results, some students may be required to complete preparatory coursework before enrolling in the courses listed here. This may include English language or composition preparation, developmental math, introductory chemistry, and/or student support courses for students participating in the First Year Bridge program.

General Education Requirements (GER)

UW-Milwaukee has General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext>) that must be met in order to earn a bachelor's or associate degree. They include at minimum 30 credits (10 courses) in six categories that are designed to assure basic student competencies and provide a broad body of knowledge as a context for specialization.

Some degree requirements may fulfill GERs. Please review the requirements and consult with your academic advisor.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------|
| General Education Categories and Credits | | |
| | Civics and Perspectives (CP) | 6 |
| | Communication and Literacy (CL) | 6 |
| | Humanities and Arts (HA) | 6 |
| | Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (MQR) | 3 |
| | Natural Science and Wellness (NSW/NSWL) | 6 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Social and Behavioral Science (SBS) | 3 |
| Total Credits | 30 |

Letters and Science Course of Study – Bachelor of Arts Degree

Complete 120 credits including 75 credits in the College of Letters & Science with 36 of the 75 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered 300 or above) courses.

The College requires that students must complete, in residence at UWM, at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major. The College also requires that students complete at least 30 credits overall in residence at UWM. For additional residency and transfer credit limitations, see L&S Undergraduate Policies and Regulations (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/#policiesandregulationstext>).

Students are also required to complete University-wide General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#bachelorsdegreegeneraleducation>) and the specific L&S requirements listed below.

To complete a major, students must satisfy all the requirements of the major as stated in this catalog. Students who declare their majors within five years of entering the UW System as a degree candidate may satisfy the requirements outlined in any catalog issued since the time they entered. Credits used to satisfy the major also may be used to satisfy other degree requirements.

College of Letters & Science Requirements

The degree requirements in the College of Letters and Science build on the University General Education Requirements to provide a broad base of knowledge as well as an array of skills cited by employers as critical to professional success: critical thinking, problem solving, oral and written communication, ability to work well with others, and adaptability to change.

For the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), students must complete the UWM General Education Requirements as well as these L&S requirements: the International requirement, the Breadth requirement, a Natural Science Lab requirement, the Research requirement, and a Language other than English requirement. The International requirement develops student potential for cross-cultural understanding in a globalizing world. The Breadth requirement ensures that students take classes in a wide variety of subjects, across humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. The Research requirement calls for students to build critical thinking and oral and written communication skills through conducting an independent research project in their major. The Language other than English requirement further develops student proficiency in a language other than English. And, the requirement that students take an L&S Natural Science lab ensures exposure to and practice with the scientific method in action.

I. Total Credits and Upper-Division Courses Requirement

Students must complete 120 credits including 75 credits in the College of Letters & Science with 36 of those 75 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered 300 and above) courses.

II. Language other than English Requirement

Students doing the B.A. must fulfill a language other than English requirement by either successfully completing the fourth semester of university work or equivalent in one language other than English, or by successfully completing the second semester of university work or

equivalent in two languages other than English (including all languages other than English and American Sign Language).

Language courses (including American Sign Language) other than English taken in high school may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. One year of high school language equates to one semester of college work. Proficiency tests approved by the Languages faculty may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement.

III. International Requirement

To meet the International Requirement, students must successfully complete some two-course (minimum 6 credits) combination of:

1. Courses with L&S approved international content (see Courses Approved for the L&S International Requirement (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-international-requirement/>) for course options).
2. Any study abroad course(s).

Students who graduate secondary school in a country other than the U.S. are exempt from this requirement.

IV. Breadth Requirement

In addition to completing the University General Education Requirements, L&S students must complete the Breadth requirement to obtain deeper experience across our three substantive divisions.

The L&S Breadth requirement calls for 9 credits each in L&S courses designated L&S Humanities, L&S Natural Sciences, and L&S Social Sciences breadth. One of the L&S Natural Science breadth courses must include a laboratory or fieldwork experience.

Please refer to the list of Courses Approved for the L&S Breadth Requirement (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list/>).

V. The Major

The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation. Some departmental majors require courses from other departments. Students should contact their major department for information on whether those credits will count as part of the major GPA. The College requires that students must complete, in residence at UWM, at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major.

Research Requirement

Within their majors, students must complete a research experience approved by the L&S faculty. A list of courses satisfying the research requirement in each major can be found here (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-research-requirement/>).

VI. The Minor

Students are encouraged to consider completing a minor, but it is not required. To complete a minor, the College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the minor attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all minor credits attempted, including any transfer work. The minor must contain at least 9 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 and above) courses taken at UWM.

African and African Diaspora Studies Major Requirements

All majors must be accepted by the department, and their programs must be arranged with a departmental advisor. To be retained as majors, students must maintain a GPA of 2.0 or better in African and African Diaspora courses attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA in all major courses attempted, including any transfer work. A total of 30 credits is required to complete the major; 15 credits at the 300 level or above must be taken in residence at UWM.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| African and African Diaspora Studies Requirements | | |
| AFRIC 215 | Introduction to Black Social and Cultural Traditions | 3 |
| AFRIC 220 | Introduction to Statistics in African and African Diaspora Studies ¹ | 3 |
| AFRIC 228 | Introduction to Black Political Economy | 3 |
| AFRIC 301 | Research Methods in African & African Diaspora Studies ² | 3 |
| Select 18 elective credits in African and African Diaspora Studies. At least 12 credits must be at the 300-level or higher. One course must fulfill the Research Requirement (see below). No more than 6 credits may be at the 100-level. ³ | | 18 |
| Courses that fulfill the Research Requirement | | |
| Select one of the following: | | |
| AFRIC 300 | Urban Violence | |
| AFRIC 319 | African American Urban History | |
| AFRIC 320 | Black Cultures in Latin America and the Caribbean | |
| AFRIC 321 | Black Workers in the 21st Century | |
| AFRIC 326 | Economic Problems of Black Business | |
| AFRIC 329 | Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa | |
| AFRIC 341 | Black Politics and City Government | |
| AFRIC 344 | Global Black Social Movements | |
| AFRIC 352 | Extended Families in Black Societies | |
| AFRIC 372 | African-American Literary Movements: The Harlem Renaissance | |
| AFRIC 414 | The Black Woman in America, Africa, and the Caribbean | |
| AFRIC 418 | Race, Class, and Gender in Latin America and the Caribbean | |
| AFRIC 699 | Independent Study ⁴ | |
| Total Credits | | 30 |

¹ With departmental approval, the statistics requirement may be satisfied with another statistics course.

² With departmental approval, the research methods requirement may be satisfied with another methods course.

³ AFRIC 100 is highly recommended. Though not required, 100-level courses prepare students for higher-level African and African Diaspora courses. No more than 6 credits of 100-level courses can count toward the major.

⁴ With departmental approval, students can complete 3 credits in AFRIC 699 that involves completion of a research experience designed according to departmental standards.

Cross-Listed Courses

The following courses offered by other departments may be used to satisfy the requirements of the undergraduate major or minor in African and African Diaspora Studies.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| ENGLISH 381 | World Literatures Written in English: (African Fiction) | 3 |
| ENGLISH 517 | Studies in African-American Literature: | 3 |
| ENGLISH 631 | Seminar in African-American Literature: | 3 |
| FILM 301 | Film Art for Non-Majors (Radical Black Film) | 3 |
| PORTUGS 225 | Understanding Brazil: (African Presence in Brazilian Culture and Literature) | 3 |
| WGS 311 | Global Anti-Gender Movements | 3 |

African and African Diaspora Studies BA Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from the African and African Diaspora Studies B.A. program will be able to:

- Describe, interpret, and distinguish histories, cultures, and social conditions of the people of African descent living on the continent of Africa, the Americas, and other parts of the world.
- Explain, apply, and critically analyze theories of the impact of racialization on people of African descent.
- Correctly use, cite, and engage with texts and other media related to African and African Diaspora Studies, including fully explaining how examples support their arguments.

Letters & Science Advising

During your time at UWM, you may have multiple members of your success team, including advisors, peer mentors and success coaches. Letters & Science students typically work with at least two different types of advisors as they pursue their degrees: professional college advisors and faculty advisors. L&S college advisors advise across your entire degree program while departmental faculty advisors focus on the major.

College advisors are located in Holton Hall (or virtually for online students) and serve as your primary advisor. They are your point person for your questions about navigating college and completing your degree. College advisors will:

- Assist you in defining your academic and life goals.
- Help you create an educational plan that is consistent with those goals.
- Assist you in understanding curriculum, major and degree requirements for graduation, as well as university policies and procedures.
- Provide you with information about campus and community resources and refer you to those resources as appropriate.
- Monitor your progress toward graduation and completion of requirements.

Faculty advisors mentor students in the major and assist them in maximizing their development in the program. You will begin working with a faculty advisor when you declare your major. Faculty advisors are an important partner and will:

- Help you understand major requirements and course offerings in the department.
- Explain opportunities for internships and undergraduate research and guide you in obtaining those experiences.
- Serve as an excellent resource as you consider potential graduate programs and career paths in your field.

Students are encouraged to meet with both their college advisor and faculty advisor at least once each semester. Appointments are available in-person, by phone or by video.

Currently enrolled students should use the Navigate360 website (<https://uwm.navigate.eab.com/>) to make an appointment with your assigned advisor or call (414) 229-4654 if you do not currently have an assigned Letters & Science advisor. Prospective students who haven't enrolled in classes yet should call (414) 229-7711 or email let-sci@uwm.edu.

College of Letters and Science Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/honors-college/>) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.