

AFRICAN AND AFRICAN DIASPORA STUDIES, MA

Effective Fall 2022, the African and African Diaspora Studies MA has suspended admission.

This interdisciplinary program is designed to give graduates an understanding of the African and African diasporic experiences in both local and global contexts and incorporate culturally distinct perspectives in analysis of social and cultural phenomena. Upon completion of the program graduates will be able to analyze and compare knowledge systems and practices within African and African diasporic populations. MA graduates will gain skills in critiquing policies with respect to impacts upon communities of African descent both currently and in historical contexts. The MA will teach students to reflect upon and apply awareness of African and African diasporic experiences and theory to individual professional practices, communications, and interactions. Furthermore, MA graduates will gain quantitative and qualitative methodological skills for identifying and examining challenges affecting people of African descent as well as strengths and resources within African and African diasporic communities. Finally, students will utilize theoretical frameworks from Black Studies to design research-based strategies, programs, and recommendations to address challenges affecting people of African descent.

Admission Requirements

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Application Deadlines

Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application deadline chart (<http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines/>) for specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found by using the One Stop calendars (<https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines/>).

Credits and Courses

The MA in African and African Diaspora Studies is designed to be completed in two years and consists of 30 graduate-course credits. These 30 credits comprise 24 credit hours of advanced coursework, followed by 6 credit hours of thesis or project work. At least 15 credits of overall coursework must be taken at the 700 level or above.

Code	Title	Credits
Core Coursework		12
AFRIC 700	Foundations and Theories in African & African Diaspora Studies	
AFRIC 701	Theories and Methods in Empirical Research in African & African Diaspora Studies	
AFRIC 705	Classic Works: Intellectual Production in Africa and the Diaspora I	
AFRIC 708	Black Literary Theory and Cultural Studies	
Additional Coursework		12
<i>Complete 12 credits from the following list:</i>		
AFRIC 300	Urban Violence	

AFRIC 311	African Religious Thought and Social Organizations
AFRIC 319	African American Urban History
AFRIC 321	Black Workers in the 21st Century
AFRIC 322	Order and Disorder: The Quest for Social Justice
AFRIC 325	Africa/China Relations
AFRIC 326	Economic Problems of Black Business
AFRIC 329	Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa
AFRIC 344	Global Black Social Movements
AFRIC 350	The Black Family
AFRIC 450	Cultural Transmissions: Black Africa and Black America
AFRIC 451	Rites of Passage in Black Societies
AFRIC 497	Study Abroad:
AFRIC 545	Raising Children, 'Race-ing' Children
AFRIC 565	Topics in African & African Diaspora Studies:
AFRIC 706	Classic Works: Intellectual Production in Africa and the Diaspora II
AFRIC 709	Critical Literary Theory II: Modern Concepts in the African World
AFRIC 799	Graduate Independent Study
AFRIC 800	Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods in African & African Diaspora Studies
AFRIC 804	Qualitative Interviewing and Grounded Theory
AFRIC 812	Political Economy: Conceptual
AFRIC 814	Public Policies, Development, and Underdevelopment in Africa & the Diaspora
AFRIC 816	Political Economy of Development in African Countries
AFRIC 817	Political Economy of Development in African Countries II
AFRIC 818	Race Matters: Government and Politics in Latin America and the Caribbean
AFRIC 820	Political Economy of Income and Wealth Inequality
AFRIC 821	Race and Inequality
AFRIC 834	Seminar on Slavery
AFRIC 836	Comparative Social Institutions in African World Communities
AFRIC 837	Memory and Tradition: Identity-Making and Memory in the African Diaspora
AFRIC 840	Healing Traditions in the African Diaspora
AFRIC 845	Race/Ethnicity and the Psychology of Oppression
AFRIC 851	African-American Literary Theory and Criticism
AFRIC 852	Folklore in the African World:
AFRIC 862	Development of African-American Children in Urban and Rural Areas

AFRIC 865	The Quest for Pan-Africanism	
AFRIC 866	Black Power Reconsidered	
AFRIC 867	Problems in African American Urban History	
AFRIC 868	Black Intellectuals and the Public Sphere	
AFRIC 880	Seminar on Issues in African & African Diaspora Studies:	
Thesis Research or Project		6
Total Credits		30

Additional Requirements

Major Professor as Advisor

The student must have a major professor to advise and supervise the student's studies as specified in Graduate School regulations. The Graduate Committee assigns a faculty advisor as a necessary prerequisite to admission.

Time Limit

Student must complete all degree requirements within five years of initial enrollment. It is expected that a full-time student will normally complete all of the requirements for the degree within two years.

Exit Requirement

Thesis

Students must prepare and defend a formal thesis reporting the results of their research.

Project

Students will, in consultation with their major professor, develop a significant research project, rather than a formal thesis as would be appropriate for a student continuing on to a PhD.

Comprehensive Exam

Students may choose to take the comprehensive exam as an option for attaining the exit requirement for an MA degree. Students seeking the option of using the Comprehensive Exam for the MA exit requirement are still required to fulfill the remaining six credits from graduate courses in African and African Diaspora Studies instead of the thesis or project credits.