

# BLACK STUDIES MINOR

## Interdisciplinary Minor

Black Studies is the interdisciplinary study of the multifaceted history, culture, and lives of people of African descent. Unlike African-American and African Studies, Black Studies is not limited to a single nation or continent. Rather, it is Afro-Diasporic as it encompasses all locales where black people have voluntarily or involuntarily been dispersed throughout history.

The Black Studies (BLS) minor enables students of all backgrounds to discover, research, and demonstrate broad familiarity with many or all aspects of Black culture from a local, national, and global perspective. The BLS program teaches students to use critical reading, writing, and thinking skills when analyzing Black-related themes and issues to become competent scholars of Black culture. A minor in BLS prepares students to enter a workforce in a variety of careers, such as Social Work, Sociology, Political Science, Law, International Studies, Human Resources, Counseling, Medicine, Public Health, Business, Marketing, Governmental Agencies, Journalism, to name a few.

Students who earn a minor in Black Studies show transferable skills such as cultural sensitivity, awareness, and competence, excellence in interpersonal and public communication, problem-solving, strategic planning, and ethical reasoning, among others. BLS minors develop these skills as they increase their knowledge of the impact that African and African descent have had and have on world cultures and human history.

## Black Studies Minor Requirements

This interdisciplinary minor consists of six courses (24 credits). Two Humanities/Fine Arts courses, three Social Sciences courses and one additional course in any discipline are required. At least two of these six courses must pertain to black culture outside of the United States, and students are encouraged to take three of these courses.

Pre-approved Study Abroad courses may also count toward the minor. One- or two -credit music ensembles may count toward the minor only if the student takes four to two semesters of the same ensemble.

Students may request a special topics course or a course not cross-listed with Black Studies be applied toward the minor. Such courses require the program director's approval.

Students planning to complete the Black Studies minor should notify the director of their intentions and consult with the director when selecting courses for the minor.

## Senior Capstone Experience (SCE)

Students who complete a Senior Capstone Experience project that focuses on a Black Studies topic may request to have their SCE credits applied toward the Black Studies minor. A student must first receive approval to use SCE credits toward the minor requirements approved by the major department. A copy of the approved SCE proposal must be submitted to the Black Studies program director to request Black Studies course credit. If approved, the student receives credit for one 4 credit course within the Black Studies minor upon successful completion of the SCE.

## SCE BLS Portfolio

Students must submit a Black Studies ePortfolio to the approval of Black Studies Director in order to be considered a Black Studies graduating minor..

An ePortfolio should have the following elements: a) A table of contents; b) A list of courses taken to complete the Black Studies minor; and c) Three separate written assignments (preferably, unmarked papers) that were originally produced for a Black Studies course and were successfully evaluated by the course instructors. Each written assignment must be posted as a Word document or a PDF to Canvas. After the submission has been submitted and accepted by the Director, the student will be considered a graduating BLS minor.

Code	Title	Credits	Notes
<b>Select 2 Humanities / Fine Arts Courses From Below <sup>1</sup></b>		<b>8</b>	
ART 115	Arts of the Islamic World		
ENG 213 & ENG 214	African Am Literature & Culture I and African Am Lit & Culture II		
ENG 221	Introduction to Nonfiction		
ENG 332	Modern & Contemporary British Literature		
ENG 336	Postcolonial Literature		
ENG 345	The African American Novel		
ENG 370	The Harlem Renaissance		
ENG 377	2PACalypse Now!		
ENG 460	Book History & American Print Culture		

ENG 470	Toni Morrison		
ENG 471	Black Men & Women: Images		
FRS 312	The Contemporary Francophone World		
FRS 419	Studies in Francophone Lit & Cult		
HPS 417	Afro Latin America		
MUS 104	Intro to World Music & Ethnomusicology		
MUS 106	Rock, Pop, and American Culture		
MUS 206	Jazz History		
MUS 313	Music of Latin America		
MUS 329	Cuba Music and Culture		
<b>Select 3 Social Science Courses From Below</b>		<b>12</b>	
ANT 320	Race and Ethnicity		
ANT 340	Inside-Out		
ANT 275	Prisons, Punishment, and Social Control		
ECN 305	Economic Development		
EDU 315	Traditional & Modern Grammar		
EDU 330	Diversity & Inclusion		
HIS 319	African - American History		
HIS 335	Reconstruction and the Gilded Age		
HIS 371	History of South Africa		
HIS 414	Comparative Cultural Encounters		
POL 201	Theories of Peace and Conflict		
POL 341	Politics of Development		
POL 351	Politics, Religion, Ethnicity in S. Asia		
POL 348	Latin American Politics		
POL 356	Africa in the World		
POL 373	Human Rights & Social Justice		
PSY 404	Multicultural Competence with Lab		
SOC 221	Social Inequalities		
SOC 240	Criminology		
SOC 271	Global Health Disparities		
SOC 340	Victimology		
SOC 342	Sociology of Punishment		
SOC 343	Women, Crime & the Crim. Justice System		
SOC 394	Special Topics (Sociology of Mental Health)		
SOC 347	Juvenile Delinq & Social Welfr		
SOC 462	Sociology of the Body		
<b>Select 1 Course in Any Subject Selected from the Above Lists</b>		<b>4</b>	
Elective Course			
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>24</b>	

<sup>1</sup> The following 1-credit music ensembles can satisfy one of the Humanities/Fine Arts courses when taken for 4 semesters.

Code	Title	Credits	Notes
MUS 289	W.C. Afro-Cuban Ensemble		
MUS 278	Steel Pan Ensemble		
MUS 281	W.C. Jazz Ensemble		
MUS 475	W.C. Jazz Combo		

Elena Deanda-Camacho, Director  
Jennifer Benson  
Richard De Prospo  
Rachel Durso  
Carrie Reiling  
Kenneth Schweitzer  
Tahir Shad  
Emily Steinmetz  
Christine Wade  
Carol Wilson