

Department of Africana Studies

Honors Program

The Honors Program in the Department of Africana Studies is designed to enhance the academic excellence of its majors, to forge closer intellectual relationships between students and the faculty, and to prepare students for graduate studies and for their professional careers.

Admission Requirements:

To be admitted to the departmental honors program, the student must have a cumulative grade-point average in University courses of at least 3.25, with a 3.50 minimum grade-point average in the major. Students must be a declared major with 12 or more credits in Africana Studies courses. Students may apply for admission to the Honors Program as early as the spring semester of the sophomore year. Applications must be submitted to the Director of the Honors Program. The Director of the Honors Program and the Departmental Honors Committee will review the applications.

Required Courses:

As a part of the 36 credits, students must complete any two of the following courses in the Department of Africana Studies: AAS 325 (Introduction to Research Methods); AAS 345 (The Black Novel); AAS 375 (Black Popular Culture); AAS 355Z (Introduction to African and African-American Poetry), AAS320 (Black Nationalism: Political Perspective in Africa), and AAS 322 (Developing African Nations). Students must complete AAS490 the Senior Seminar for African/African American Studies majors as part of the Honors program.

Required Honors Project:

The Director of the Honors Program will assist students in the selection of their faculty advisor for their Honors thesis. Students must submit their written Honors project proposal to their faculty advisor for approval. Students will work on a major research project under the careful supervision of their faculty advisor. Students are expected to engage in a critical and in-depth analysis on their chosen topic. The Honors project should be between 40 and 60 pages in length. Students will begin their Honors thesis in AAS 490. Students must also take AAS 498 (Topics in African Studies) or AAS 499 (Topics in African American Studies) to complete the Honors thesis. The thesis will be graded by the faculty advisor. The Honors thesis must be approved by the Director of the Honors Program and at least one other professor on the Honors Committee. Students will make an oral presentation of their thesis at a departmental seminar. The Honors course

credits will be counted toward the 36 credits required for majors in Africana Studies. Majors in the Department of Africana Studies are required to complete AAS 142, AAS 219 or AAS 219Z, AAS 286 or AAS 287, AAS 490, six credits at the 200 level and six credits at the 300 level or above, and two elective courses for six credits.

Honors students in Africana Studies are required to maintain the minimum grade-point average of 3.50 in the major and at least a 3.25 minimum grade-point average in University courses. The Departmental Honors Committee will review the academic performance of each candidate at the completion of each academic year. Students who fail to meet the Honors program's academic standards will be ineligible for departmental honors. Students who have successfully completed the program requirements will be recommended to the department by the Departmental Honors Committee to receive departmental honors in Africana Studies.

Departmental Contact: **Dr. Marcia Sutherland**
Email: ms781@albany.edu
Telephone: (518) 442-4730

**Application for the
Honors Program in Africana Studies**

Name _____ UAlbany ID# _____

email address _____ Telephone # _____

Campus address _____

Home address _____

Major _____ Minor _____

(If double major, list in order they appear on transcript.)

Do you already have an Honors Thesis idea? _____

Is there a specific Professor you wish to work with on your Thesis? _____

List all Africana Studies courses taken here at SUNY at Albany or transferred:

<u>Course #</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Professor if UA</u>
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List all Africana Studies courses in which you are already enrolled.

<u>Course #</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Professor if UA</u>
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