AREAS OF INTEREST

African Student Organization
The purpose of this organization is to gain more knowledge of the continent of Africa and its contributions to civilization. Carry out activities such as showing films and inviting scholars to speak to the JMU community about Africa; participate in cultural activities that display African cultural and tradition in song and dance; that will enhance the image of African students on campus.

Study Abroad in Kenya
Designed to serve majors from different disciplines, JMU’s Kenya Field School (6 weeks, 9 credit hours) and optional internship program offer unique opportunities to learn about Kenya through site visits, homestays, class-based instruction, readings, Kiswahili lessons, and a variety of interactive assignments. The program focuses on three broad themes: Histories and Cultures of Kenya, Human-Environment Interactions and the Quest for Sustainability, and Education in Kenya.

Study Abroad in Ghana
The Ghana Summer Program, the first Africa-based summer study abroad program at JMU, was created in 1996. We have taken students on this four-week (6 credit hour) program every year since. We added a two-week internship component (3 credit hours) to the summer experience in 2009. Ghana is an established democratic African country with long ties to the United States.

Furious Flower Poetry Center
The mission of the Furious Flower Poetry Center is to advance the genre of African American Poetry by providing opportunities for education, research, and publication. Center hosts visiting poets, sponsors poetry workshops for emerging poets, holds an annual poetry camp for children in the community, and produces scholarly texts, and much more.

Madison Art Collection
The MAC houses an extraordinary collection of aesthetic and culturally significant objects. Exhibitions, class projects, and special programming allowed the public access to the areas of collection strength, which include funerary objects from ancient Egypt, West African masks and textiles, and much more.

AFRICANA PROGRAM FACULTY

Melinda Adams (Political Science)
Aderonke Adesanya (Art History)*
Bethany Bryson (Sociology)
Liam Buckley (Anthropology)
Jennifer Coffman (ISAT)
Michael L. Deaton (ISAT)
Joanne Gabbin (English)
Mollie Godfrey (English)
Justin Henriques (Engineering)
Lamont King (History)
Joshua Linder (Anthropology)
Iain Maclean (Philosophy & Religion)
Brillian Muhonja (Foreign Language)
Adebayo Ogundipe (Engineering)
John Ott (Art History)
David Owusu-Ansah (History)
Steven Reich (History)
Kathryn Stevens (Art History)
Mary Tacy (ISAT)
Wayne Teel (ISAT)
William Van Norman (History)
Andrew Witmer (History)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO DECLARE THE MINOR, CONTACT

Dr. Aderonke Adesanya, Coordinator*
540-568-3486
adesanaa@jmu.edu

AFRICANA STUDIES PROGRAM

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY
THE MINOR IN AFRICANA STUDIES

broadens students’ world perspectives by enhancing their acquaintance with and understanding of the peoples, issues of identities, and institutions of Africa as well as the African Diaspora. The Africana program engages interdisciplinary approaches to understand and to encounter Africa and the African Diaspora in a global context. The interdisciplinary character of the program is further enhanced by the fact that courses taken to fulfill program requirements are drawn from several departments. From these course offerings, students will examine and engage with some of Africana studies major contributing disciplines, concepts, methods and topics including the development of new identities.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

- Successful completion of 19 credit hours according to the requirements listed below.
- No more than 9 hours from a single discipline.

Required Courses                                                   Credit Hours
AFST 200. Introduction to Africana Studies                         3
AFST 489. Senior Research Experience†                              1

Choose one from each of the following options:                     6

Option I: Africa
HIST 263. Introduction to African History
ANTH 280. Peoples and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa

Option II: African Descendants in the New World
HIST 355. Afro-American History to 1865
HIST 356. Afro-American History Since 1865
ANTH/HIST 436. Afro-Latin America

Choose four or more of the following courses, at least one of which must be at the 400-level. Courses not listed but that have Africa or African Diaspora content may be approved.³

AFST 400. Selected Topics in Africana Studies
ANTH 391. Study Abroad (must be in Africa or in Diaspora)²,³
ANTH 395. Special Topics²,³

ARTH 210/HUM 252. African Experience
ARTH 310. African Art: The Sahara and Northern Sahel
ARTH 312. African Art: Sub-Saharan
ARTH 410. African Art I
ARTH 412. African Art II
ARTH 418. Modern and Contemporary African Art
ARTH 419. Topics in African Art
ARTH 424: Arts of Ancient Egypt
ARTH 488. African American Art
ARTH 489: Topics in Art History: African-American Art
ARTH 489. Topics in Art and Art History

ENG 358. Oral Literature²,³
ENG 361. African-American Fiction Writers
ENG 362. African-American Poets
ENG 412. Special Topics Seminar²
ENG 431. Studies in Caribbean Literature
ENG 432. Studies in African Literature

ENG 260. Survey of African-American Literature
GEOG 335. Geography of Africa
HUM 252. Cross-Cultural Perspective: African Culture in the Humanities

HIST 263. Introduction to African History
HIST 307. The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade
HIST 341. Selected Topics in World History (when appropriate)
HIST 355. Afro-American History to 1865
HIST 356. Afro-American History Since 1865
HIST 361/HON 200J. Class and Ethnicity in Africa
HIST 391. Study Abroad (must be in Africa or in Diaspora)²,³
HIST/ANTH 436. Afro-Latin America
HIST 439. Selected Topics in American History²,³

VERS 470. Modern Africa
HIST 489. Selected Topics in World History²,³
MUS 356. History of Jazz in America
POSC 326. Civil Rights
POSC 353. African Politics
POSC 361. Contemporary Problems in International Affairs²,³

SOCI 334. Social and Cultural Stratification
SOCI 336. Race and Ethnic Relations
SOCI 378. Introduction to Africa-Centered Critical Theory
SOCI 379. Africentric Social Thought
SOCI 391. Study Abroad (must be in Africa or in Diaspora)²,³

SWA 101-490. Kiswahili

³ Research must have an African, African-American or Diaspora focus.
² Course topic and content must focus on Africa and be approved by the program director.
²³ Course topic and content must focus on African descendants in the Western Hemisphere and be approved by the program director(s).

In addition to taking these courses, students are encouraged to participate in travel or study programs to Africa, the Caribbean and other relevant areas. Students who want to earn credit hours through participation in an accredited travel/study program are encouraged to do so with the prior approval of the program director.

Intermediate Swahili courses may count for credit in Africana Studies. Consult the coordinator for details.