Minors

Students should be aware that most minors have prerequisites, meaning that certain courses must be completed before a student can enroll in other courses. Consult with the minor adviser for additional information and recommendations for scheduling.

Africana Studies
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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 cross disciplinary approaches to understand and to encounter Africa and the African Diaspora in a global context. The cross disciplinary 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 key contributing disciplines, concepts, methods and topics including the development of new identities.

The minor program in Africana studies is open to all undergraduate students at JMU. Courses taken to complete the Africana studies minor can also be used to satisfy the student's major, as well as General Education requirements.

The Africana studies minor requires:
- successful completion of 19 credit hours according to the requirements listed below.
- no more than nine hours from a single discipline.

Required Courses Credit Hours
AFST 200. Introduction to Africana Studies 3
AFST 489. Senior Research Experience 1 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. African-American History to 1865
HIST 356. African-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. 9
AFST 400. Selected Topics in Africana Studies
ANTH 391. Study Abroad (must be in Africa or in Diaspora) 1
ANTH 395. Special Topics 1
ARTH 210/USH 252. African Experience
ARTH 310. African Art: The Sahara and Northern Sahel
ARTH 312. African Art: Sub-Saharan
ARTH 418. Modern and Contemporary African Art
ARTH 419. Topics in African Art
ARTH 424. Arts of Ancient Egypt
ARTH/AFST 488. African American Art
ARTH 489. Topics in Art History 1
ENG 260. Survey of African American Literature
ENG 358. Oral Literature 1
ENG 361. African American Fiction Writers
ENG 362. African American Poets
ENG 408. Advanced Studies in African-American Literature
ENG 412. Special Topics Seminar 1
ENG 431. Studies in Caribbean Literature
ENG 432. Studies in African Literature
GEOG 235. Geography of Africa
GEOG 339. Geography of the Caribbean
GEOG 252. Cross-Cultural Perspective: African Culture in the Humanities 1
HIST 263. Introduction to African History
HIST 307. The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade
HIST 341. Selected Topics in World History (when appropriate)
HIST 355. African-American History to 1865
HIST 356. African-American History Since 1865
HIST 391. Study Abroad (must be in Africa or in Diaspora) 1
HIST/ANTH 436. Afro-Latin America
HIST 439. Selected Topics in African History 1
HIST 470. Modern Africa
HIST 489. Selected Topics in World History 1, 2
MUS 356. History of Jazz in America
POSC 326. Civil Rights
POSC 353. African Politics
POSC 361. Contemporary Problems in International Affairs 1
REL 330. African and African-American Religion
SOCI 336. Race and Ethnic Relations
SOCI 354. Social Inequality
SOCI 391. Study Abroad (must be in Africa or in Diaspora) 1
SWA 101-490. Kiswahili

1 Course topic and content must focus on Africa and/or the African Diasporas as well as be approved by the program coordinator(s).
2 Research must have an African and/or African Diaspora focus.

Other appropriate courses not listed above may be considered for the minor. Please consult program coordinator.

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 coordinator.

American Studies
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The minor in American studies is based on the desirability of fostering an understanding of the whole of American civilization through study in a variety of fields and topics. Students will select courses in three groups — multicultural studies, ideas and the arts, and history and politics — and from diverse fields including literature, history, the fine arts, philosophy and the social sciences. The American studies program is a flexible one that students can relate to their own individual interests and needs while exploring the interrelationships among diverse aspects of American culture and its changing ideas and values.

The minor program in American studies is open to all undergraduate students at JMU. The requirement is the successful completion of 24 hours. Three of the 24 hours must consist of AMST 200, Introduction to American Studies (previously AMST 250). No more than nine of the 24 hours may come from 100- or 200-level courses. Students must take two courses from each of the groups listed and one elective course chosen from any of the groups. See the program coordinator for additional courses that may be substituted.

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