Extracurricular Opportunities

AAAD Faculty

Study Abroad Programs
Students are encouraged to participate in study abroad programs to Africa, the Caribbean, and other relevant areas. In addition to the AAAD program’s long-running Ghana Summer Program and East Africa Field School, students can also explore options in biological and human dimensions of wildlife conservation, and cultural identity studies in South Africa. Many other study abroad programs are listed on the AAAD website. Students are encouraged to consult with AAAD program coordinators for guidance.

AAAD Internships
Students are encouraged to seek out opportunities to apply their knowledge in professional and community-based settings. The AAAD internship coordinator regularly offers students opportunities to earn academic credit by working as AAAD Minor or Media Interns, Research Assistants, or by working for relevant community- or campus-based projects and organizations.

AAAD Conference
Every February, the AAAD program hosts scholars from across the world and from across the disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, STEM, the arts, and business, as well as artists, activists, and independent scholars at its Annual African, African American, and Diaspora Studies Interdisciplinary Conference. The conference is a charged space for cross- and interdisciplinary research exchange, debates, and networking. AAAD minors are also invited to present their capstone senior research projects at a special session during the conference.

Visit the conference website for more information: https://www.aaadjmu.com

Student Organizations
African Student Organization
Caribbean Student Organization
Black Student Alliance
NAACP (JMU Chapter)

For more information, please visit jmu.edu/africana/index.shtml

AAAD Internships

AAAD Conference

AAAD Faculty

Melinda Adams (Political Science)
Aderonke Adesanya (Art History)
Lauren Alleyne (English, Furious Flower)
Emeka Anaza (Hospitality, Sport & Rec. Mgmt.)
David Babcock (English)
Ruthie Bosch (Education)
Bethany Bryson (Sociology)
BJ Bryson (Social Work)
Liam Buckley (Anthropology)
Erica Cavanagh (English, Creative Writing)
Jennifer Coffman (CGE, ISAT, East Africa Field Sch.)
Michelle Cude (Education)
Michael L. Deaton (ISAT)
Gianluca De Fazio (Justice Studies)
Dolores Flamiano (SMAD)
Joanne Gabbin (English, Furious Flower)
Mollie Godfrey (English)
Oris Griffin (English)
Brooks Hefner (English)
Justin Henriques (Engineering)
Beth Hinderliter (Duke Hall Gallery of Fine Art, Art Hist.)
Kara Kavanagh (Education)
Mary Kimsey (ISAT)
Lamont King (History, Ghana Summer Program)
Joshua Linder (Anthropology)
Talé Mitchell (SMAD)
Besi Muhonja (Africana Studies, WGSS, English)
Diane Planeix-Neal (School of Music)
Danielle Price (English)
Adebayo Ogundipe (Engineering)
Vanessa Owusu-Ansah (History, Ghana Summer Prgm.)
Steven Reich (History)
Wren River Stevens (Art Hist., Madison Art Collection)
Wayne Teel (ISAT)
Mary Thompson (English, WGSS)
William Van Norman (History)
Case Watkins (Justice Studies)
Andrew Witmer (History)
Roshna Wunderlich (Biology)
Kristin Wylie (Political Science)
Susan Zurbrigg (Art, Design & Art History)
Minor in African, African American, and Diaspora Studies

The AAAD minor fosters global and cultural awareness by promoting an understanding of the people, identities, and institutions of Africa and the African Diaspora.

The program takes an interdisciplinary approach to understand Africa and the African Diaspora in a global context, enhanced by program requirements drawn from several departments.

In these courses, students examine and engage with key disciplines, concepts, methods, and topics in Africana studies.

Students must successfully complete 19 credit hours within the course requirements, but no more than 9 hours can be from a single discipline.

You can visit our website at jmu.edu/africana/index.shtml to learn more, and follow us on Instagram @jmuaaad for recent updates.

Requirements

Core Requirements
- AAAD 200 Introduction to Africana Studies (3 cr)
- AAAD 489 Senior Research Experience (1 cr)

Elective Courses
- Choose five, at least one of which must be at the 400 level.

- AAAD 300 Special Topics in Africana Studies
- AAAD 400 Selected Topics in Africana Studies
- AAAD 401 Internship in Africana Studies
- ANTH 280 Peoples and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa
- ANTH 391 Study Abroad
- ANTH 395 Special Topics
- ART 200 Art in General Culture
- ART 210 Africana Art & Culture in the Humanities
- ART 312 African Art: Sub-Saharan
- ART 419 Topics in African Art
- ARTH 424 Arts of Ancient Egypt
- ARTH/AFST 488 African American Art
- ARTH 489 Topics in Art History
- BIO 426 Topics in Biology
- BIO 427 Topics in Biology with Laboratory
- EDUC 310 Teaching in a Diverse Society
- EDUC 490 Special Topics in Education
- ELED 310 Diversity in Elem. Ed. with Service Learning
- ENG 239 Studies in World Literature
- ENG 260 Survey of African American Literature
- ENG 302 Special Topics in Lit. and Lang.
- ENG 322 Studies in Popular Genres
- ENG 358 Oral Literature
- ENG 361 African-American Fiction
- ENG 362 African-American Poetry
- ENG 377 Introduction to African Literature
- ENG 385 Special Topics in Film Study
- ENG 405 Advanced Studies in Anglophone Literature
- ENG 408 Adv. Studies in African American Literature
- ENG 410 Advanced Studies in Author
- ENG 412 Special Topics Seminar
- ENG 423 Adv. Studies in Gender and Sexuality in Literature
- ENGR 498 Advanced Topics in Engineering
- GEOG 335 Geography of Africa
- GEOG 339 Geography of the Caribbean
- GEOG 491 International Studies
- HUM 252 Global Cultures (African Experience)
- HIST 263 Africa
- HIST 307 The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade
- HIST 341 Selected Themes in World History
- HIST 355 African American History to 1865
- HIST 356 African American Hist. Since 1865
- HIST 361 Class and Ethnicity in Africa
- HIST 391 Study Abroad
- HIST/ANTH 456 Afro-Latin America
- HIST 439 Selected Topics in American Hist.
- HIST 470 Modern Africa
- HIST 489 Selected Topics in World History
- HRD 123 Dev. Multicult'l Competency for Effective Facilitation
- IB 298 Special Topics in International Business
- IDLS 391 Study Abroad
- ISAT 480 Topics in Integrated Science & Technology
- JUST 301 Advanced Level Special Topics in Justice Studies
- JUST 328 Race, Class, and Justice
- MUS 200 Music in General Culture
- MUS 356 History of Jazz in America
- POSC 326 Civil Rights
- POSC 335 African Politics
- POSC 361 Topics in International Relations
- POSC 371 Topics in Comparative Politics
- REL 330 Religions of Africa and the African Diaspora
- REL 336 African American Religions
- SMAD 498 Senior Seminar in Media Arts and Design
- SOCI 336 Race and Ethnicity
- SOCI 354 Social Inequity
- SOCI 391 Study Abroad
- SWA 101-SWA 490 Kiswahili
- UNST 390 Special Studies in University Studies
- UNST 490 Adv. Special Studies in University Studies
- WRTC 103 Critical Reading and Writing
- WGSS 300 Special Topics in WGSS
- WGSS 495 Special Topics in WGSS

1 Course topic and content must focus on the peoples of Africa and/or the African Diaspora 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 may be considered for the minor. Consult with the program coordinator(s).