African American Studies (AAS)

Courses

AAS 0829. The History & Significance of Race in America. 3 Credit Hours.
Why were relations between Native Americans and whites violent almost from the beginning of European settlement? How could slavery thrive in a society founded on the principle that "all men are created equal"? How comparable were the experiences of Irish, Jewish, and Italian immigrants, and why did people in the early 20th century think of them as separate "races"? What were the causes and consequences of Japanese Americans' internment in military camps during World War II? Are today's Mexican immigrants unique, or do they have something in common with earlier immigrants? Using a variety of written sources and outstanding documentaries, this course examines the racial diversity of America and its enduring consequences. NOTE: This course fulfills the Race & Diversity (GD) requirement for students under GenEd and Studies in Race (RS) for students under Core. Duplicate Credit Warning: Students may take only one of the following courses for credit; all other instances will be deducted from their credit totals: African American Studies 0829, Anthropology 0829, Geography and Urban Studies 0829, History 0829, Political Science 0829, Sociology 0829, 0929, 1376, 1396, R059, or X059.
Course Attributes: GU
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 0834. Representing Race. 3 Credit Hours.
From classical Greeks and Romans, who saw themselves under siege by the "barbarian hordes," to contemporary America and its war on "Islamic extremism," from "The Birth of a Nation" to "Alien Nation," Western societies have repeatedly represented some group of people as threats to civilization. This course will examine a wide range of representations of non-Western people and cultures in film, literature, scientific and legal writings, popular culture and artistic expression. What is behind this impulse to divide the world into "us" and "them"? How is it bound up with our understanding of race and racial difference? And what happens when the "barbarian hordes" talk back? NOTE: This course fulfills the Race & Diversity (GD) requirement for students under GenEd and Studies in Race (RS) for students under Core. Students cannot receive credit for this course if they have successfully completed Anthropology 0834/0934, Asian Studies 0834, English 0834/0934, or History 0834.
Course Attributes: GD
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 0857. Sport & Leisure in American Society. 3 Credit Hours.
Explore the complexity and diversity of American society through the study of sport and leisure. To what extent does the way we play or spectate sports, the way we plan or experience leisure time, reflect American values? As we trace a brief history of the United States through the lens of sport and leisure, we will observe how concepts of freedom, democracy and equality are tested through time. Issues of race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, and socio-economic class will be prominent as we observe American ideals both upheld and contradicted in the context of the way Americans recreate. NOTE: This course fulfills the U.S. Society (GU) requirement for students under GenEd and American Culture (AC) for students under Core. Students cannot receive credit for this course if they have successfully completed STHM 0857, SOC 0857 or REL 0957.
Course Attributes: GU
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1124. Elementary Yoruba. 3 Credit Hours.
An introductory course in the understanding, reading, and speaking of Yoruba, an African language that has had a major impact on the African cultures of Brazil, Haiti, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and the United States. Students will be taught grammar, vocabulary, and conversation in the language.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1125. Elementary Hausa. 3 Credit Hours.
An introductory course in the understanding, reading and speaking of Hausa, a language spoken by more than 70 million people in West Africa. Students will be taught grammar, vocabulary, and conversation in the language.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1152. Introduction to African Aesthetics. 3 Credit Hours.
An overview of the cultural experience of African peoples. An examination of the culture of peoples in Africa, America, and the Caribbean in a comprehensive and structurally integrated manner. An introduction to Black aesthetics and the interrelationship of the humanities in African American Studies. Designed to acquaint students with important historical and philosophical investigations of the creative process and to explore interrelationships, similarities, and differences in the various cultural expressions of African peoples.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1158. African American Music I. 3 Credit Hours.
History and sociology of Black music, with main emphasis on important and dynamic forms, styles and concepts that have formed the core of African and African American music culture.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1165. History and Cultures of the Caribbean. 3 Credit Hours.
A historical survey of the cultural, economic and political developments of the Caribbean people from the slavery and colonial periods, to post-independence period with particular emphasis on Haiti, Guyana, Trinidad-Tobago, Jamaica and Barbados. Linkages with the rest of the Black World will also be discussed.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
AAS 1244. The Black Church. 3 Credit Hours.
An examination of the significant role the Black church has played in creating an African-American response to social, political, and economic obstacles and barriers in America. Introduction to Richard Allen, Henry McNeal Turner, Martin Luther King, Jr., and other church leaders. Students learn to appreciate how the church builds the community, maintains culture, and produces leaders.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1252. Afrocentricity. 3 Credit Hours.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1253. Blacks in World History. 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite for all history courses to be applied to the major. An introduction to the entire field of Black history, both in Africa and the New World. A basic course, comprehensive in scope, to provide a firm grounding for students interested in taking subsequent history courses.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1261. Africa in the 20th Century. 3 Credit Hours.
A summary of the major political, economic, social, and cultural developments in Africa since 1900. The impact of indigenous and foreign philosophies on industrialization, urbanization, and peasantization during the 20th century. NOTE: This course can be used to satisfy the university Core International Studies (IS) requirement. Although it may be usable towards graduation as a major requirement or university elective, it cannot be used to satisfy any of the university GenEd requirements. See your advisor for further information. In addition to meeting the university Core International Studies requirement, this course meets the Non-Western/Third World IS requirement for Communication Sciences majors. Please note the recent update to the Core IS requirement at www.temple.edu/vpus/resources/coreupdates.htm#coreisupdate.
Course Attributes: IS
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1268. African American History Since 1900. 3 Credit Hours.
A general treatment of the turbulent 20th century in African American history. Attention given to the rise of the Ku Klux Klan, the anti-lynching campaigns, northern migration, the Marcus Garvey Movement, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Civil Rights Movement. NOTE: This course can be used to satisfy the university Core American Culture (AC) requirement. Although it may be usable towards graduation as a major requirement or university elective, it cannot be used to satisfy any of the university GenEd requirements. See your advisor for further information.
Course Attributes: AC
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1271. Urban Black Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines Black political activity in cities—the socio-historical condition of Blacks in cities; the city within the larger political arena; the nature of urban politics/politicians, and the place and future of Blacks in urban politics with a particular emphasis on Philadelphia.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1296. Introduction to African American Studies. 3 Credit Hours.
An introduction to the field of African American Studies and to the historical, philosophic and pedagogical bases, methodology, and relevance of African American Studies within a liberal arts education.
Course Attributes: WI
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 1968. Honors Africa in the 20th Century. 3 Credit Hours.
A summary of the major political, economic, social, and cultural developments in Africa since 1900. The impact of indigenous and foreign philosophies on industrialization, urbanization, and peasantization during the 20th century. NOTE: This course can be used to satisfy the university Core International Studies (IS) requirement. Although it may be usable towards graduation as a major requirement or university elective, it cannot be used to satisfy any of the university GenEd requirements. See your advisor for further information. In addition to meeting the university Core International Studies requirement, this course meets the Non-Western/Third World IS requirement for Communication Sciences majors. Please note the recent update to the Core IS requirement at www.temple.edu/vpus/resources/coreupdates.htm#coreisupdate.
Course Attributes: HO, IS
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2100. Special Topics. 3 Credit Hours.
Arranged each semester. Please consult with the instructor and/or check the course schedule for specific topic.
Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

AAS 2131. Creative Writing Workshop. 3 Credit Hours.
This course provides an opportunity for students to explore and develop their writing talents under the influence and direction of an established writer. African and African American subjects, themes, and materials used. Students read works of African American writers.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
AAS 2133. The African American Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Experience. 3 Credit Hours.
With advancement made through the modern civil rights movement and the emergence of progressive views on sexuality in contemporary society, African American lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning LGBTQs individuals have made gains in social mobility and recognition. However, homophobia, heterosexism, sexism, and racism continue to intersect within the lives of African American LGBTQs, shaping the way in which they are perceived and interact within the larger society. This upper level undergraduate course explores the experiences of African American (LGBTQ) individuals through an interdisciplinary approach. The course enlists both narratives and empirically based research in conceptualizing the experiences of African American LGBTQs within the United States. While not limited to a specific theoretical perspective; students will be expected to understand the experiences of African American LGBTQs using conceptual frameworks informed by the use of an intersectional analysis.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2134. The Literature of American Slavery. 3 Credit Hours.
Slaves, slave owners, and abolitionists, men and women, perceived slavery in distinctive ways and recorded those perceptions in songs and poems, folk tales, autobiographical narratives and novels, speeches and tracts, travel accounts, journals, diaries, and letters. Through an examination of this rich oral and written literature, such themes as the character of slave culture, the relations between slaves and masters, the oppression of women under slavery, and the connection between abolitionism and feminism are explored. Lectures provide historical background and a context in which to read the selections.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2142. The Black Male Experience. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will review and analyze experiences of African American men from a variety of perspectives. This will allow students to look at contemporary African American male and examine factors that have contributed to his present condition including: examination of the black male within the present social system, their role in ghetto and street culture, the status and role performances of black fathers and the historical and contemporary myths about the physiology and biology of African American males.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2151. History of Blacks in Cinema. 3 Credit Hours.
An overview of the history of Black Cinema and the portrayals of persons of African descent in cinema from the early 1900s to the present, including developments from Hollywood, independent filmmakers, and experimental foreign films. Treats in depth the story of race movies and contemporary trends such as the independent Black film movement in the African Diaspora and the United States.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2168. African Americans in Sports. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines the issues surrounding African Americans in the world of sports. The course will highlight African American pioneers in sports and the historical context of their struggle, study the events which helped break racial barriers in sports, examine the socio-cultural influence of the African American Athletes, study African American culture and the role and significance of sports in it, and observe current African American Athletes. The course will also study the contribution of sports in facilitating change in the larger racial and social context of African Americans in American Society.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2175. Hip Hop and Black Culture. 3 Credit Hours.
Hip Hop and Black Culture will lead its students into an in-depth analysis of hip-hop culture, hip-hop music, other cultural expressions that contributed to the culture's development and evolution, as well as the relevance of hip-hop's role as the preeminent modern black aesthetic. The primary focus of the course is to provide a comprehensive foundation for understanding the relevance of hip-hop's role in the modern African-American experience, its representation and misrepresentation of African Americans as well as its role as a vehicle of expression that articulates cultural norms translated into socially acceptable sounds.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2200. Topics in African-American Studies. 3 Credit Hours.
Arranged each semester. Please consult with the instructor and/or check the course schedule for specific topic.
Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

AAS 2201. African Civilization. 3 Credit Hours.
A survey of Africa's contributions to world history and civilization from 5000 B.C. to 1800 A.D. An intensive analysis of the major issues in African civilization.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2205. Black Politics in America. 3 Credit Hours.
An introduction to the fundamental concepts and principles of American government and politics, with a focus on the ways in which American political institutions have influenced and have been influenced by Black Americans' quest for political self-determination.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2208. Black Folklore: African and African-American. 3 Credit Hours.
An overview of the folk literature and oratory of African peoples on the African continent and in the Americas. Covers tales, stories, myths, and proverbs, and their function in society. Brer Rabbit, Ananse, the Flying African, High John de Conquerer, John Henry, Shine, and many other characters are examined.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
AAS 2211. African Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is intended to provide students with the necessary historical background to understand and analyze socio-political issues in African society. Topics to be covered will include: the pre-colonial political systems, causes and effects of enslavement and colonialism, liberation movements, and independence.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2218. Psychology of the African American Experience. 3 Credit Hours.
Examines contemporary perspectives and research on the African experience in America and the relationship of that experience to social and psychological functioning among African Americans. The course also examines the origins of some of the traditional psychological theories about persons of African descent, and examines emerging theories shaped by new perspectives.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2248. Public Policy and the Black Community. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines the various dimensions of public policies and their impacts on the Black community in the United States. Using historical, economic, political, sociological, and psychological analytic lenses, students will analyze policy within a systems framework, being sure to engage the domains of economics, education, criminal justice, housing and health care. Students will engage/interact with Philadelphia participants in the policy-making process, and will debate key policy issues highlighted during this course.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2251. Mass Media and the Black Community. 3 Credit Hours.
An examination of the role mass media plays in the African American community. Ownership, access, and image making are a few of the topics discussed. The aim is to develop an appreciation and awareness of the role media play in shaping opinions.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2255. Introduction to Research Methods. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduction to basic methods of research and methodological issues in African American Studies. This course provides an overview of social research methods, addresses sociocultural issues in research conceptualization, operationalization and design, and introduces basic analytic concepts and operations. Students work in small groups to design an original, IRB-compliant multi-method study to address an issue that local communities deem important to their quality of life. NOTE: Offered during Fall semester only. Students should complete AAS 4096 in the Spring immediately after this course.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits
Pre-requisites:
AAS 1296|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

AAS 2405. Introduction to Afro-Jewish Studies. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will introduce students to the study of African and African-Diaspora Jews. Students will examine and critically assess the various past and present methods used to study Africana Jewish communities. The research and readings will provide students with a basic introduction to Afro-Jewish history, culture and religion. It will also analyze the effects of race and racism on the construction of Afro-Jewish identities.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 2934. Honors Literature of American Slavery. 3 Credit Hours.
Slaves, slave owners, and abolitionists, men and women, perceived slavery in distinctive ways and recorded those perceptions in songs and poems, folk tales, autobiographical narratives and novels, speeches and tracts, travel accounts, journals, diaries, and letters. Through an examination of this rich oral and written literature, themes such as the character of slave culture, the relations between slaves and masters, the oppression of women under slavery, and the connection betweenabolitionism and feminism are explored. Lectures provide historical background and a context in which to read the selections. NOTE: This course can be used to satisfy the university Core Studies in Race (RS) requirement. Although it may be usable towards graduation as a major requirement or university elective, it cannot be used to satisfy any of the university GenEd requirements. See your advisor for further information.
Cohort Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Cohorts: SCHONORS, UHONORS, UHONORSTR
Course Attributes: HO, RS
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 3176. Contemporary Black Poets. 3 Credit Hours.
An examination of the major works of contemporary poets of African descent. Students are introduced to the writings of poets such as Sonia Sanchez, Amiri Baraka, Rita Dove, Askia Toure, Audre Lorde, June Jordan, Quincy Troupe, Michael Harper, Atukwei Okai, Haki Madhubuti, Gwendolyn Brooks, Mari Evans and other selected African American poets.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 3205. The Black Woman. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will review and analyze experience and representation of African American women from a variety of feminist, psychological, and African-centered perspectives. Students will apply theoretical and research findings from selected scholarly and anecdotal sources to understanding the unique challenges of African-American women's treatment and methods of coping, resistance, and survival in legal, educational and social systems steeped in racism, sexism, homophobia and patriarchy. Class assignments (e.g., reaction, papers, group project,) will help students develop the skills necessary to communicate effectively and professionally, in both oral and written form, about these important issues.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
AAS 3215. Languages and Cultures of West Africa. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is an introduction to the indigenous languages and cultures of West African peoples. Aspects of their geographical locations, history, social organization, worldview, values, customs, oral traditions, and communities will be discussed. A review of the impact of major historical events on these languages, and on their speakers' life styles, identity, and customs will be undertaken. The role of these languages in the development of African and African-Caribbean languages and cultures will also be examined. In the latter part of the course, students will be introduced to the basic structure of these languages, and will be taught how to read, write, and speak some phrases in each language. The course will focus on location, worldview, history and culture as contexts for the three major languages chosen from Akan, Bamanankan (Bambara/Mande/Mandinka/Mandingo), Ewe, Fulufude (Fulani), Ga, Hausa, Wolof, and Yoruba. This is not a languages course per se, but a course about the relationship between culture, customs, and language.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits
Pre-requisites:
AAS 2201|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

AAS 3257. Black Social and Political Thought. 3 Credit Hours.
The thoughts and philosophies of Black leaders as they relate to the struggle of Black people for liberation. Covers individuals such as Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, Huey P. Newton, Eila Baker, Angela Davis, Ida B. Wells, Fannie Lou Hamer, Malcolm X, Marcus Garvey, Nkrumah, Toure, Shirley Chisomol, A. Philip Randolph and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other Black thinkers.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 3266. Critical Readings in African American History. 3 Credit Hours.
Using primary source material and with special attention to the United States, students will examine the African experience in the Americas from the 14th century to the present. Movements, periods, events and people that represent major social, economic and political African American thought will be surveyed.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 3271. History of Pan African Thought. 3 Credit Hours.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 3296. The Black Family. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines historical and contemporary issues relevant to the functioning of African American families. Students write critiques of selected text chapters and work in small groups to interview local community members; use interview and other research sources to develop and implement a community action plan (CAP) for improving some aspect of family life.
Course Attributes: WI
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 4082. Independent Study. 3 Credit Hours.
Field research in an African American Studies issue. Each student identifies a task in a problem area and develops a research project around it. Student must first find a faculty member to supervise the project and must submit written details about the project to the department chair for approval in advance of registration for the course.
Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

AAS 4091. Junior/Senior Directed Research. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
In-depth study of a specific topic central to the discipline of African American Studies for two consecutive semesters. Culminates in a concise, well-documented senior essay paper.
Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

AAS 4096. Senior Seminar. 3 Credit Hours.
A seminar-style course in which seniors demonstrate, through their participation in a variety of activities, their mastery of knowledge bases, skills and concepts central to the discipline and critical to post-baccalaureate opportunity. Students also work in small groups to conduct, analyze, write and publicly present the social research studies they designed in AAS 2255: Introduction to Research Methods and each student submits a Senior Portfolio that contains documents and demonstrates skills commonly expected/demanded of new college graduates. NOTE: Capstone course for majors. Offered in Spring only.
Field of Study Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Fields of study: African American Studies
Class Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Classes: Senior 90 to 119 Credits, Senior/Fifth Year 120+ Credits
Course Attributes: WI
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits
Pre-requisites:
AAS 2255|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

AAS 4115. Black Aesthetics. 3 Credit Hours.
A comparative exploration of the nature, form, themes, and techniques of major Black women writers from Africa, the U.S., and the Caribbean.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 4146. Women Writers in Black Literature. 3 Credit Hours.
A comparative exploration of the nature, form, themes, and techniques of major Black women writers from Africa, the U.S., and the Caribbean.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
AAS 4161. Studies in African-American Literature. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is an examination of African American literary forms with certain emphasis on poetry, drama, fiction, and autobiography. Texts from earlier decades and contemporary movements are included. The aim is to develop an understanding and appreciation of African American literary experience. Phillis Wheatley, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, Richard Wright, Amiri Baraka, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, Chester Himes, James Baldwin, Henry Dumas, Paul Laurence Dunbar, John Killens, Wallace Thurman, Ann Petry, Alice Walker, Bebe Moore Campbell, and Nikki Giovanni are among writers whose works are studied.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 4221. The Black Child: Development and Socialization. 3 Credit Hours.
A study of the development and socialization of the African American child. Discussion of family, peer group relationships, formal and informal education, and early racial consciousness.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 4248. Dimensions of Racism. 3 Credit Hours.
The course will explore interracial interactions from an African centered conceptual framework. It will examine various theoretical approaches to racial prejudice and will analyze the prejudiced personality. The course will examine the historical growth of racism and racist thought as well as seek common explanations for and effects of racism on African Americans. NOTE: This course can be used to satisfy the university Core Studies in Race (RS) requirement. Although it may be usable towards graduation as a major requirement or university elective, it cannot be used to satisfy any of the university GenEd requirements. See your advisor for further information.

Course Attributes: RS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

AAS 4389. Seminar in Community Service. 3 Credit Hours.
Seminar in Community Service allows African American Studies majors to acquire hands-on experience in, and provide unpaid on-site services to, a community-based agency, organization, or program selected and pre-screened by the instructor. The selected community site must provide a significant social service to the larger community. Students will spend Phase I of the course in class reading and discussing empirical and theory-based literature relevant to the services provided by the instructor-selected site. Students will spend Phase II in service to the agency, and will return to the classroom in Phase III to deliver the final report—an empirically-based research report analyzing agency goals and processes, and where appropriate, making evidence-based suggestions for improving agency policy as it affects successful delivery of services.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites:
(AAS 2248|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
AND AAS 2255|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently).