

# Africana and American Indian Studies

College of Social Sciences

## Africana and American Indian Studies Program

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**B.A. in African American Studies**

**B.A. Major in African American Studies**

**Minor in Africana Studies**

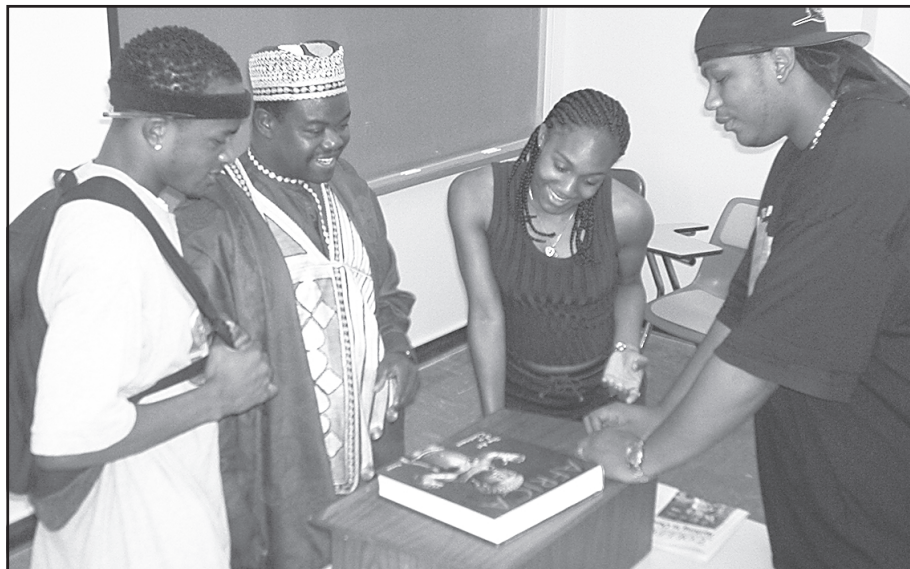
**Minor in American Indian Studies**

**Minor in Ethnic Studies**

## Africana and American Indian Studies

The Africana and American Indian Studies program (AAIS) at California State University, Fresno offers an interdisciplinary curriculum that illuminates the connectedness of the human experience and provides culturally-appropriate knowledge and skills. This helps students understand the experiences of African peoples all over the world, American Indians in North America, and other ethnic groups in the United States. The program also involves its faculty and students in research, experiential learning, career counseling, computer technology, curriculum development, conference participation, and extended day, evening, and weekend courses.

The program offers interdisciplinary courses leading to the Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies as well as minors in Africana Studies, American Indian Studies, and Ethnic Studies. Students with a B.A. in African American Studies can pursue a master's or doctoral degree in the humanities, social sciences, or health sciences. Students can also seek other professional degrees in such areas as business, human resources, teacher education, and law. The program teaches appreciation for the heritage of African peoples and American Indians and their contributions to the shaping of the fabric of American life and history.



## Faculty Specialties

The AAIS program is made up of faculty with backgrounds and expertise in African and African American Studies, business, English, history, education, sociology, and American Indian affairs. Professors have published in prestigious national and international peer reviewed academic journals and are recipients of numerous awards for teaching, research, and community service.

## Africana Studies

*Africana Studies* emphasizes the study of the history and culture of African Americans as they relate to the experiences of Africans on the continent and other peoples of African descent in the Diaspora. The major in African American Studies provides an epistemological basis for understanding issues that pertain to the experiences of African peoples and other minority ethnic groups in the American society. The curriculum promotes an awareness of the African heritage of African Americans and others throughout the Americas. Opportunities are provided for students to engage in study abroad and service-learning in Africa and the Caribbean to stimulate intellectual interest in, and linkage to, contemporary Africa and the African Diaspora while enhancing global understanding of the varied social realities of the human experience.

**Africana Business and Cultural Center (ABCC)** is an ancillary unit housed within the Africana Studies program to promote intercultural, educational, and business opportunities through the exchange of students, faculty, entrepreneurs, and other profession-

als. ABCC is a resource for curriculum development, research, cultural enrichment, and training. It enhances economic growth in the San Joaquin Valley and the Africana world.

## American Indian Studies

*American Indian Studies* is a discipline within the AAIS program that focuses on the indigenous cultures of ancient, historical, and contemporary America. American Indian cultures include American Indians and Arctic Native people as well as natives of Northern Mexico. The courses offer a distinctively American perspective that is crucial to an understanding of the historical and social processes that have led to the development of contemporary American society. This program is intended to strengthen the position of American Indian students and communities in this region as well as introduce native cultures to all students. Courses are interdisciplinary and cover the social sciences and the humanities, as well as specialized offerings in such fields as law and education.

## Student Life & Community Events

The offices of the AAIS program serve as a resource and information center for several African American and American Indian student organizations and the community at large.

## Faculty

Yaw Oheneba-Sakyi, *Coordinator*

Delores J. Huff

Robert S. Mikell

Meta Schettler

Lily B. Small, *Emerita*

**Bachelor of Arts  
Degree Requirements**

The African American Studies major offers courses in the social sciences, humanities, and the arts as they relate to the experiences of peoples of African descent. The major provides an epistemological basis for the understanding of the social, political, and cultural reality of Africans, African Americans, and other African peoples in the Diaspora.

**Double B.A. Major in African American Studies**

A double B.A. major in African American Studies consists of 33 units of AAIS courses, 15 of which must be upper division. However, up to 9 units (6 upper-division units) may be double counted. Students are strongly encouraged to see an Africana and American Indian Studies academic adviser for assistance in planning the major.

	<i>Units</i>
<b>Major requirements</b> .....	<b>33</b>
Lower-division requirements .....	(12)
AAIS 1, 10, 27 or 36; SOC 25 or PLSI 90	
Upper-division requirements .....	(15)
AAIS 137, 104W, 144, 150 or 164, 189 (3 units)	
Approved Africana and American Indian electives .....	(6)
<i>Consult your academic adviser for approval.</i>	
<b>General Education</b> .....	<b>51</b>
<b>Electives and remaining degree requirements</b> .....	<b>36*</b>
(See <i>Degree Requirements</i> ); it is recommended that units in this area be utilized to complete a second major or minor.	
<b>Total units</b> .....	<b>120</b>

\* This total indicates that AAIS 1 in G.E. Breadth D3 also may be applied to the African American studies major.

**Advising Note**

No General Education Integration or Multicultural/International course offered by the Africana and American Indian Studies Program may be used to satisfy the General Education requirements for African American Studies majors.

**Africana Studies Minor**

	<i>Units</i>
AAIS 1 and 189 .....	<b>6</b>
Approved Africana Studies career-oriented courses (upper division) .....	<b>9</b>
Approved Africana Studies electives .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>21</b>

For students interested in the general dimensions of the Africana experience, the following courses are recommended:

AAIS 10, 27, 36, 38, 135, 137, 140, 145, 150, 164

For students interested in the following careers, the following courses are recommended:

Education: AAIS 38, 42, 124, 130T, 135  
 Performing Arts: AAIS 21, 24, 27, 35, 121, 130T, 144, 189

Business: AAIS 38, 130T, 135, 136, 189, 190

Preprofessional (nursing, criminology, prelaw, etc.): AAIS 56, 130T, 135, 142, 144, 146, 189, 190

Writing: AAIS 25, 104W, 127, 190  
 Social Sciences: AAIS 27, 38, 135, 140, 178, 189

**American Indian Studies Minor**

The American Indian Studies Minor is designed to foster culturally appropriate knowledge and skills for those who may work for federal and/or state agencies having American Indian Constituents, and/or tribes, tribal health centers, tribal organizations, urban Indian organizations, or national Indian organizations.

	<i>Units</i>
AAIS 5, 50, 60T (choose one) .....	<b>3</b>
AAIS 100, 101, 103, 160, 170 .....	<b>12</b>
(choose four)	
Electives (choose two) .....	<b>6</b>
EHD 109; ANTH 105W, 130; ART 170	
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>21</b>

It is anticipated that AAIS 100 may be used for the American Indian Studies Minor and to satisfy General Education requirements.

**Ethnic Studies Minor**

The Minor in Ethnic Studies consists of 21 units, of which 9 must be upper-division.

	<i>Units</i>
AAIS 1 and 189 .....	<b>6</b>
Approved electives in one of the areas listed .....	<b>9</b>
(Asian American Studies, Africana Studies, Chicano and Latin American Studies, and American Indian Studies)	
Approved Asian American Studies, Africana Studies, Chicano and Latin American Studies, and American Indian Studies electives from one of the areas not used above .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>21</b>

A student intending to pursue the Minor in Ethnic Studies should see the coordinator for assignment to a faculty adviser who assists the student in planning his or her program.

**Asian American Studies Minor**

(See *Asian American Studies in Courses and Programs* section, page 434.)

*Note:* The minors also require a 2.0 GPA and 6 upper-division units in residence.

**COURSES**

***Africana and American Indian Studies (AAIS)***

**AAIS 1. Ethnic Experience (3)**  
 Prerequisite: G.E. Foundation A2. Examines the experiences of various ethnic minorities in the U.S., addresses the issue of race as it affects ethnic formation, analyzes public policy and ethnic experience, discusses the comparable ideologies of race and gender, and evaluates culture and ethnic experience. G.E. Breadth D3. (Formerly ETHS 1)

**AAIS 2. Ethnic Expression (3)**  
 Comparative study of the characteristic ways in which ethnic minorities in the United States think and feel about themselves and the world, as reflected in literature, art, and music. (Formerly ETHS 2)

**AAIS 5. American Indian History (3)**  
 An interpretive survey of American Indian history from the native point of view including accounts of American Indian origin and the arrival of immigrants from Asia, Africa, and Europe. (Formerly AIS 5)

**AAIS 9T. Topics in American Indian Studies (1-3; max total 9 if no area repeated)**  
 Selected topics at an introductory level in American Indian Studies. (Formerly AIS 9T)

## Africana and American Indian Studies

### AAIS 10. Introduction to Africana Studies (3)

A survey course designed to introduce students to the vast array of scholarship defining the African American experiences as they relate to the experiences of Africans on the continent and other peoples of African descent in the Diaspora. (Formerly AFAM 10)

### AAIS 20. Critical Thinking about Race (3)

Uses critical thinking skills to discuss, analyze, and critique centuries-old ideas on race/ethnicity and the social policies that were enacted to promote prejudice and discrimination against minorities. Special focus on peoples of African descent and American Indians.

### AAIS 21 and 121. Gospel Choir (1; max total 8)

(Same as MUSIC 102GC.) Performance of a variety of inspirational songs reflecting the African American cultural experience. Participation through rehearsals, activities, programs, and field trips. (Formerly AFAM 21 and 121)

### AAIS 24. African American Music (3)

The origin and evolution of African American music from the perspective of social and cultural history. Emphasis on slave songs, gospel, jazz, rhythm and blues, and soul music. (Formerly AFAM 24)

### AAIS 25. African American Literature (3)

Major authors, their works, themes, and movements in African American literature in America from colonial times to the present. (Formerly AFAM 25)

### AAIS 27. Africana Cultures and Images (3)

Prerequisite: G.E. Foundation A2. Introduction to the historical and contemporary experiences of African Americans and other peoples of African descent. Examines historical and social arrangements implicated in the experiences and the images these arrangements construct both in the United States and around the world. G.E. Breadth D3. (Formerly AFAM 27)

### AAIS 35. Art and Music of Africa (3)

Comprehensive study of African artistry and music. (Formerly AFAM 35)

### AAIS 36. Contemporary African Societies (3)

Analysis of the cultural and political structure of African societies; understanding the impact of colonialism in Africa; realizing the relationship of African Americans to Africa. (Formerly AFAM 36)

### AAIS 38. African American Sociology (3)

Basic principles sociology from the perspective of the African American experience. (Formerly AFAM 38)

### AAIS 42. Ethnic Psychology (3)

Introduction to psychology as an empirical science; biological and social basis of behavior; evaluation of concepts or general psychology and personality theories; emphasis on perception, learning, motivation, and intelligence; applicability to behavioral patterns of African Americans. (Formerly AFAM 42)

### AAIS 50. Contemporary Life of the American Indian (3)

Current problems of American Indians and Arctic Natives resulting from culture conflict, acculturation, minority status, and governmental policy. (Formerly AIS 50)

### AAIS 55T. Topics in African American Studies (1-3; max total 9)

Selected topics at the introductory level in African American Studies. (Formerly AFAM 50T)

### AAIS 56. The African American Family (3)

Deals with the origin, development, and adaptations the African American family has created to sustain itself as a viable institution. Emphasis is on problems encountered and created by the American society and how the African American family handles these adversities. (Formerly AFAM 56)

### AAIS 60. Introduction to African American Theatre (3)

Study and practice in performance of African American drama and oral interpretation projects. Class will include poetry reading; dance performances; dramatic interpretations; comedic sketches. Previous experience not required. (Formerly AFAM 60)

### AAIS 65T. Topics in Indian Education (3; max total 9)

Foundations and history of Indian education, methods of teaching Indian children, curriculum and practices for Indian education, guidance for the Indian student, problems of teachers of Indian children, education of Indian adults. (Formerly AIS 60T)

### AAIS 100. American Indian Religion (3)

American Indian religious systems, including basic concepts of religion and the sacred, ceremonial life, medicine, functions of religious institutions and practices, and

contrast/conflict with non-Native religious systems. (Formerly AIS 100)

### AAIS 101. American Indian Law (3)

Concepts of laws on Indian reservations, termination, litigation and complaints, strengthening tribal governments. Law related to Indian land and resources. (Formerly AIS 101)

### AAIS 102A. African Dance (3)

Focuses on the history of African dance in the United States, uses of dance among Africans/African Americans. Activities include dance techniques; imagery/visualization, dance exercises; simple constructive rest techniques; African dance step techniques preparatory for advance class. (2 lecture, 2 activity hours) (Formerly AFAM 100A)

### AAIS 102B. African Dance (3)

Prerequisite: AAIS 100A or permission of instructor. Teaches advance space orientation, advance imagery/visualization techniques; advance constructive rest; central/alignment; dance philosophy of Laban; choreography; specific African dances and dance performances. (6 lab hours) (Formerly AFAM 100B)

### AAIS 103. Indians of California (3)

Prerequisites: G.E. Foundation and Breadth Area D. Survey course on the ancient cultures of California, historical development of California Indian cultures according to regional resources, conflict between the California Indian people and various colonial forces, arts and culture of California Indian people, and contemporary issues of California Indians. G.E. Integration ID. (Formerly AIS 103)

### AAIS 104W. Writing about American Inequality (3)

Prerequisite: satisfactory completion (C or better) of the ENGL 1 graduation requirement. Analysis of poverty, social class, and inequality in America. Students receive feedback in preparing papers on poverty and inequality. Emphasis on research techniques, evaluation and documentation of evidence, and style and mechanics of writing. Meets the upper-division writing skills requirement for graduation. (Formerly ETHE 104W)

### AAIS 124. The African American Experience in Children's Literature (3)

A survey of selected material: Children's books, tapes, cassettes; dealing with the African American experience in children's literature. (Formerly AFAM 124)

**AAIS 129. African American Literary Classics (3)**

Discussion and written analyses of significant poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction by African American writers representing a variety of views and perspectives. Historical and social contexts of literary works. (Formerly AFAM 129)

**AAIS 130T. Topics in Ethnic Studies (1-3; max total 6)**

In-depth research and writing on the past and contemporary situation of America's major ethnic minorities. (Formerly ETHS 130T)

**AAIS 135. The African American Community (3)**

Analysis of the various lifestyles and cultural patterns of African American communities. Emphasis on unique cultural features of the family, religion, foods, music, art, and folkways. (Formerly AFAM 135)

**AAIS 136. Africana Business Development (3)**

Introduction to African American entrepreneurship with special emphasis on the development of business ventures and partnerships in Africa and the Caribbean. Analysis of historical, political, economic, and cultural forces in developing business opportunities. (Formerly AFAM 136)

**AAIS 137. African American Women (3)**  
(Same as WS 137.) An overview of the accomplishments of African American women in the United States; their contributions to American culture; African influence; African American women as defined by a dominant society vs. legitimate definition designed to encourage a positive self-concept. (Formerly AFAM 137)

**AAIS 140. The African American Church (3)**

History of the formation and development of African American religious institutions (Christianity, Islam, Judaism) in the African American community; their effect on the African American personality. (Formerly AFAM 140)

**AAIS 144. Race Relations (3)**

Critical examination of contemporary race relations issues such as affirmative action, hate crimes, interracial relationships, religion, criminal justice system, media images/stereotyping, and more. Analysis of theoretical frameworks and their application to racial ethnic groups. (Formerly AFAM 144)

**AAIS 145. Life and Times of Martin Luther King Jr. (3)**

Explores Dr. King's leadership in the non-violent movement for racial equality and human dignity, from the Montgomery Bus Boycott to King's assassination (1955-68). Emphasis on philosophy, ideology. Format: lectures, films, slides, recorded speeches, and discussion. (Formerly AFAM 145)

**AAIS 146. Law and the Minority Community (3)**

Critical analysis of the foundation and changing structure of law and legal institutions as perceived by minority communities, with emphasis on equal employment and education, criminal justice, and political power. (Formerly AFAM 146)

**AAIS 148. Issues in the African American Community (3)**

Prerequisite: AAIS 10 or permission of instructor. In-depth, comprehensive, critical analysis of the current social and economic structure of the African American community. Examination of the effects of institutional racism on current social policy. (Formerly AFAM 148)

**AAIS 150. South Africa (3)**

Prerequisites: G.E. Foundation and Breadth Area D. An introductory analysis of the social, racial, political, and economic problems of people of South Africa, both past and present. G.E. Multicultural/International MI. (Formerly AFAM 150)

**AAIS 160. The Politics of Indian Education (3)**

This seminar examines the interaction of politics, culture, and education, using case studies of federal financing of Indian education in the mission, Bureau of Indian Affairs, tribal, and public school systems. (Formerly AIS 160)

**AAIS 164. African Cultural Perspectives (3)**

Prerequisites: G.E. Foundation and Breadth Area D. Explores the realities of the African cultural experiences through readings and films by Africans. The goal is to study the historical, political, economic, religious, and sociocultural conditions of the continent in the precolonial, colonial, and postcolonial periods. G.E. Multicultural/International MI.

**AAIS 165. African American Theatre Styles (3; max total 6)**  
(See DRAMA 187.) (Formerly AFAM 165)

**AAIS 170. Experience in American Indian Community (3; max total 6)**  
Offers students supervised field experience working for a tribe, tribal/Indian organization, tribal school or Indian education program, public agency, or the university's Indian organizations. (Formerly AIS 170)

**AAIS 178. History of African Americans (3)**  
(Same as HIST 178.) Evolution of African American society from 1619 to the present; emphasis on the social, political, and economic aspects as they relate to cultural values, theories in the development and environment that contribute to the African American way of life. (Formerly AFAM 178)

**AAIS 189. Fieldwork in Community Relations (3; max total 6)**  
Supervised field observation, participation, and documentation in the operation of minority communities. (Formerly ETHS 189)

**AAIS 190. Independent Study (1-3; max total 6)**  
*See Academic Placement — Independent Study.* Approved for *RP* grading. (Formerly AFAM 190, AIS 190)

**AAIS 191. History of Allensworth (1)**  
An examination of the historical development of the African American town of Allensworth from its status as a town to its existence as a state historic park. Students will be exposed to various academic disciplines through lectures and a field trip to the park. (Formerly AFAM 191)