African Studies

College of Arts and Sciences
Bloomington

Departmental E-mail afrist@indiana.edu
Departmental URL www.indiana.edu/~afrist

Graduate Faculty
(An asterisk [*] denotes membership in the University Graduate School faculty with the endorsement to direct doctoral dissertations.)

Chancellor’s Professor Emeritus
Robert Arnove* (Education)

Professors
Osita Afoaku (Clinical Professor of Public and Environmental Affairs), Salih Altoma* (Emeritus, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures), Akwasi B. Assensoh* (African American and African Diaspora Studies), Randall Baker* (Public and Environmental Affairs), Robert Botne* (Linguistics), George E. Brooks Jr.* (Emeritus, History), Mellonee Burnim* (Folklore and Ethnomusicology), Kevin Brown (Law), Trevor Brown* (Emeritus, Journalism), Claude Clegg* (History), Hasan El-Shamy* (Folklore, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures), Paula Girshick* (Anthropology), Mary Goetze* (Emeritus, Music), Kevin Hunt* (Anthropology), Eileen Julien* (African American and African Diaspora Studies, French and Italian, Comparative Literature), Phylis Martin* (Emerita, Ruth N. Halls Professor, History), Heitor Martins* (Emeritus, Spanish and Portuguese), Portia Maultsby* (Folklore and Ethnomusicology), Patrick McNaughton* (Fine Arts), Emilio Moran* (Rudy Professor, Anthropology), Samuel Gyasi Obeng* (Linguistics), Christine Ogan* (Journalism), Patrick O’Meara* (Political Science, Public and Environmental Affairs), Robert F. Port* (Computer Science, Linguistics), Jack D. Rollins (Honors College, English), Iris Rosa (African American and African Diaspora Studies), Darlene Saddlier* (Spanish and Portuguese), Kathy Schick* (Anthropology), Jeanne Sept* (Anthropology), Suzanne Stetkevych* (Near Eastern Languages and Cultures), Beverly Stoeltje* (Anthropology, Communication and Culture), Ruth Stone* (Folklore), David Thelen* (Emeritus, History), Nicholas Toth* (Anthropology), William Wiggins Jr.* (Emeritus, African American and African Diaspora Studies, Folklore), Richard Wilk* (Anthropology)

Associate Professors
Bonnie Brownlee (Journalism), Gracia Clark* (Anthropology), Maron Frank-Wilson (Adjunct Associate Professor of English), Michael Gasser* (Computer Science), Jane Goodman (Communications and Culture), Mary E. Grabe* (Telecommunications), Matthew Guterl (African American and African Diaspora Studies), John H. Hanson* (History), John W. Johnson* (Emeritus, Folklore), Audrey McCluskey (African American and African Diaspora Studies), Murray McGibbon (Theatre and Drama), Patrick Munson* (Emeritus, Anthropology), Martha Nyikos* (Education), Alwiya Omar (Clinical Associate Professor of African Studies, Linguistics), Michael Reece* (Applied Health Science), Daniel Reed* (Folklore and Ethnomusicology), Richard Stryker* (Emeritus, Political Science), Margaret Sutton* (Education)

Assistant Professors
Akinwumi Adesokan (Comparative Literature), Heather Akou (Apparel Merchandising), Beth Buggenhagen (Anthropology), Maria Grosz-Ngaté (Adjunct Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Lecturer in African Studies), Lauren Morris MacLean* (Political Science), Marissa Moorman* (History), Cecilia Obeng (Applied Health Science), Dorothea Schulz (Religious Studies)

Adjunct Assistant Professor
Diane Pelrine (Art History)

Academic Advising
Woodburn Hall 221, (812) 855-8284

Program Information
The field of African Studies at Indiana University focuses primarily on Africa south of the Sahara. Attention is given, however, to developments and events in North Africa that have significance for other areas of the continent. The program is designed to give students a broad knowledge of the art, ethnography, folklore, history, economic development, languages, literature, music, and politics of this region. Care is also taken to prepare graduate students who will specialize in this region as teachers, researchers, foreign service personnel, museum professionals, journalists, or business professionals.

M.A. in African Studies
The African Studies master’s degree program is intended for students who wish to: (1) obtain a graduate degree in African
Studies in order to pursue careers in government, international relations (e.g. the Diplomatic Corps), international development, international business, or a professional field; (2) continue graduate work in a discipline; or (3) combine an M.A. degree in African Studies with another master’s degree in the arts, social and other sciences, or in one of the professional schools.

The program normally takes two years to complete. It gives students the flexibility to tailor course work to their needs and interests while requiring them to develop competence on a particular topic or region as well as in research methods and at least intermediate proficiency in an African language.

Admissions Requirements
Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution of higher education with evidence of superior ability, completion of the graduate record exam, a statement of interest, and a writing sample.

Course Requirements
Thirty credit hours of course work distributed as follows:
- AFRI-A731 African Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Seminar (3 cr.)
- AFRI-A732 Bibliography of Sub-Saharan Africa (3 cr.)
- AFRI-A650 Interdisciplinary Research Methods (3 cr.)
- AFRI-A651 Independent Research/Directed Readings (up to 6 cr.)
- Elective courses organized around a topical or regional concentration to complete a total of 30 credits.

Elective courses are to be selected from the range of cross-listed African Studies offerings in the College of Arts and Sciences and several professional schools, with the approval of the student’s major advisor. Electives may include three additional credits of AFRI-A731 since the topic for the African Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Seminar changes every semester and is offered by different faculty members on a rotating basis.

Language Requirement
At least four semesters of an African language. Students may have the language requirement waived by demonstrating equivalent competence through an examination completed under supervision of the African Languages Coordinator. Up to three credits for the study of an African language beyond the second year level may count toward the electives.

M.A. Committee and Thesis
Students are required to constitute a committee composed of a disciplinary advisor and two additional members with relevant regional or topical expertise, approved by the director of the African Studies Program. Committee members must be selected from African Studies affiliate faculty with professional experience on the African continent. The purpose of the committee is to provide consultation to the student as needed and to read/comment on the master’s thesis. There is no M.A. examination option.

The M.A. thesis should be an in-depth treatment of the chosen topic, interdisciplinary in nature and 70 to 100 double-spaced pages in length. It may be an expanded seminar paper or an entirely new project based on library, archival, field, or museum research, and should make use of relevant sources in a language other than English. All three committee members must approve the thesis but may agree to waive an oral defense.

Dual M.A./M.L.S. in African Studies and Library Science

The College of Arts and Sciences African Studies Program and the School of Library and Information Science jointly offer a three-year program that qualifies students for a dual master’s degree (M.A./M.L.S.). The program responds to the growing need for librarians with Africa-specific knowledge and research experience in the humanities and social sciences. The dual M.A./M.L.S. program requires completion of a minimum of 56 credit hours of graduate coursework and the two degrees must be awarded simultaneously. Students will be assigned a mentor/advisor from each unit. The student’s African Studies M.A. thesis committee should include a representative of the SLIS faculty or other means of including perspectives of both programs.

Admission Requirements
Same as for the College of Arts and Sciences Master of Arts in African Studies degree, except that students must also apply to the master’s program of the School of Library and Information Science and meet its established admissions criteria. Students must be accepted by both units in order to be admitted to the program.

African Studies Core Requirements
A minimum twenty-six hours of coursework distributed as follows:
- AFRI-A731 African Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Seminar (3 cr.)
- AFRI-A732 Bibliography of Sub-Saharan Africa (3 cr.)
- AFRI-A650 Interdisciplinary Research Methods (3 cr.) At least twelve credit hours of elective courses organized around a topical or regional concentration
- AFRI-A651 Independent Research/Directed Readings (up to 6 cr.) toward the M.A. thesis

Elective courses are to be selected from the range of cross-listed African Studies offerings in the College of Arts and Sciences and several professional schools, with the approval of the student’s major advisor. Electives may include three additional credits of AFRI-A731, since the topic for the African Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Seminar changes every semester and is offered by different faculty members on a rotating basis.
Library and Information Science Course Requirements

Thirty credit hour course work consisting of:

1. 15 credits of M.L.S. foundation courses, with S552 Academic Library Management to fulfill the management and leadership skills requirement;
2. 3 credits of either S521 Information in the Humanities or S522 Social Science Information; and
3. 12 credits of elective courses chosen in consultation with the student’s SLIS advisor. An internship related to African Studies is strongly advised.

Language Requirement

Same as for the M.A. in African Studies.

See also: www.slis.indiana.edu/degrees/joint/africa.html

Ph.D. Minor in African Studies

The African Studies program offers the Ph.D. Minor to students in the following fields: anthropology, archaeology, comparative literature, economics, English, education, fine arts, folklore, French, geography, history, instructional systems technology, journalism, law, linguistics, political science, public and environmental affairs, sociology, and Spanish and Portuguese.

Students selecting African studies as a minor should report to the program office (Woodburn Hall 221) as soon as possible after arriving on campus. The program director and staff will assist with orientation concerning courses, faculty, and students.

Course Requirements

Students minoring in African studies must complete AFRI-A732 Bibliography of Sub-Saharan Africa (to be taken, if possible, during the first year) and four other graduate-level courses (normally 3 or 4 credits each) in African studies outside their major field. The courses must be selected from at least two different disciplines and approved by the program director.

Students in the program normally take two years of an African language in addition to their course work for the minor. Such training is virtually requisite for the most important overseas studies grants (e.g., SSRC and Fulbright-Hays awards), in addition to adding an invaluable dimension to the study and understanding of the area of Africa upon which the student focuses.

Students in the program are strongly encouraged to take AFRI-A731 Seminar on Contemporary Africa or attend the lectures of guest speakers. The seminar, which meets Wednesday evenings, is designed as an ongoing interdisciplinary dialogue for program students and faculty and features leading scholars from the United States, Africa, and Europe.

Students with special qualifications or previous course work at leading institutions may, with the approval of their faculty advisor for the African studies minor, request that the director make exceptions to or modifications of the requirements outlined above. At the same time, it should be emphasized that the requirements stated above constitute a minimum level of expectation.

Examination

Although a 3.7 grade point average in African studies courses would normally exempt the student from having to take a written comprehensive examination, the decision in this matter rests with the student’s major-field advisor and the faculty member representing African studies as the minor-field advisor. Certifying that the student has met the minimum requirements rests with a faculty member in the African Studies Program who is not in the student’s major department.

Courses

I701-702 Interdisciplinary Workshop (3 cr.)
A731 Seminar on Contemporary Africa (1-3 cr.)

A732 Bibliography of Sub-Saharan Africa (3 cr.) Introduction to the bibliography of Africa south of the Sahara, covering major reference works and bibliographies; regional, trade, and national bibliographies; government publications, social sciences, humanities, statistics, rare books, manuscripts, and online databases. Compilation of a comprehensive bibliography required.

African American and African Diaspora Studies

A500-A503 Introduction to African and African Diaspora Studies (3-3 cr.)
A558 Africa: Era of Military Dictatorship (3 cr.)
A590 The Politics of Black Migration (3 cr.)

A650 Interdisciplinary Research Methods (3 cr.) Prepares students to conduct scholarly research and social-impact analysis in Africa as well as design and implement project focused on contemporary issues in areas ranging from development and the environment to health and politics. Also provides students with the background for assessing the results of already completed studies.

A651 Independent Research / Directed Readings (1-3 cr.) Individually designed course in preparation for and writing of M.A. thesis. Must be directed by an African Studies faculty affiliate and approved by the student’s disciplinary advisor and the African Studies Program director. May include fieldwork in Africa and/or research in museums, archives, and libraries. May be repeated for up to 6 credit hours.

A689 Independent Project in Black Literature (3 cr.)
A731 Seminar on Contemporary Africa (1-3 cr.)
A732 Bibliography of Sub-Saharan Africa (3 cr.)

Anthropology

A303 Evolution and Prehistory (3 cr.)
B464 Human Paleontology (3 cr.)
B524 Human Paleontology Theory/Methods (3 cr.)
B600 Bioanthropology (3 cr.)
E305 Introduction to Ethnomusicology (3 cr.)
E310 Introduction to the Cultures of Africa (3 cr.)
E311 The Ethnography of Eastern Africa (3 cr.)
E405 Principles of Social Organization (3 cr.)
E420 Economic Anthropology (3 cr.)
E427 Cultural Ecology (3 cr.)
E455 Political Anthropology (3 cr.)
E455 Anthropology of Religion (3 cr.)
E480 Theory of Culture Change (3 cr.)
E510 Problems in African Ethnography and Ethnology (3 cr.)
E520 Problems in Economic Anthropology (3 cr.)
E600 Seminar in Cultural and Social Anthropology (3 cr.)
E606 Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology (3 cr.)
E617 African Women (3 cr.)
E620 Seminar in Cultural Ecology (3 cr.)
E650 African Systems of Thought (1-3 cr.)
E660 Arts in Anthropology (3 cr.)
E661-E662 Seminar in Ethnomusicology I-II (3-3 cr.)
E700 Seminar in Prehistoric Anthropology (3 cr.)
E711 Cultural Aspects of Dress (3 cr.)
E712 Comparative Literature Studies: Contemporary Africa (3 cr.)
E713 Topics in Literary Genres, Modes, and Forms
E714 Performance Studies (3 cr.)
E715 Folklore, Culture, and Society (3 cr.)
E716 Problems in African Ethnography and Ethnology (3 cr.)
E717 Problems in Economic Anthropology (3 cr.)
E718 Problems in Social Anthropology (3 cr.)
E719 Problems in Cultural Ecology (3 cr.)
E720 African Women (3 cr.)
E721 Seminar in Cultural Ecology (3 cr.)
E722 African Systems of Thought (1-3 cr.)
E723 Arts in Anthropology (3 cr.)
E724-E725 Seminar in Ethnomusicology I-II (3-3 cr.)
E726 Black Artists in Paris (3 cr.)
E727 Literature of Africa in Portuguese (3 cr.)
E728 Folklore Seminar (3 cr.)
E729 Folklore Colloquium (3 cr.)
E730 Beginning International Newsgathering Systems (3 cr.)
E731 International Communication (3 cr.)
E732 Communication and National Development (3 cr.)
E733 Problems in African Art (4 cr.)
E734 Art of Sub-Saharan Africa (4 cr.)
E735 Art of Eastern and Southern Africa (3 cr.)
E736 Art of Central Africa (3 cr.)
E737 Policy Assessment and Evaluation (3 cr.)
E738 Planning Educational Media Systems: National and International (3 cr.)
F750 Performance Studies (3 cr.)
F755 Folklore, Culture, and Society (3 cr.)

Geography
G604 Seminar in Environmental Geography (3 cr.)

History
E531 African History from Ancient Times to Empires and City States (3 cr.)
E532 African History from Colonial Rule to Independence (3 cr.)
E533 Conflict in Central and Southern Africa (3 cr.)
E534 History of Western Africa (3 cr.)
E536 History of East Africa (3 cr.)
H695 Colloquium in African History (4 cr.)
H795 Seminar in African History (4 cr.)

Journalism
J414 International Newsgathering Systems (3 cr.)
J514 International Communication (3 cr.)
J614 Communication and National Development (3 cr.)

Linguistics
L502 Language in Africa (3 cr.)
L619 Language in Society (3 cr.)
L653-L654 Field Methods in Linguistics I-II (3-3 cr.)

Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
N409 Modern Arabic Literature (3 cr.)
N480 Modern Arabic Poetry (3 cr.)
N541 Arabic Theatre (3 cr.)

Political Science
Y338 African Politics (3 cr.)
Y342 Topics on the Regional Politics of Africa (3 cr.)
Y343 Development Problems in the Third World (3 cr.)
Y657 Comparative Politics (3 cr.)
Y663 Political and Administrative Development (3 cr.)
Y665 Public Law and Policy (3 cr.)

Public and Environmental Affairs
V575 International and Comparative Administration (3 cr.)
V576 Comparative Approaches to Development (3 cr.)
V577 International Economic Development Policy (3 cr.)

Spanish and Portuguese
P485 African Literature in Portuguese (3 cr.)
P515 Women Writing in Portuguese (3 cr.)
P695 Literature of Africa in Portuguese (3 cr.)

Courses in African Languages-Linguistics
B101-B102 Elementary Bambara I-II (3-3 cr.)
B201-B202 Intermediate Bambara I-II (3-3 cr.)
B301-B302 Advanced Bambara I-II (3-3 cr.)
S101-S102 Elementary Swahili I-II (3-3 cr.)
S201-S202 Intermediate Swahili I-II (3-3 cr.)
S301-S302 Advanced Swahili I-II (3-3 cr.)
W501-W502 Elementary Akan I-II (3-3 cr.)
W601-W602 Intermediate Akan I-II (3-3 cr.)
W701-W702 Advanced Akan I-II (3-3 cr.)
Z501-Z502 Elementary Zulu I-II (3-3 cr.)
Z601-Z602 Intermediate Zulu I-II (3-3 cr.)
Z701-Z702 Advanced Zulu I-II (3-3 cr.)

Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
A500-A550 Elementary Arabic I-II (2-2 cr.)
A600-A650 Intermediate Arabic I-II (3-3 cr.)
A660-A670 Advanced Arabic I-II (3-3 cr.)

In addition, individualized instruction has been arranged when the demand was not sufficient to offer a regular language course. In recent academic years, for example, students received instruction in Luo, Moroccan Arabic, and Wolof under the course designation: Linguistics.

S506 Individual Instruction in Foreign Languages (cr. arr.)
For courses in other departments that may be counted toward the Ph.D. minor, consult the program director.

¹ Four (4) credits each semester for undergraduates.