AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES
Bachelor of Arts

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR
African American Studies exposes students to the social, political, and cultural history of African-descended people in the modern world. While its primary focus is on the United States, the program places African Americans within a broader global dialogue about the evolving function of race.

The Department of African American Studies offers a major and minor in African American Studies, as well as a joint minor in Race and the Law with the Department of Ethnic Studies.

“\nI initially sought out this major in an attempt to learn more about myself. In turn, I actually found myself, I found knowledge, I found the world, and I found peace.”

– Kristin Therese Jones, African American Studies & Rhetoric major

THE MAJOR CURRICULUM
Along with three lower division courses, students in the African American Studies major will complete eight courses focused on black intellectual thought, colonialism and slavery, and research. Additionally, each student will work with their advisor to choose a concentration area. Students will also complete a senior capstone course that guides majors in the process of consolidating their intellectual experience as they work toward carving out the next stage of their professional lives.

ADVISING
Students can schedule appointments and send general advising questions to Althea Grannum Cummings at cummings@berkeley.edu.

Advising Drop-In Hours
Tuesday & Thursday, 10am-12pm, 1-4pm (in-person)
Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 10am-12pm (Zoom)

CONNECT WITH US
Cal Day
Come to UC Berkeley’s annual Open House in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

Golden Bear Orientation
Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley orientation program for all new students.

Events
Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit africam.berkeley.edu for news and updates.

HOW TO USE THIS MAP
Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates. Visit ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR
• Apply to the African American Theme Program
• Get involved in a student organization such as the Black Student Union.
• Experience life off campus with study abroad or a semester at a HBCU.
• Complete a summer minor in Race and the Law.
• Join the Clark Institute, a community of engaged scholars of African American Studies.
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#### Design Your Journey

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<tr>
<th><strong>FIRST YEAR</strong></th>
<th><strong>SECOND YEAR</strong></th>
<th><strong>THIRD YEAR</strong></th>
<th><strong>FOURTH YEAR</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Explore your major</td>
<td>Complete the three lower division prerequisites and declare the major.</td>
<td>Focus on upper division requirements and electives. Meet with your major advisor to discuss your elective cluster or area of concentration. Start thinking about your senior capstone course. Ask the major advisor about the African American Studies honors program.</td>
<td>Complete AFRICAM 195 during fall semester. Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate. Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.</td>
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<td>Connect and build community</td>
<td>Complete AFRICAM 44A, 5A and 5B.</td>
<td>Attend African American Studies events. Welcome new students to UC Berkeley through Black Welcome Month and Golden Bear Orientation. Check out events sponsored by the Ethnic Studies Department or the Multicultural Community Center.</td>
<td>Join a professional association such as the National Association of African American Studies. Connect with alumni groups such as the Black Alumni Association and build your network as you prepare to graduate.</td>
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<td>Discover your passions</td>
<td>Join a student organization such as the Black Student Union and the Student Learning Center. Enroll in UGS 98: College Success in L&amp;S. Consider applying to the Berkeley Connect in African American Studies and L&amp;S Mentors Program.</td>
<td>Explore campus centers and institutes like the Center for African Studies, Center for Race &amp; Gender, Center for Research on Social Change, Institute for the Study of Societal Issues, and Oithering &amp; Belonging Institute. Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the Haas Scholars Program. SURF, or Center for Race and Gender Student Grants Program.</td>
<td>Teach your own DeCal course. Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent study and submit your work to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal. Keep pursing your interests through a fellowship or gap year after graduation.</td>
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<td>Engage locally and globally</td>
<td>Consider doing the Race and the Law minor.</td>
<td>Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program. Check out Berkeley’s exchange with Howard University, Fisk University, Spellman College and Morehouse College. Study and intern in Washington D.C. with UCDC or Cal In The Capital. Contribute to youth participatory action research through the Berkeley Black Scholars Program.</td>
<td>Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program. Interested in a public service career? Apply for the John Gardner Fellowship. Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State.</td>
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<td>Reflect and plan your future</td>
<td>Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans. Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements. Start on the lower division requirements (AFRICAM 44A, 5A and 5B). Consider taking an African language like AFRICAM 11A. Elementary Swahili.</td>
<td>Reflect on your education so far and continue to set goals for yourself. Discuss career options and goals with a Career Educator. Think about doing an internship and attend an internship fair. Learn about graduate and professional school options. See Step-by-Step for planning help.</td>
<td>Utilize job board tools in your job search. Meet employers at Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting. Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.</td>
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#### Jobs and Employers

- Art History Lecturer, UC Berkeley
- Assoc. Professor, Florida State University
- Career Development Coord., Unitek College
- Executive Consultant, Self-Care Consulting
- Founder, Infinite Potential Africa Independence Facilitator, Aspire Public Schools
- Intern Campus Director, Flatiron School
- Public Health Nurse, County of San Mateo
- Recruiting Director, Segment
- Obama Admin/Special Assst. and Personal Aide to the First Lady
- Technical Sourcer, Allstate
- Recruiting Coordinator, Segments
- Aspen Institute
- Consulting Executive Consultant, Self-Care Consulting
- College Assoc. Professor, Florida State University
- Art History Lecturer, UC Berkeley
- Jobs and Employers
- Graduate Programs
- African-American/Black Studies, Masters/PhD
- African Diaspora Studies, PhD
- American Culture Studies, PhD
- Curriculum and Instruction, Masters Sociology, Masters/PhD
- Examples gathered from LinkedIn and the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.

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