



Photo credit: Peg Skorpinski

## 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](http://africam.berkeley.edu) for news and updates.

## ADVISING

Students can schedule appointments and send general advising questions to Althea Grannum Cummings at [cummings@berkeley.edu](mailto:cummings@berkeley.edu).

### Advising Drop-In Hours

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

## 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](http://ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps) for the latest version of this major map.

**Berkeley**

**African American Studies**

660 Social Sciences Building #2572

Berkeley, CA 94720

[africam.berkeley.edu](http://africam.berkeley.edu)

# AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

*Bachelor of Arts*

**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

## 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.



Photo credit: Elena Zhukova

“*I 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.

## 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.

# AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

Bachelor of Arts

## DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY



	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR	FOURTH YEAR	WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?
Explore your major	<p>Meet with your <b>major</b> and <b>college advisor</b> to discuss your academic plans.</p> <p>Familiarize yourself with <b>major</b> and <b>college requirements</b>.</p> <p>Start on the lower division requirements (AFRICAM 4A, 5A and 5B).</p> <p>Consider taking an African language like AFRICAM 11A: Elementary Swahili.</p>	<p>Complete the three lower division prerequisites and declare the major.</p> <p>Once declared, start on upper division requirements (AFRICAM 100, 101, 116, and 195).</p> <p>Review major guidelines for <b>study abroad</b>.</p> <p>Consider doing the <b>Race and the Law minor</b>.</p>	<p>Focus on upper division requirements and electives.</p> <p>Meet with your major advisor to discuss your elective cluster or area of concentration.</p> <p>Start thinking about your senior capstone course (AFRICAM 195).</p> <p>Ask the major advisor about the African American Studies <b>honors program</b>.</p>	<p>Complete AFRICAM 195 during fall semester.</p> <p>Do a <b>degree check</b> to ensure you are on track to <b>graduate</b>.</p> <p>Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining <b>major, college, and campus requirements</b>.</p>	<p>With its interdisciplinary strengths in history, culture, and social and political institutions, the African American Studies major provides students with skills in research, criticism, and writing that our graduates have taken to a variety of professional paths, including teaching, government and policy work, employment in mass media, professional schools (law, medicine, business), and graduate study in multiple fields.</p> <p><b>Jobs and Employers</b></p> <p>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 Interim Campus Director, Flatiron School Public Health Nurse, County of San Mateo Recruiting Coordinator, Segment Obama Admin/Special Asst. and Personal Aide to the First Lady Technical Sourcer, Allstate</p> <p><b>Graduate Programs</b></p> <p>African-American/Black Studies, Masters/PhD African Diaspora Studies, PhD American Culture Studies, PhD Curriculum and Instruction, Masters Sociology, Masters/PhD</p> <p>Examples gathered from LinkedIn and the <b>First Destination Survey</b> of recent Berkeley graduates.</p>
Connect and build community	<p>Get 1:1 mentoring with <b>Berkeley Connect in African American Studies</b>.</p> <p>Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the <b>Student Learning Center</b>.</p> <p>Consider applying to the <b>African American Theme Program</b>.</p>	<p>Join a student organization such as the <b>Black Student Union</b>.</p> <p>Check out resources from <b>African American Student Development</b>.</p> <p>Apply to the <b>Clark Institute</b> and join a community of scholars in African American Studies.</p> <p>Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.</p>	<p>Attend African American Studies <b>events</b>.</p> <p>Welcome new students to UC Berkeley through <b>Black Welcome Month</b> and <b>Golden Bear Orientation</b>.</p> <p>Check out events sponsored by the <b>Ethnic Studies Department</b> or the <b>Multicultural Community Center</b>.</p>	<p>Join a professional association such as the <b>National Association of African American Studies</b>.</p> <p>Connect with <b>alumni groups</b> such as the <b>Black Alumni Association</b> and build your <b>network</b> as you prepare to graduate.</p>	
Discover your passions	<p>Discover new interests in a <b>Freshman Seminar</b> like AFRICAM 24, <b>L&amp;S 1</b>, or a student-run <b>DeCal course</b>.</p> <p>Visit the <b>Ethnic Studies Library</b> in Stephens Hall and explore its collections.</p> <p>Get inspired with <b>The Diaspora newsletter</b>.</p>	<p>Continue with a <b>Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course</b> or <b>Discovery Course</b>.</p> <p>Assist faculty in their research through <b>URAP</b></p> <p>Planning study or research in Africa? Apply for the <b>Geist and Rosberg Fellowship</b>.</p> <p>Enrich your studies with a <b>certificate, course thread, or summer minor</b> like <b>Race and the Law</b>.</p>	<p>Explore campus centers and institutes like the <b>Center for African Studies, Center for Race &amp; Gender, Center for Research on Social Change, Institute for the Study of Societal Issues, and Othering &amp; Belonging Institute</b>.</p> <p>Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the <b>Haas Scholars Program, SURF, or Center for Race and Gender Student Grants Program</b>.</p>	<p>Teach your own DeCal course.</p> <p>Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent study and submit your work to the <b>Berkeley Undergraduate Journal</b>.</p> <p>Keep pursuing your interests through a <b>fellowship</b> or gap year after graduation.</p>	
Engage locally and globally	<p>Attend the <b>Calapalooza</b> student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.</p> <p>Find service opportunities through the <b>Public Service Center</b>.</p> <p>Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with <b>Berkeley Study Abroad</b>.</p>	<p>Work with a community organization in an <b>American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course</b>.</p> <p>Join the student leadership team of <b>African American Student Development</b>.</p> <p>Consider a <b>Berkeley Global Internship</b> in the United States or abroad.</p> <p>Get involved with the <b>Black Recruitment and Retention Center</b>.</p>	<p>Experience life at another UC or college on a <b>visitor and exchange program</b>. Check out Berkeley’s exchange with Howard University, Fisk University, Spelman College and Morehouse College.</p> <p>Study and intern in Washington D.C. with <b>UCDC</b> or <b>Cal in the Capital</b>.</p> <p>Contribute to youth participatory action research through the <b>Berkeley Black Scholars Project</b>.</p>	<p>Hone your leadership skills with the <b>Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program</b>.</p> <p>Interested in a public service career? Apply for the <b>John Gardner Fellowship</b>.</p> <p>Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as <b>Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State</b>.</p>	
Reflect and plan your future	<p>Visit <b>Berkeley Career Engagement</b> and the <b>Career Counseling Library</b>.</p> <p><b>Develop a plan</b> for getting career ready.</p> <p>Sign up for <b>Handshake</b> and <b>CareerMail</b>.</p> <p>Explore <b>career fields</b> in the <b>Career Connections Networking Series</b> or the <b>Cal Job Shadow Program</b>.</p>	<p>Reflect on your education so far and continue to set goals for yourself.</p> <p>Discuss career options and goals with a <b>Career Educator</b>.</p> <p>Think about doing an <b>internship</b> and attend an <b>internship fair</b>.</p> <p>Learn about <b>graduate and professional school</b>. See <b>Step-by-Step</b> for planning help.</p>	<p>Update your resume and <b>LinkedIn</b> profile.</p> <p>Discuss post-graduate options with advisors and professors.</p> <p>Attend <b>career and graduate school fairs</b> like the “Nonprofit, Education, &amp; Public Service Career Fair.”</p> <p>Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters.</p>	<p>Utilize <b>job board tools</b> in your job search.</p> <p>Meet employers at <b>Employer Info Sessions</b> and <b>On-Campus Recruiting</b>.</p> <p>Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.</p>	