

## African and African Diaspora Studies

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### Master of Arts in African and African Diaspora Studies

The M.A. degree in African & African Diaspora Studies provides interdisciplinary, graduate level education and prepares students to develop and employ theoretical, analytical, and methodological approaches to researching critical issues pertaining to the African continent and its

diasporas. The M.A. program aims to develop scholars in preparation for professional positions in a range of fields and for further study at the Ph.D. level. Multidisciplinary in scope and diverse in approach, the M.A. program in AADS is ideal for candidates interested in a wide array of subjects pertaining to continental Africa and the African diaspora, which include: Social and Public Policy, Cultural Studies, International Relations, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Literary Study, History, Globalization Studies, Education, Religious Studies, Trans-Atlantic Studies, Critical Race Studies, Sociology, and Anthropology. Both the terminal M.A. and the combined M.A./Ph.D. programs in partnership with International Relations, Atlantic History, and Global & Sociocultural Studies attract students from around the world interested in subjects that are both geographically and disciplinarily diverse, including but by no means limited to: transnational policy analysis; African, African American and Caribbean history and culture; African environmental politics; transnational migrations; African and African diaspora nationalist struggles, and the Asian diasporas in Africa and the Caribbean. Our major emphasis on African diaspora cultural studies facilitates research in Gender and Sexuality, Literatures, Popular Culture, and Religious syncretism. In addition, FIU's strong connections with Latin America make it an ideal place to study Afro-Latin@ cultures, from Miami to Cuba to Brazil to the Andean nations.

### Admission Requirements

Each applicant to the African & African Diaspora Studies Graduate Program (AADS) must complete an online graduate application form and arrange to send transcripts of all prior college (undergraduate and graduate) work and official reports of the Graduate Records Exam (GRE) and TOEFL (if applicable) to the FIU's Office of Graduate Admissions. Each applicant should also send a separate letter of application to the director of the AADS Graduate Programs, along with copies of the above material. The letter of application should include a statement expressing the applicant's academic and professional objectives. Applicants are strongly encouraged to include examples of academic or other relevant professional work that may support their application. Applicants must request two letters of recommendation from professors able to comment on their academic ability. The letters of recommendation should be sent directly to the Director of the African & African Diaspora Studies Graduate Programs.

The application file must be complete before the African & African Diaspora Studies Graduate Committee will consider the applicant for admission. The deadline for receipt of application--including all supporting materials and letters of recommendation--is February 1st. To be admitted into the AADS a student must meet the University's graduate admission requirements (which can be found in Florida International University's Graduate Catalog), and the following minimum standards:

1. Applicants must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.
2. Applicants must have an undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher and submit official scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Applicants must submit both grade transcripts and GRE scores for consideration. The student must also have a GPA of 3.5 on any previous graduate work.

3. Applicants should request that two letters of recommendation from individuals able to judge a their academic potential be sent directly to the Director of the African & African Diaspora Studies Graduate Programs. For the exact street address, please consult our website at <http://africana.fiu.edu>.
4. Applicants are encouraged to submit examples of written work and other supporting materials.
5. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required.

### Financial Aid

Each academic year a limited number of graduate students are hired as graduate assistants. Graduate assistantships are allocated on a competitive basis and typically pay a substantial portion of tuition expenses and provide a stipend. To be considered for an assistantship the applicant must make such a request in writing to the Director of AADS Graduate Programs. The Director of the AADS Graduate Programs will make the awarding of teaching assistantships in consultation with the AADS Director. Students receiving an assistantship are required to perform approximately (but not more than) 20 hours of teaching and research related duties per week and are required to participate in a one-hour seminar related to teaching at the beginning of their first semester.

### Graduation Requirements

Candidates must obtain a grade of "B" or higher in all courses and achieve a cumulative point average of at least 3.0 (based on a 4.0 scale) and present a satisfactory research paper, research proposal or thesis.

### Thesis Option

In the case in which a student elects the thesis option, he or she will have to compose a thesis committee (three members) with at least two AADS graduate faculty members. The thesis committee chairperson or thesis advisor must be chosen from the list of AADS graduate faculty. The thesis committee will guide the student through successful completion of the thesis and will approve, after a public oral defense, its final draft as acceptable before it is sent to the University Graduate School.

Thesis research is usually performed during the first summer of enrollment in the program. The thesis will have 75 pages or more and will be written following one of the scholarly citation styles admitted in the disciplines. The selection of the citation style must be made with the thesis advisor.

### Research Paper/Proposal Option

If a student elects the research paper or research proposal option, he or she must compose a research paper/proposal committee (three members) with at least two AADS graduate faculty members. The student will work closely with the chairperson of the research paper/proposal committee, who must be chosen from the list of AADS graduate faculty. The submission of the final draft subsequently to the other members of the committee will logically follow the completion of the required course,

"Advanced Seminar in African and African Diaspora Studies," which will typically be taken during the student's second summer of enrollment (if he or she is a full time student who began the M.A. program in a fall semester).

The FIU faculty eligible to serve on a thesis or research paper/proposal committee are the faculty members who have achieved graduate faculty standing as established by the University Graduate School. Other non-FIU faculty not identified in that list may be considered to serve on a committee based on research, identified interest, and publications after approval from the Director of AADS Academic Programs and upon approval of the Dean of the University Graduate School.

### Required Credits

9 credits                               3 core courses  
3 semesters of 1 credit   AADS graduate colloquium

### Thesis Option

AFA 6971                      Thesis Research in African and African  
  Diaspora Studies   6  
18 credits of elective courses selected from the lists below

### Research Paper/Proposal Option

AFA 6911                      Research Paper/Proposal Writing in  
  African and African Diaspora   3  
21 credits of elective courses selected from the list below

The three credits of research paper/proposal writing will typically be taken with the approval of the chairperson of the student's committee in the spring semester directly preceding the summer during which the student will take the Advanced Seminar in African and African Diaspora Studies (AFA 6851).

### Total: 36 credit hours

#### 3 Core Courses

AFA 5005                      African and African Diaspora Studies  
  Theory

*This course is offered every fall semester. It is typically taken during a student's first semester enrollment.*

AFA 6851                      Advanced Seminar in African and  
  African Diaspora Studies

*This course is offered every summer, and is typically taken at the very end of a student's enrollment, prior to graduation.*

One research methods course from the list below

All students must take at least one research method course. They will choose this course according to their disciplinary preference as it relates to their specific research interest. Such a course should help students conceptualize better various aspects of their research papers/proposals or theses. Students may elect to take more than one research methods course. With approval of the graduate director, the additional research methods course will count as an elective.

Students who are more inclined to use a literary studies/linguistic approach will take one of the courses below:

ENG 5009                      Literary Criticism and Scholarship  
LIN 5760                      Research Methods in Language  
  Variation  
SPW 5806                      Methods of Literary Research

Students who prefer to adopt a social sciences quantitative approach will take one of the courses below:

POS 5706 Methodology  
 SYA 6305 Research Methods I

Students who prefer to adopt a social sciences qualitative approach will take:  
 ANG 6497 Qualitative Research Methods

Students who prefer to adopt a Psychological approach will take:  
 DEP 5796 Methods of Developmental Research

Students who prefer to adopt the research method characteristic of History will take:  
 HIS 6059 Historical Methods

Students who prefer to adopt the approach of International Relations will take:  
 INR 5615 Research Design in International Relations

**3 (1 credit) semesters of graduate colloquium**  
**AFA 6920 African and African Diaspora Studies Graduate Colloquium 1**

Students must register for one credit for three consecutive semesters and attend all symposia, conferences, colloquia, and lectures sponsored by the program and write response papers on each event to be submitted to the AADS faculty member in charge of the colloquium. A syllabus will be given to all enrolled students at the beginning of each semester.

**Language Requirement**

Students will be asked to demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English according to the nature of their thesis or research paper/proposal and professional interests. Credit hours earned in meeting language requirement will not count towards the 36 credit hours required for the degree.

**List of Electives I: The Humanities**  
**Students must choose between 6 and 12 credits from the list below**

With approval of the Graduate Director, students may also select other courses not listed below after submitting the appropriate syllabus.

AFA 5932 Special Topics in African and African Diaspora Studies  
 AFA 5107 Teaching the African American Experience  
 AFA 5341 Health Issues in the African World  
 AFA 5600 National and Transnational Policy Analysis: The African Diaspora  
 AFH 5905 Readings in African History  
 AFH 5935 Topics in African History  
 FRE 5508 La Francophonie  
 HAI 5235 Haitian Creole Seminar  
 LAH 5465 Peoples, Culture and Politics of Haiti  
 LAS 6025 Seminar: The Humanities in Cuba  
 LIN 6602 Language Contact  
 LIT 5359 African Diaspora Women Writers  
 LIT 5358 Black Literature and Literacy/Cultural Theory  
 MUH 5025 History of Popular Music in the United States  
 MUH 5067 Music of the Caribbean  
 REL 5122 African American Religion  
 REL 5372 The Globalizing of African Spirituality  
 REL 5384 Rasta, Vodou, Santeria

REL 5488 Theology and Liberation Movements  
 SPN 5536 Afro-Cuban Culture  
 SPN 5539 Special Topics in Afro-Hispanic Culture  
 SPW 5346 Poetry of Jorge Guillen  
 SPW 5776 Black Literature in Latin America  
 SPW 6368 19th Century Spanish-Caribbean Narrative  
 WOH 5236 The Transatlantic Slave Trade and the Making of the African Diaspora, 1441-1807  
 WOH 5237 The African Diaspora Since the End of the Slave Trade

**List of Electives II: The Social Sciences**

ANG 6473 Diasporas, Migration, and Globalization  
 ANG 5397 Advanced African Diaspora Cultures and Performativity  
 ANG 5396 Representations of Africa and Africans in Films  
 ANT 6319 The African Diaspora: Anthropological Perspectives  
 CPO 5325 Politics of the Caribbean  
 CPO 6350 Seminar in Brazilian Politics  
 CPO 6376 Seminar in Central American Politics  
 CPO 6206 Seminar in African Politics  
 CYP 6766 The Psychology of Crosscultural Sensitization in a Multicultural Context  
 ECS 5406 Latin American Economies  
 ECS 6436 The Economics of Caribbean Migration  
 ECS 7435 Economics of the Caribbean  
 INR 5087 Ethnicity and the Politics of Development  
 INR 5255 Seminar in African Development  
 INR 6936 Seminar in Inter-American Politics  
 SYD 6705 Comparative Analysis of Ethnicity and Race

**M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies/Ph.D. in Global and Sociocultural Studies Combined Degree Program**

The combined African & African Diaspora Studies MA/Global & Sociocultural Studies PhD program allows qualified graduate students to pursue both degrees at the same time. Students can develop an expertise in African & African Diaspora Studies while progressing towards a PhD in one of the three majors in the Global and Sociocultural Studies PhD: geography, sociology, or anthropology.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered for admission.

1. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution for higher education (or equivalent);
2. Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent) for the last two years of undergraduate work and/or a GPA of 3.5 on any previous graduate work;
3. Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores;
4. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English and who have not obtained a degree from an English-speaking academic institution are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the internet-based TOEFL (equivalent to 550 on the paper-based version) or a 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required.

### Admission Procedure

To be accepted into this program, students must submit an application to the PhD in Global and Sociocultural Studies with a sub-plan for a MA in African & African Diaspora Studies. This designation will appear in the menu of programs in the graduate application. To be accepted into this program, students must submit an application by February 15 in the year in which they wish to begin their studies.

The following documents must be submitted and will be reviewed by the Admissions Committees from both units.

The following must be submitted as part of the on-line application:

- Online application and application fee;
- Official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate coursework;
- Official GRE scores;
- Official TOEFL scores, if applicable;
- Statement of purpose explaining his/her interest for enrolling in both the AADS MA program and in the PhD program in GSS. The statement of purpose must clearly address the applicant's academic and professional objectives for enrolling in both fields of inquiry. The statement of purpose must also indicate the intended major (anthropology, geography, or sociology) the applicant plans to select while engaged in the PhD in GSS;
- Three letters of recommendation from university professors who are able to comment on the various aspects of the student's academic ability;
- A curriculum vitae; and
- Writing samples and other relevant professional work that may support their applications.

### Degree Requirements for M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies

The 36 credits earned for the M.A. in AADS will count towards the 75 credits required for the Ph.D. in GSS.

#### MA in AADS Core (9 credits)

AFA 5005	African & African Diaspora Studies Theory ( <i>Fall Yr1</i> )
AFA 6920	African & African Diaspora Studies Graduate Colloquium ( <i>1 credit per semester; students must enroll for 3 semesters</i> )
AFA 6851	Advanced Seminar in African and African Diaspora Studies ( <i>prerequisite for SYA 6959</i> )

#### Methods (12 credits)

SYA 6127	Theory and Inquiry ( <i>Fall Yr 1</i> )
SYA 6315	Social Research Quantitative Methods ( <i>Fall Yr 2</i> )
ANG 5093	Research Design and Methods ( <i>Spring Yr 1</i> )
SYA 6959	Writing Research Proposals ( <i>prerequisite AFA 6851</i> )

### Electives (15 credits)

- 9 credits of elective courses with a clear AADS focus from within the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies
- 6 credits of elective Courses from outside that Department and within the College of Arts & Sciences (see the AADS Humanities and Social Sciences lists of graduate courses).

**Note:** students are advised to take at least 9 of these elective credits in their chosen major discipline for GSS (anthropology, geography, or sociology).

### MA in AADS Research Proposal option

To graduate from the MA in AADS, students enrolled in this combined MA/PhD program must elect the research proposal option and take the proposal writing course SYA 6959 Writing Research Proposals during the semester prior to enrolling in the required exit course AFA 6851 Advanced Seminar in AADS.

### MA in AADS Language Requirement

Students must demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English according to the nature of their thesis or research paper/proposal and professional interests.

### Application for Graduation from MA in AADS

Students should apply for graduation for the MA in AADS as soon as they have completed all requirements for the degree – including the exit option. Ordinarily, the MA will be conferred before the student advances to candidacy for the PhD in History.

### Matriculation to PhD in GSS

All students must undergo a successful M.A. review upon completion of the AADS Masters Program requirements in order to continue toward the Ph.D. in GSS. The GSS Graduate Committee, along with an appointee from AADS, conducts these reviews. The purpose of the M.A. review is to determine the ability of the student to do Ph.D. level work with the department's faculty. Among the information considered during the review are students' performances and grades in courses, and faculty recommendations.

### Degree Requirements for Ph.D. in Global and Sociocultural Studies

The doctorate in Global and Sociocultural Studies requires a minimum of 75 credits beyond the baccalaureate including a dissertation based on original research. 36 credits of the MA in AADS will count toward the 75-credit minimum. Thus, a minimum of 39 credits must be earned beyond the MA.

### Major Courses (33 credits)

All doctoral students will choose a major in Anthropology, Geography, or Sociology. The following distribution of coursework is required.

- a). Major theory (3)
- b). Major methods (3)
- c). Major course electives (6 minimum)
- d). Exam and dissertation credits and GSS and non-GSS Department electives
  - Doctoral Exam Preparation (6 maximum)
  - Doctoral Dissertation (15 minimum)

**General Electives (6 credits)**

GSS and non-GSS Department electives

**Ph.D. General Examination**

After successfully completing the common core requirements, the major's course requirements, and electives, a student prepares for the Ph.D. General Exam by enrolling in a maximum of six credits of exam preparation for their major. In preparation for the exam, a student forms a dissertation committee according to the regulations published on the University Graduate School web page (<http://gradschool.fiu.edu>). The Ph.D. General Exam addresses the student's anticipated dissertation topic, and is conducted according to the University Graduate School Policies and Procedures Manual and the Department's Ph.D. General Exam guidelines.

**The Dissertation Proposal and Defense/Candidacy Exam**

After passing the Ph.D. General Exam, a student works under the guidance of the dissertation committee to prepare a dissertation proposal and defend it orally before the committee. The chair of the dissertation committee must hold Dissertation Advisor Status from the University Graduate School. The proposal defense serves as the doctoral candidacy exam for the Ph.D. program in Global and Sociocultural Studies. Upon passing the proposal defense, a student is admitted to candidacy status.

**The Dissertation and Dissertation Defense**

After successfully defending a dissertation proposal, a student conducts the proposed research and completes a dissertation under the guidance of a dissertation committee. Only after successfully defending the dissertation proposal may a student register for dissertation hours (ANG 7980, GEO 7980, or SYA 7980). The Ph.D. program requires a student to be continuously enrolled in a minimum of 3 hours of Doctoral Dissertation each semester from the time of advancement to candidacy until completion of the dissertation, including summers. Upon completion of the dissertation manuscript and authorization by the committee, a student defends the dissertation before the committee and the University community. The University Graduate School's regulations governing the dissertation are described at <http://gradschool.fiu.edu>.

**MA in African and African Diaspora Studies/Ph.D. in History Combined Degree Program**

The Combined African and African Diaspora Studies MA / PhD in History program allows qualified graduate students to complete the MA in Combined African and African Diaspora Studies (MA in AADS) en route to the Ph.D. in History. This program will train doctoral students within the discipline of Atlantic History while giving them area studies expertise in African and African Diaspora Studies in order to help them stay competitive in seeking careers with an international focus in today's global cultural and intellectual environment. In tandem, these two programs can offer students an unusually close fit and remarkably beneficial synthesis in interdisciplinary approaches to both the Atlantic world and the African diasporic experience.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered for admission.

1. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution for higher education (or equivalent);
2. Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent) for the last two years of undergraduate work and/or a GPA of 3.25 on any previous graduate work;
3. Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores;
4. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English and have not obtained a degree from an English-speaking academic institution are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 90 on the IBT TOEFL (equivalent to 575 on the paper-based version of the Test of English as a Foreign Language) is required.

**Admission Procedure**

To be accepted into this program, students must submit an application to the PhD in History with a sub plan for a MA in Africa and African Diaspora Studies. This designation will appear in the menu of programs in the graduate application. The application must be submitted by January 15 in the year in which they wish to begin their studies.

The following documents must be submitted as part of the application. They will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee from both units.

- Official transcripts of all prior college-level work (undergraduate Bachelor's degree and any graduate transcripts);
- Official GRE scores or equivalent;
- Official TOEFL scores, if applicable;
- A curriculum vita;
- A detailed statement of research interests, reasons for seeking the MA/ PhD, future career goals, a summary of scholarly and extra-curricular activities, and the names of History Department faculty members who would be appropriate dissertation advisors (Note: Consult the department website for information about faculty members)
- A writing sample (such as a seminar paper) which demonstrates the ability to conduct research and write effectively; and
- Three letters of reference from academic sources or others able to judge academic abilities and potential.

In addition, an interview (in person or phone) with members of the MA in AADS Program and/or appropriate faculty in the Department of History is highly recommended.

**MA in African and African Diaspora Studies (MA in AADS)**

Thirty-six graduate credits are required for the MA in AADS, including 9 credits of core courses, 12 credits within a concentration, 9 credits of electives and 6 credits for the directed research paper exit option. There is also a Foreign Language Requirement.

**MA in AADS Core Courses: (12 credits)**

HIS 6059	Historical Methods	
AFA6920	AADS graduate colloquium (3 semesters, 1 credit each)	
AFA 6911	Research Paper/Proposal Writing in African and African Diaspora Studies	
AFA 6851	Advanced Seminar in African and African Diaspora Studies	

**MA in AADS Elective Courses: (21 credits)**

**12 credits** of elective courses with a clear AADS focus from within the Department of History, such as those on the following list. This should include at least one two-semester research seminar (6 credits).

AFH 5905	Readings in Asian History	
AFH 5935	Topics in African History	
AFH 6915	Research in African History	
AFH 6932	Research Seminar in African History I	
AFH 6933	Research Seminar in African History II	
WOH 5236	The Transatlantic Slave Trade and the Making of African Diaspora, 1441-1807	
WOH 5237	The African Diaspora Since the End of the Slave Trade	

**9 credits** of elective courses from outside the History Department and within the College of Arts & Sciences. At least 6 of these credits will be from the Social Sciences list of AADS courses (see the Humanities and Social Sciences lists of AADS graduate courses).

**MA in AADS Research Proposal Option**

To graduate from the MA in AADS, students enrolled in this combined MA/PhD program must elect the research proposal option and take the proposal writing course AFA 6911 Research Paper/Proposal Writing in African and African Diaspora Studies during the semester prior to enrolling in the required exit course AFA 6851 Advanced Seminar in AADS.

**MA in AADS Language Requirement**

Students must demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English according to the nature of their thesis or research paper/proposal and professional interests.

**Application for Graduation from MA in AADS**

Students should apply for graduation for the MA in AADS as soon as they have completed all requirements for the degree – including the exit option. Ordinarily, the MA will be conferred before the student advances to candidacy for the PhD in History.

**Ph.D. in History**

Students will begin study towards the Ph.D. in History immediately following their satisfactory completion of MA in AADS degree requirements. Students are expected to meet all the degree requirements for the Ph.D. in History, which requires a total of 75 credits.

Courses required *in addition to* the degree requirements for the MA in Africa and Africa Diaspora Studies (minimum 39 credits)

HIS 6906	Advanced Readings in Atlantic Civilization	3
HIS 6918	Research in Atlantic Civilization	3
3 credits outside of AADS and Atlantic Civilization (also excluding Methods), 3 credits of which must be in a comparative course (HIS or WOH prefix)		

Electives		12
HIS 7890	Dissertation	15

**Language Requirements**

All students must acquire reading competence in two languages other than English. The language requirement may be fulfilled in one of two ways: 1) achieving a High Pass on the department examination in one language, and at least a Pass on the second; or 2) achieving a Pass or High Pass in departmental examination in one language, and competency in social science quantitative skills, demonstrated by receiving a grade of “B” or “B+”, for Pass, and “A” or “A-”, for High pass, in an appropriate course approved for this purpose by the Director of Graduate Studies. At least one High Pass must be received. Language requirements vary, according to the concentration fields. In cases where the dissertation will be in the history of US or English-speaking countries, one language plus the quantitative skill is sufficient. In Latin American history, either Spanish or Portuguese, and a second language appropriate to the student’s field are required. Language exams will be graded on a High Pass, Pass, and Fail basis; a High pass is required in the student’s primary language. Students should check with the Department’s Director of Graduate Studies to determine which languages are appropriate for their program of studies.

**Comprehensive Examinations and the Dissertation**

Following completion of all course work, satisfaction of language requirements, and the constitution of a dissertation committee, students will be required to pass a written and an oral comprehensive examination. After the completion of their comprehensive examinations and the approval of a dissertation proposal by their dissertation committee, students will write a doctoral dissertation. The time needed for the research and writing of dissertations in History is variable, although doctoral candidates normally spend one year engaged in continuous field research and a second year in full-time writing.

**Restrictions**

1. The grade of “B” or better is required for graduate credit.
2. At the end of the second semester of residence, or upon completion of the first 18 credit-hours of work, the Graduate Committee will examine and evaluate the student’s progress and prospects. Professors will provide detailed written evaluations of the work of all first-year Ph.D. students they have taught. Students whose progress is deemed insufficient will be advised to withdraw from the program.
3. No more than 6 semester-hours of Topics (5935) courses toward meeting the degree requirements, without permission of the Director of Graduate Studies.
4. No more than 6 semester-hours of HIS 5908 (Independent Study) toward meeting the degree requirements, without permission of the Director of Graduate Studies.

## **M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies/Ph.D. in International Relations Combined Degree Program**

The combined African and African Diaspora Studies M.A./International Relations Ph.D. program allows qualified graduate students to pursue both degrees at the same time.

### **Admission Requirements**

To be accepted into this program, students must simultaneously submit applications for the M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies and the Ph.D. in International Relations by January 15 in the year in which they wish to begin their studies.

To be considered for admission, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.2 in undergraduate work.
2. Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 in any prior graduate work.
3. Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores.
4. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 90 on the iBT TOEFL (equivalent to 575 on the paper-based version of the Test of English as a Foreign Language) is required.

Applicants must follow the admission procedures for both programs (see the appropriate sections in this graduate catalog). Only applications to begin studies in the fall semester will be considered. This new designation will appear in the menu of programs in the graduate application, and students must indicate their intention to apply for this combined program.

Each applicant must complete an online graduate application form and arrange to send transcripts of all prior college (undergraduate and graduate) work and official reports of the Graduate Records Exam (GRE) and TOEFL (if applicable) to FIU's Office of Graduate Admissions.

Each applicant should also submit a separate statement of purpose, along with copies of the above material. The letter of application should include a statement expressing the applicant's academic and professional objectives. Applicants must include writing samples and other relevant professional work that may support their applications. Applicants must request three letters of recommendation from university professors who are able to comment on the various aspects of the student's academic ability. The letters of recommendation should be sent directly to the Director of the African and African Diaspora Studies Graduate Programs. AADS will photocopy the recommendation letters once they are all in and send them to the International Relations Graduate Program Director.

The application file must be complete before the African and African Diaspora Studies/International Relations Graduate Program Committees will consider the applicant for admission. We encourage applicants to send their application material sooner.

### **Required Credits**

Students must fulfill the requirements for both programs. The 36 credits for the M.A. in AADS earned by students will count toward the 75 credits required for the Ph.D. in INR.

### **Prescribed Required Courses and Other Requirements**

In addition to the requirements for the two degrees, during their first two years of enrollment in this combined degree program, students will enroll in the following course which fulfills the African and African Diaspora Studies M.A. methods requirement:

INR 5615            Research Design in International Relations

The following International Relations courses will also be taken by African and African Diaspora Studies M.A. students during the first two years of the program and will count toward the M.A.:

INR 5609            Contemporary Dynamics of International Relations

INR 6706            Political Economy of International Relations

### **Language Requirement**

Students must demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English according to the nature of their thesis or research paper/proposal and professional interests. The Director of AADS Graduate Programs will ask a university faculty member fluent in the language of interest to the student, to evaluate the student's fluency by asking her/him to summarize or synthesize the content of a text of between 10 to 20 pages, published in that language, in no more than one page. That exercise will have to take place at the university during a limited period of time. The text will be given to the student at the beginning of the exercise. The chosen text will have some connection to the student's research interest. Once a student has demonstrated proficiency for the M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies, that proficiency will be recognized by the International Relations Ph.D. program. Therefore, proficiency in a foreign language will not be part of the candidacy exam. Credit hours earned in meeting the language requirement will not count towards the 36 credit hours required for the M.A. degree.

Students should apply for graduation with the M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies as soon as they have completed all requirements for the degree – including the exit requirements, as specified for the M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies. Ordinarily, students will complete these requirements and earn their M.A. before advancing to candidacy for the Ph.D. in International Relations. The research paper/proposal option is the only option available for students enrolled in this combined M.A./Ph.D. program.

### **Masters of Arts in African and African Diaspora Studies Requirements**

#### **(36 credits Research Paper/Proposal Option)**

Courses to be taken in addition to INR 5615, INR 5609, and INR 6706 (for a total of 27 credits):

AFA 5005            African and African Diaspora Studies Theory

AFA 6911	Research Paper/Proposal Writing in African and African Diaspora Studies	3
AFA 6851	Advanced Seminar in African and African Diaspora Studies	3
AFA 6920	African and African Diaspora Studies Graduate Colloquium	3

3x (1 credit) semesters of graduate colloquium

**15 credits of elective from the lists of elective courses (see M.A. in AADS):**

6 to 9 credits from the Humanities list  
and

6 to 9 credits from the Social Sciences list

**Total credits for the M.A.: 36**

**Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations (75 credits)**

The following courses in addition to all 36 M.A. credits:

GEO 6473	Space, Place, and Identity	3
INR 6604	International Relations Theory I	3
INR 6608	Contemporary International Relations Theory	3

**Major and Minor Fields: (12 credits)**

Major field of study	9
Minor field of study	3

**Electives: (3 credits)**

Additional elective course work according to the specific information about elective courses indicated in the Ph.D. in INR section of the catalog.

**Comprehensive Examinations**

Once students have achieved 60 credits of course work, they must sit for written examinations on the core sequence of their fields as per the Ph.D. in INR section of the catalog.

**Dissertation: (15 credits)**

See the university catalog for relevant sections of the Ph.D. Program in International Relations for details.

**Course Descriptions**

**Definition of Prefixes**

AFA-African and African Diaspora Studies

**AFA 5005 African and African Diaspora Studies Theory (3).** Explores the emergence of three fields of inquiry in Africana Studies: African Studies, African Diaspora Studies, and African-American Studies. Focus on major themes, ideas, and diverse conceptual and theoretical perspectives. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**AFA 5107 Teaching the African-American Experience (3).** Teachers Institute on literature, culture, history, politics designed to meet Florida State Teachers Certification requirements. Includes instruction on pedagogy, practical teaching methods, and FCAT.

**AFA 5302 Africana Visual Arts (3).** A study of Africana, African, and/or African Diaspora Visual aesthetics. It examines relationships between Africana Visual arts and other creative forms. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**AFA 5341 Health Issues in the African World (3).** Examination of the history of the biomedicine system and its relationship to African populations, and the evolution of this relationship with respect to disease in the

contemporary world. The course is organized to promote awareness of the impact of culture, ethnicity, racism, class on public health research.

**AFA 5600 National and Transnational Policy Analysis: The African Diaspora (3).** Analysis of national and transnational policies as they directly relate and impact the African Diaspora. Prerequisite: Graduate Standing.

**AFA 5932 Special Topics in African and African Diaspora Studies (3).** An examination of different features of Continental Africa and the African Diaspora not normally offered in the basic curriculum or otherwise offered. May be repeated. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**AFA 5934 Special Topics in Black Transnationalism (3).** A course designed to give groups of students special studies in the black experience transnationally. Prerequisite: Graduate Standing.

**AFA 6217 Sex, Race, and Power in European Colonialisms (3).** Critical examination of sexual intimacy in colonial contexts between European colonizers and colonized people. An exploration of the intersection between racialization and sexualization. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**AFA 6245 The African Diaspora in Latin America (3).** Advanced exploration of the historical, socioeconomic, and political realities of African diasporic communities in Central America, the Caribbean, and South America. Corequisite: Graduate standing.

**AFA 6851 Advanced Seminar in African and African Diaspora Studies (3).** Reflections on the global diversity of black subjectivities and African and African diasporic communities and experiences. A research paper/research proposal writing seminar. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**AFA 6905 Independent Study (0-6).** Student generated research projects in African and African Diaspora Studies. Independent investigation, reports on individual and assigned reading with AADS core and affiliated faculty.

**AFA 6911 Research Paper/Proposal Writing in African and African Diaspora Studies (3).** Development of skills in writing research papers and/or proposals. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**AFA 6920 African and African Diaspora Studies Graduate Colloquium (1).** Colloquia, symposia, lectures, conferences presented by faculty, visiting scholars, and graduate students on topics of current research interest. May be repeated with departmental approval. Prerequisites: Graduate standing, graduate advisor approval.

**AFA 6940 Community Project/Internship Research in African and African Diaspora Studies (1-6).** Qualitative and quantitative research using a variety of sources. Research projects conducted in the field by students under faculty supervision. May be repeated with departmental approval. Prerequisites: Graduate standing, graduate advisor approval.

**AFA 6971 Thesis Research in African and African Diaspora Studies (1-6).** Quantitative and qualitative research using a variety of sources, e.g. primary and secondary documents, filed research under faculty supervision. May be repeated with departmental approval.



Prerequisites: Graduate standing, graduate advisor approval.

**LAH 5465 Peoples, Culture and Politics of Haiti (3).**  
Advanced study of the cultures and history of the Haitian people from Africa to the New World, including life, cultures of the Indians of the Caribbean: Taino, Arawak and Caribs.