

**LEHMAN COLLEGE
OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICANA STUDIES

CURRICULUM CHANGE

Name of Program and Degree Award: Africana Studies, BA
Hegis Number: 2211.00
Program Code: 34007
Effective Term: Spring 2027

1. **Type of Change:** *Change in Degree Requirements*

2. **From:** ~~Strikethrough the changes~~
Africana Studies, BA

Africana Studies is a body of knowledge that records, describes, and analyzes the experience of people of African descent in all parts of the world, but especially in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Americas. Africana Studies appraises the past, examines the present, and seeks to shape the future by highlighting the cultural, historical, philosophical, and political contributions of Black people in Africa and their descendants throughout the African diaspora.

Major Requirements: Overall
Type: Completion requirement
Earn at least 36 credits

Additional Comments:

- Departmental Honors
 - Students who wish to qualify for Departmental honors are required to take AAS 481: Honors Project.
- Teacher Certification
 - Students interested in obtaining New York State teacher certification should consult the Office of the Dean of Education
- Women's Studies Options
 - See the description of this program contained later in this Bulletin.

Major Requirements – Core Courses
Type: Completion requirement
Earn at least 21 credits from the following:

- AAS 166 – Introduction to African and African American Studies
- AAS 232 – African Civilizations
OR AAS 248 – African History

- AAS 235 – Caribbean Societies
- AAS 241 – Literature of the English & Francophone Caribbean
 - OR AAS 214 – Literature of the Caribbean and the Caribbean Diaspora
 - OR AAS 242 – African Literature
 - OR AAS 267 – African American Literature
- AAS 245 – History of African Americans
- AAS 330 – The Civil Rights Movement
 - OR AAS 342 – African Americans in the Political System
- AAS 390 – Research Methods
 - OR AAS 470 – Fieldwork in the African American Community
- Students in the Early Childhood and Childhood teaching certification sequence may substitute the courses in the ECCE certification, ECE 480 and ECE 483, which are student teaching and the accompanying seminar (6 credits), for AAS 470 – Fieldwork in the African American Community.

Additional comments: 100% of the courses to complete the major may be taken online.

Major Requirements – Electives

Type: Completion requirement

Earn at least 15 credits from the following:

- AAS 300 – Literature of the African Diaspora in Latin America
- AAS 303 – Globalization and Africa
- AAS 304 – Societies and Cultures of Africa
- AAS 305 – African Philosophical Thought
- AAS 306 – The Haitian Dominican Border: Nation, State, and Race
- AAS 307 – Black Brazil
- AAS 310 – Black Feminisms
- AAS 311 – Black Nationalism
- AAS 312 – African American Religious Movements in the US
- AAS 313 – The African American Economy
- AAS 316 – Introduction to Community Development and Planning
- AAS 317 – African Americans and the Law
- AAS 318 – African American Psychology
- AAS 320 – Ancient Egypt (KMT)
- AAS 321 – African Americans in Cinema
- AAS 322 – The City in Africa
- AAS 323 – History of Africa to 1800
- AAS 324 – History of African American Education
- AAS 326 – Africa in Cinema
- AAS 327 – History of Africa 1800 to Present
- AAS 328 – Prison Narratives
- AAS 330 – The Civil Rights Movement
- AAS 332 – African American Media
- AAS 334 – Music of the Caribbean
- AAS 335 – The Caribbean in World Politics

- AAS 338 – Race and Ethnicity in American Society
- AAS 339 – African Languages
- AAS 340 – History of African American Women
- AAS 342 – African American in the Political System
- AAS 343 – African American Women Writers
- AAS 344 – African Women Writers
- AAS 345 – African American Poetry
- AAS 346 – African American Autobiography
- AAS 348 – Literature of Africa and the African Diaspora
- AAS 349 – The Harlem Renaissance
- AAS 351 – Topics in African History, Politics and Society
- AAS 352 – Topics in African American History and Culture
- AAS 353 – Topics in Caribbean History, Politics and Society
- AAS 354 – Black Panther Women and Gender Politics
- AAS 356 – Afrofuturism
- AAS 381 – Individual Tutorial in African and African American Studies
- AAS 390 – Research Methods
- AAS 400 – Seminar: Slavery in the New World
- AAS 451 – Seminar: African History, Politics, and Society
- AAS 470 – Fieldwork in the African American Community
- AAS 475 – Fieldwork in Africa
- AAS 481 – Honors Project

3. To:

Africana Studies, BA

Africana Studies is a body of knowledge that records, describes, and analyzes the experience of people of African descent in all parts of the world, but especially in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Americas. Africana Studies appraises the past, examines the present, and seeks to shape the future by highlighting the cultural, historical, philosophical, and political contributions of Black people in Africa and their descendants throughout the African diaspora.

Major Requirements: Overall

Type: Completion requirement

Earn at least 27 credits

Additional Comments:

- Departmental Honors
 - Students who wish to qualify for Departmental honors are required to take AAS 481: Honors Project.
- Teacher Certification
 - Students interested in obtaining New York State teacher certification should consult the Office of the Dean of Education

- Women's Studies Options
 - See the description of this program contained later in this Bulletin.

Major Requirements – Core Courses

Type: Completion requirement

Earn at least 21 credits from the following courses:

- AAS 166 – Introduction to African and African American Studies
- AAS 232 – African Civilizations
 - OR** AAS 248 – African History
- AAS 235 – Caribbean Societies
- AAS 241 – Literature of the English & Francophone Caribbean
 - OR** AAS 214 – Literature of the Caribbean and the Caribbean Diaspora
 - OR** AAS 242 – African Literature
 - OR** AAS 267 – African American Literature
- AAS 245 – History of African Americans
- AAS 330 – The Civil Rights Movement
 - OR** AAS 342 – African Americans in the Political System
- AAS 390 – Research Methods
 - OR** AAS 470 – Fieldwork in the African American Community
- Students in the Early Childhood and Childhood teaching certification sequence may substitute the courses in the ECCE certification, and ECE 483, which are student teaching and the accompanying seminar (6 credits), for AAS 470 – Fieldwork in the African American Community.

Additional Comments:

100% of the courses to complete the major may be taken online.

Major Requirements – Electives

Type: Completion requirement

Earn at least 6 credits from the following:

- AAS 300 – Literature of the African Diaspora in Latin America
- AAS 303 – Globalization and Africa
- AAS 304 – Societies and Cultures of Africa
- AAS 305 – African Philosophical Thought
- AAS 306 – The Haitian Dominican Border: Nation, State, and Race
- AAS 307 – Black Brazil
- AAS 310 – Black Feminisms
- AAS 311 – Black Nationalism
- AAS 312 – African American Religious Movements in the US
- AAS 313 – The African American Economy
- AAS 316 – Introduction to Community Development and Planning
- AAS 317 – African Americans and the Law
- AAS 318 – African American Psychology
- AAS 320 – Ancient Egypt (KMT)

- AAS 321 – African Americans in Cinema
- AAS 322 – The City in Africa
- AAS 323 – History of Africa to 1800
- AAS 324 – History of African American Education
- AAS 326 – Africa in Cinema
- AAS 327 – History of Africa 1800 to Present
- AAS 328 – Prison Narratives
- AAS 330 – The Civil Rights Movement
- AAS 332 – African American Media
- AAS 334 – Music of the Caribbean
- AAS 335 – The Caribbean in World Politics
- AAS 338 – Race and Ethnicity in American Society
- AAS 339 – African Languages
- AAS 340 – History of African American Women
- AAS 342 – African American in the Political System
- AAS 343 – African American Women Writers
- AAS 344 – African Women Writers
- AAS 345 – African American Poetry
- AAS 346 – African American Autobiography
- AAS 348 – Literature of Africa and the African Diaspora
- AAS 349 – The Harlem Renaissance
- AAS 351 – Topics in African History, Politics and Society
- AAS 352 – Topics in African American History and Culture
- AAS 353 – Topics in Caribbean History, Politics and Society
- AAS 354 – Black Panther Women and Gender Politics
- AAS 356 – Afrofuturism
- AAS 381 – Individual Tutorial in African and African American Studies
- AAS 390 – Research Methods
- AAS 400 – Seminar: Slavery in the New World
- AAS 451 – Seminar: African History, Politics, and Society
- AAS 470 – Fieldwork in the African American Community
- AAS 475 – Fieldwork in Africa
- AAS 481 – Honors Project

4. Rationale (Explain how this change will impact learning outcomes of the department and Major/Program):

In response to our 2025 external review, we are taking action to address the dwindling number of Africana Studies majors and create more opportunities for students to become double majors.

The external report noted two areas for possible collaboration—nursing and education—and the importance of an Africana Studies grounding in these majors (particularly the former). The current number of required credits makes it difficult students in areas with high credit requirements, licensing concerns, and required clinical work to declare a second major or minor. Slightly lowering the requirements will allow

more students in these majors (and others) to consider Africana Studies as a potential double major.

This adjustment will better align the Africana Studies Department's requirements with that of peer institutions offering an equivalent degree. Our survey of other CUNY schools with Africana Studies/Black Studies majors reveal a range from 30 credits at Hunter and Baruch. The lower requirement will also be in line with other Lehman Arts and Humanities departments, such as Latin American and Latino Studies (27), Philosophy (27) Sociology and History (30 credits).

Furthermore, it is our firm belief that further exposure to the interdisciplinary perspectives in Africana Studies will better equip graduates to apply their skills to the needs the needs of Black communities in New York City and beyond, which is a key goal of the discipline and the institution. After consideration of our required coursework, we are confident that this can be done while still preparing majors with adequate foundation for graduate school or chosen careers.

5. **Date of departmental approval:** March 18, 2026

**LEHMAN COLLEGE
OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICANA STUDIES
CURRICULUM CHANGE

Name of Program and Degree Award: Africana Studies, Minor
Effective Term: Spring 2027

1. **Type of Change:** *Change in Degree Requirements*

2. **From:** ~~Strike through the changes~~
Africana Studies, Minor

Minor Requirements – Overall

Type: Completion requirement

Earn at least ~~15~~ credits

Minor Requirements – Required Courses

Type: Completion requirement

Complete ALL of the following courses:

AAS 166 – Introduction to African and African American Studies

~~12~~-in elective AAS courses:

AAS courses at the 200 level or above

AAS courses at the 300 level or 400 level

3. **To:** Underline the changes

Africana Studies, Minor

Minor Requirements – Overall

Type: Completion requirement

Earn at least 12 credits

Minor Requirements – Required Courses

Type: Completion requirement

Complete ALL of the following courses:

AAS 166 – Introduction to African and African American Studies

AND

AAS 232 – African Civilizations

6 in elective courses: the 2 courses must be at the 300 level or above

AAS courses at the 300 level or 400 level

- AAS 212 – African Art
- AAS 213 – African American Art
- AAS 214 – Literature of the Caribbean and the Caribbean Diaspora
- AAS 225 – The Contemporary Urban Community
- AAS 226 – Community Organization
- AAS 228 – African American Families
- AAS 232 – African Civilizations
- AAS 235 – Caribbean Societies
- AAS 238 – African American Theater
- AAS 239 – Black Women in American Society
- AAS 240 – Women in African Society
- AAS 241 – Literature of the Francophone Caribbean
- AAS 242 – African Literature
- AAS 245 – History of African Americans
- AAS 248 – African History
- AAS 266 – Contemporary Black Music
- AAS 267 – African American Literature
- AAS 268 – The Economics of Poverty
- AAS 269 – Introduction to African Philosophy
- AAS 300 – Literature of the African Diaspora in Latin America
- AAS 303 – Globalization and Africa
- AAS 304 – Societies and Cultures of Africa
- AAS 305 – African Philosophical Thought
- AAS 306 – The Haitian Dominican Border: Nation, State, and Race
- AAS 307 – Black Brazil
- AAS 310 – Black Feminisms
- AAS 311 – Black Nationalism
- AAS 312 – African American Religious Movements in the US
- AAS 313 – The African American Economy
- AAS 316 – Introduction to Community Development and Planning
- AAS 317 – African Americans and the Law
- AAS 318 – African American Psychology
- AAS 320 – Ancient Egypt (KMT)
- AAS 321 – African Americans in Cinema
- AAS 322 – The City in Africa
- AAS 323 – History of Africa to 1800
- AAS 324 – History of African American Education
- AAS 326 – Africa in Cinema
- AAS 327 – History of Africa 1800 to Present
- AAS 328 – Prison Narratives
- AAS 330 – The Civil Rights Movement
- AAS 332 – African American Media
- AAS 334 – Music of the Caribbean

- AAS 335 – The Caribbean in World Politics
- AAS 338 – Race and Ethnicity in American Society
- AAS 339 – African Languages
- AAS 340 – History of African American Women
- AAS 342 – African American in the Political System
- AAS 343 – African American Women Writers
- AAS 344 – African Women Writers
- AAS 345 – African American Poetry
- AAS 346 – African American Autobiography
- AAS 348 – Literature of Africa and the African Diaspora
- AAS 349 – The Harlem Renaissance
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- AAS 381 – Individual Tutorial in African and African American Studies
- AAS 390 – Research Methods
- AAS 400 – Seminar: Slavery in the New World
- AAS 451 – Seminar: African History, Politics, and Society
- AAS 470 – Fieldwork in the African American Community
- AAS 475 – Fieldwork in Africa
- AAS 481 – Honors Project

4. Rationale (Explain how this change will impact learning outcomes of the department and Major/Program):

In response to our departmental assessment, we determined that adding AAS 232 as a required course for the minor would greatly enrich students' understanding of the pivotal role that ancient African societies played in the development of human civilization as a whole. AAS 232's historical emphasis on the African continent's centrality to the advancement of human progress provides the perfect complement to AAS 166's theoretical overview of African and African American Studies, which examines the rich socio-cultural, political, and philosophical contributions of continental Africans and Africans throughout the diaspora. Lowering the number of credits required to fulfill the Africana Studies minor will attract more students, from a variety of fields, to our interdisciplinary area that will naturally complement their existing majors. Reducing the number of minor credits from 15 to 12 will lead to an increase in the number of Africana Studies minors and, thereby, equip a greater number of Lehman students with a skill set that includes strengthened analytical skills, enhanced cultural competencies, and committed civic and global engagement. The elective courses were added as they were missing from the Coursedog catalog.

5. Date of departmental approval: March 18, 2026

**LEHMAN COLLEGE
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DEPARTMENT OF AFRICANA STUDIES

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. **Type of Change:** *Prerequisites*2. **From:** ~~Strike through the changes~~

Department(s)	Africana Studies
Career	☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate
Academic Level	☒ Regular ☐ Compensatory ☐ Developmental ☐ Remedial
Subject Area	
Course Prefix & Number	AAS 390
Course Title	Research Methods
Description	Interdisciplinary research in African and African American Studies.
Pre/ Co Requisites	
Credits	3
Hours	3
Liberal Arts	☒ Yes ☐ No
Course Attribute (e.g. Writing Intensive, WAC, etc)	
General Education Component	☒ Not Applicable ☐ Required ☐ English Composition ☐ Mathematics ☐ Science ☐ Flexible ☐ World Cultures ☐ US Experience in its Diversity ☐ Creative Expression ☐ Individual and Society ☐ Scientific World

3. **To:** Underline the changes

Department(s)	Africana Studies
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Career	☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate
Academic Level	☒ Regular ☐ Compensatory ☐ Developmental ☐ Remedial
Subject Area	
Course Prefix & Number	AAS 390
Course Title	Research Methods
Description	Interdisciplinary research in African and African American Studies.
Pre/ Co Requisites	<u>AAS 166, AAS 245 and junior or senior status</u>
Credits	3
Hours	3
Liberal Arts	☒ Yes ☐ No
Course Attribute (e.g. Writing Intensive, WAC, etc)	
General Education Component	☒ Not Applicable ☐ Required ☐ English Composition ☐ Mathematics ☐ Science ☐ Flexible ☐ World Cultures ☐ US Experience in its Diversity ☐ Creative Expression ☐ Individual and Society ☐ Scientific World

4. Rationale (Explain how this change will impact the learning outcomes of the department and Major/Program):

AAS 390 was created as a capstone course for the Department of African and African American Studies, which is now the Department of Africana Studies. As such, its purpose is two-fold: 1) to provide a rigorous course that encapsulates and builds upon the collective knowledge gained during our major students' tenure in the department; and 2) provide a scholarly bridge for students either heading directly into careers or to graduate/professional school. The course requires solid foundational grounding in Africana Studies coursework and disciplinary methodology, as well as high levels of written communication expected of a potential graduate. Completing both AAS 166 and AAS 245 provides students with the necessary theoretical and historical background to succeed in AAS 390. Furthermore, students at the junior or senior level will also have the satisfied most, if not all, of their Composition requirements, which will enable them to write satisfactory college-level essays. These revised pre-requisites will better prepare students for course expectations, while providing a clear path for lower level

students to plan their course schedules to accommodate these prerequisites. As a result of this additional curricular clarity, the department expects improved learning outcomes and greater student success.

5. **Date of departmental approval:** March 18, 2026

**LEHMAN COLLEGE
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DEPARTMENT OF AFRICANA STUDIES

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. **Type of Change:** *Prerequisites*

2. **From:** ~~Strike through the changes~~

Department(s)	Africana Studies
Career	☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate
Academic Level	☒ Regular ☐ Compensatory ☐ Developmental ☐ Remedial
Subject Area	
Course Prefix & Number	AAS 470
Course Title	Fieldwork in the African American Community
Description	Supervised placement in community service agencies and institutions.
Pre/ Co Requisites	
Credits	3
Hours	3
Liberal Arts	☒ Yes ☐ No
Course Attribute (e.g. Writing Intensive, WAC, etc)	
General Education Component	☒ Not Applicable ☐ Required ☐ English Composition ☐ Mathematics ☐ Science ☐ Flexible ☐ World Cultures ☐ US Experience in its Diversity ☐ Creative Expression ☐ Individual and Society ☐ Scientific World

3. **To:** Underline the changes

Department(s)	Africana Studies
Career	☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate
Academic Level	☒ Regular ☐ Compensatory ☐ Developmental ☐ Remedial
Subject Area	
Course Prefix & Number	AAS 470
Course Title	Fieldwork in the African American Community
Description	Supervised placement in community service agencies and institution.
Pre/ Co Requisites	<u>AAS 166, AAS 245</u> <u>And junior or senior status, instructor approval</u>
Credits	3
Hours	3
Liberal Arts	☒ Yes ☐ No
Course Attribute (e.g. Writing Intensive, WAC, etc)	
General Education Component	☒ Not Applicable ☐ Required ☐ English Composition ☐ Mathematics ☐ Science ☐ Flexible ☐ World Cultures ☐ US Experience in its Diversity ☐ Creative Expression ☐ Individual and Society ☐ Scientific World

4. Rationale (Explain how this change will impact the learning outcomes of the department and Major/Program):

AAS 470 was created as a capstone course for the Department of African and African American Studies, now the Department of Africana Studies. As such, its purpose is two-fold: 1) to provide a rigorous course that encapsulates and builds upon the collective knowledge gained during major students' tenure in the department; and 2) provide an academic bridge for students either heading directly into careers or to graduate/professional school. The course requires solid foundational grounding in Africana Studies coursework and disciplinary methodology, as well as high levels of written communication reflective of a potential graduate. Since both AAS 166 and AAS 245 provide this theoretical and historical foundation, these revised pre-requisites will better prepare students for course expectations and provide a clear path for lower level

students to plan their schedules for this future capstone course. As students at the junior and senior level will have completed most, if not all, of their Composition courses, they will be equipped with stronger writing skills and be able to complete the required essays for the course. The added requirement of instructor's approval will ensure that students receive structured consultation that reflects the personalized nature of AAS 470, where fieldwork assignments are approved by the instructor and often done with existing community partner organizations. These curricular changes will formalize de-facto expectations. The department expects improved learning outcomes for students as a result of these curricular revisions.

5. **Date of departmental approval:** March 18, 2026