AFRO - AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

AFRO Class Schedule (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/AFRO/)

Courses

AFRO 100  Intro to African American St  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/100/)
Interdisciplinary introduction to the basic concepts and literature in the disciplines covered by African American studies; surveys the major approaches to the study of African Americans across several academic disciplines including economics, education, psychology, literature, political science, sociology and others. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Lit Arts Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 101  Black America, 1619-Present  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/101/)
Sociohistorical survey of African American experiences from the West African background to North America, from the 17th century to the present. Same as HIST 174. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Hist Phil Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 103  Black Women in the Diaspora  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/103/)
Explores the historical, social, economic, cultural and political realities of black women in the African diaspora with an emphasis on the U.S., Canada, Britain, Africa and the English speaking Caribbean. How macro structures such as slavery, imperialism, colonialism, capitalism, and globalization shaped and continue to circumscribe the lives of black women across various geographic regions. Discussion of the multiple strategies/efforts that black women employ both in the past and present to ensure the survival of the self and the community. Same as AFST 103 and GWS 103. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 105  Black Literature in America  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/105/)
Survey of the literary work of Black Americans from 1746 to the present. Exploration of the social, cultural, and political contexts that have shaped the Black American literary tradition by analyzing not only poetry, drama, autobiographical narratives, short stories, and novels, but also folktales, spirituals, and contemporary music. Same as ENGL 150. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Lit Arts Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 106  Hist Arch Americas  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/106/)
Same as ANTH 106. See ANTH 106. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Hist Phil Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 107  History of the Prison  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/107/)
Same as HIST 219 and LA 221. See LA 221. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Hist Phil Cultural Studies - Western

AFRO 108  US Citizenship Comparatively  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/108/)
Same as AAS 215, AIS 295, GWS 215, and LLS 215. See AAS 215. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Hist Phil Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 109  Intro to Research Methods AfAm  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/109/)
Introduction to various methodologies to be employed in the interdisciplinary field of African American/Africana studies. Prerequisite: AFRO 100.

AFRO 132  African American Music  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/132/)
Survey of African American music, from its origins to the present with a focus on understanding details of musical performance and the ways in which music interacts with its social and political context. Examines genres such as spirituals, the blues, jazz, R&B, soul, and hip-hop. No previous musical background is necessary. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Lit Arts Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 199  Undergraduate Open Seminar  credit: 1 to 5 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/199/)
May be repeated.

AFRO 211  Intro to African-American Film  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/211/)
Same as MACS 211. See MACS 211. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 212  Intro African American Theat  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/212/)
Same as THEA 263. See THEA 263. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 215  US Citizenship Comparatively  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/215/)
Same as AAS 215, AIS 295, GWS 215, and LLS 215. See AAS 215. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Hist Phil Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 220  Intro to Research Methods AfAm  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/220/)
Introduction to various methodologies to be employed in the interdisciplinary field of African American/Africana studies. Prerequisite: AFRO 100.

AFRO 221  History of the Prison  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/221/)
Same as HIST 219 and LA 221. See LA 221. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Hist Phil Cultural Studies - Western

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 06/2023
AFRO 224 Humanist Persp of Afro-Am Exp credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/224/)
Provides an introduction to Pan African political movements and ideologies from the Americas to continental Africa. Examines the political, social, economic, and ideological relationships and connections between Africans and their descendants in the diaspora from an historical and comparative perspective. Same as AFST 243 and PS 243. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Cultural Studies - Non-West

AFRO 250 Introduction to Health and Wellness in the Black Community credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/250/)
An introduction for understanding health-related issues and disparities affecting the African American community. We will explore health status across the lifespan, social and environmental challenges, chronic diseases, lifestyle behaviors, and intervention, research and policy implications. Students will learn how to integrate and situate these complexities in a broader systemic framework and understand how this population exhibits resiliency in the face of these adversities. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 275 Afro-American History to 1877 credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/275/)
An introduction for understanding health-related issues and disparities affecting the African American community. We will explore health status across the lifespan, social and environmental challenges, chronic diseases, lifestyle behaviors, and intervention, research and policy implications. Students will learn how to integrate and situate these complexities in a broader systemic framework and understand how this population exhibits resiliency in the face of these adversities. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AFRO 281 Constructing Race in America credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/281/)
Same as AAS 281, HIST 281, and LLS 281. See HIST 281. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AFRO 287 African-American Women credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/287/)
Same as GWS 287 and HIST 287. See HIST 287.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AFRO 290 Af Am Urban Hist Since 1917 credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/290/)
Examination of the changing interaction among black urban communities, the broader urban citizenry, municipal government, the local and national urban-industrial economy, and federal policy over time, giving particular attention to discourses about the black "ghetto" as both a physical space and set of social conditions. Same as HIST 284.
Prerequisite: AFRO 101, HIST 276, HIST 172, SOC, 225, or PS 201.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AFRO 298 Spec Topics African-Am Studies credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/298/)
Seminar on selected topics with particular emphasis on current research trends. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: AFRO 100 or AFRO 101, or consent of instructor.
AFRO 310 Race and Cultural Diversity credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/310/)
Same as AAS 310, EPOL 310, EPS 310, and LLS 310. See EPOL 310.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Advanced Composition
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AFRO 312 Psychology of Race & Ethnicity credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/312/)
Same as PSYC 312. See PSYC 312.
AFRO 315 African American Politics credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/315/)
Same as PS 315. See PS 315.
AFRO 340 Dancing Black Popular Culture credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/340/)
Same as DANC 340. See DANC 340.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Advanced Composition
Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AFRO 341 Gov & Pol in Africa credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/341/)
Same as PS 341. See PS 341.
AFRO 342 Black Men and Masculinities credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/342/)
The sociological study of African American men in the contemporary U.S. Specifically, black manhood and masculinities and the experiences of this demographic group as it relates to the economy, state, policy, and institutions such as family, criminal justice system, and education. Same as SOC 325. Prerequisite: Introductory social science course.
AFRO 343 Criminalization and Punishment credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/343/)
Same as AAS 343, AIS 343, GWS 343, and LLS 343. See LLS 343.
AFRO 347 Black Women and Film credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/347/)
An examination of the contribution of Black women film directors to cinema. The study of documentary, experimental, animated, fictional shorts, and feature films will reveal their unique approach to constructions of the intersection of race and gender. Starting from the 1920's up to the present, the course considers themes, aesthetics, historical contexts, and ideological discourses presented in the films. Same as MACS 381. Prerequisite: College level film course or consent of instructor.
AFRO 372 Class Politics & Blk Community credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/372/)
Exploration of the complex history of class relations among African Americans during the twentieth century, examining both the internal and external shapers of black class stratification. Considers the historical development of contemporary black "underclass", and the parallel expansion of the black middle class today. Same as HIST 384.
Prerequisite: AFRO 101, HIST 276, or SOC 225 or consent of instructor.
AFRO 373 AfAm Cultrl Politic Mid20C credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/373/)
Focusing on African American culture and history from World War II until the early 1960's, topics include citizenship, migration, urban life, the African Diaspora, Civil Rights Movement, and art forms. Approved for both letter and S/U grading. Prerequisite: AFRO 100 and AFRO 101, AFRO 261, ENGL 260 or HIST 276.
AFRO 378 Race and Revolutions credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/378/)
Focus on the relationship between race and slavery during the revolutions in American and Haiti, respectively. We will seek to understand how the themes of slavery, revolution and race affected blacks, whites and indigenous Americans. We will learn about life during the Revolutionary era by reading the biographies, political pamphlets and personal letters of former slaves, Revolutionaries and everyday men and women as well as historical scholarship. Same as HIST 389. Prerequisite: One African American Studies or History course at either the 100- or 200-level or the consent of instructor.
AFRO 380 Black Women Hist & Cultures credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/380/)
Same as GWS 380. See GWS 380.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Cultural Studies - Non-West
AFRO 381 Black Women and Film credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/381/)
An examination of the contribution of Black women film directors to cinema. The study of documentary, experimental, animated, fictional shorts, and feature films will reveal their unique approach to constructions of the intersection of race and gender. Starting from the 1920's up to the present, the course considers themes, aesthetics, historical contexts, and ideological discourses presented in the films. Same as MACS 381. Prerequisite: College level film course or consent of instructor.
AFRO 382 African Amer Families in Film credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/382/)
Uses film as case studies to examine the diverse structures, social classes, and internal dynamics among African American families. Critical family processes such as family formation patterns, dating mate selection, parenting, male-female/gender relations, child adolescent, and adult development, family routines and practices, family communication, and family stress and coping will be examined. Also considers how families interact within larger contexts, such as the local neighborhood and key institutions (school, workplace, social service agencies). Films will be supplemented with readings drawn for diverse disciplines (African American Studies, Anthropology, Family Studies, History, Psychology, and Sociology) that allow us to examine key substantive, theoretical, methodological, and policy issues in the study of African American families. Same as HDFS 324.
AFRO 435  Commodifying Difference  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/435/)
Examination of the history of twentieth century black women's activism, specifically concerned with how African American female activists have been critical to building, sustaining and leading black freedom movements. Same as GWS 383 and HIST 383. Prerequisite: AFRO 100 or AFRO 101 or AFRO 103 or consent of instructor.

AFRO 398  Spec Topics Afro-Am Studies  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/398/)
Advanced seminar on selected topics with particular emphasis on current research trends. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: Junior status and one of the following: AFRO 224, or HIST 275 or HIST 276, or ENGL 259 or ENGL 260.

AFRO 400  African Diasporic Thought in the Caribbean  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/400/)
Critical examination of the contributions of intellectuals of African descent in the Caribbean and its global circuits. Major streams of social/political thought, cultural analysis, and artistic expression from across the region and its diasporas are analyzed within post- and de-colonial theoretical frameworks. Dialogues with Caribbeanists and thinkers from other parts of the world will also be considered. Same as CWL 400.
3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: AFRO 261 or consent of instructor.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Cultural Studies - Non-West

AFRO 407  Slavery & Race in Latin Am  credit: 2 to 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/407/)
Same as HIST 407. See HIST 407.

AFRO 410  Hate Crimes  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/410/)
Hate crimes represent the manifestation of intergroup bias and aggression. Examples of these crimes will be examined while analyzing longstanding theories in social psychology. Same as PSYC 410.
3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: PSYC 201 or consent of instructor.

AFRO 411  African American Psychology  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/411/)
Introduction to the research, theories, and paradigms developed to understand the attitudes, behaviors, and psychological and educational realities of African Americans. Same as PSYC 416.
3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: AFRO 100 or one psychology course.

AFRO 415  Africana Feminisms  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/415/)
Explores readings and research from the perspective of feminists throughout the African diaspora, with a focus on Black feminist thought emanating from the United States. Same as AFST 420 and GWS 415.
3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: AFRO 103 and an additional 300 or 400-level African American Studies course or consent of the instructor.

AFRO 421  Racial and Ethnic Families  credit: 2 to 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/421/)
Same as EPOL 410, EPS 421, and HDF 424. See EPOL 410.

AFRO 435  Commodifying Difference  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/435/)
Same as AAS 435, GWS 435, LLS 435 and MACS 432. See LLS 435.

AFRO 460  Slavery in the United States  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/460/)
Examination of slavery in the U.S. using primary sources (slave narratives, songs and tales, plantation records, laws and newspapers) from the 18th century through emancipation. Same as HIST 482. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: AFRO 100 or AFRO 101 and one 300-level AFRO course.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Advanced Composition

AFRO 465  Race, Sex, and Deviance  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/465/)
Same as AAS 465, GWS 465, and LLS 465. See LLS 465.

AFRO 482  Immersion Journalism  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/482/)
Examination of how public policy has shaped urban communities and the life chances (i.e., the social, economic, mental and physical well-being) of families of color. Emphasizes the theoretical, political, and economic context of public policy making and specifically address urban issues of housing, communities and families, employment, welfare, and poverty.
This course will draw on scholarship by sociologists, historians, policy analysts, race theorists, and economists. Same as SOC 472 and UP 481.
3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

AFRO 481  Urban Communities & Public Pol  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/481/)
Examination of how public policy has shaped urban communities and the life chances (i.e., the social, economic, mental and physical well-being) of families of color. Emphasizes the theoretical, political, and economic context of public policy making and specifically address urban issues of housing, communities and families, employment, welfare, and poverty.
This course will draw on scholarship by sociologists, historians, policy analysts, race theorists, and economists. Same as SOC 472 and UP 481.
3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.
AFRO 490  Theory in African American St  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/490/)
Introduction to various theories and methodologies rising out of the study of the Black world based on African American intellectual traditions. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: AFRO 100 and one additional 400-level AFRO course, or consent of instructor.

AFRO 495  Senior Thesis Seminar  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/495/)
3 undergraduate hours. No graduate credit. Prerequisite: AFRO 100 and AFRO 220 or AFRO 490.

AFRO 498  Spec Topics African Am Studies  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/498/)
Seminar on selected topics with particular emphasis on current research trends. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated up to a maximum of 6 undergraduate hours or 8 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Upper level AFRO course (300 or above) or consent of instructor.

AFRO 500  Core Probs African-Am Studies  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/500/)
Introduction for grad students to the central concepts, theories, methodologies, and paradigms in Black Studies. Students will also be introduced to the key critical scholars, seminal works and emerging trends in Black Studies. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

AFRO 501  Problems African American Hist  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/501/)
Same as HIST 575. See HIST 575.

AFRO 502  Researching Black Families, Communities, and Neighborhoods  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/502/)
A critical examination of social scientific approaches to the study of black families, communities, and neighborhoods. Students are introduced to the methodological, epistemological, and ethical challenges of conducting research on this population. The class will be a learning community working together through the research process from the development of a research problem to the dissemination of results. 4 graduate hours. No professional credit. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

AFRO 504  Black Women's Studies  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/504/)
The study of black women and gender within critical discourses of history, the social sciences, and the humanities. Students are introduced to interdisciplinary and Black Women's Studies paradigms as means to study and understand the experiences of black women in the U.S. and other racialized women's groups.

AFRO 531  Race and Cultural Critique  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/531/)
Same as AAS 561, ANTH 565, GWS 561, and LLS 561. See AAS 561.

AFRO 552  Ethnography Urban Communities  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/552/)
Addresses substantive, theoretical, methodological, and policy issues within the field of urban community studies. Focusing primarily on African American urban communities, with comparisons to other racial-ethnic group communities (e.g. Euro-American, Latino, immigrant), ethnographic case studies are used to explore community processes (formation, ghettoization, gentrification, transnationalism), their relationship to historical, economic, social, and political factors, and how these processes are influenced by ethnicity, class, gender and developmental cycle. Attention will also be given to how empirical studies can be used to inform public policies affecting urban communities. Interdisciplinary readings draw primarily from anthropology, education, and sociology. Same as HDF 543, SOC 578, and UP 578. 4 graduate hours. No professional credit.

AFRO 560  African Diaspora Seminar  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/560/)
Study of the key political, social, economic and cultural developments of the African Diaspora in Asia, Europe and the Americas. Using an interdisciplinary framework, students will examine recent scholarship in history, women's studies, political science, sociology and anthropology to understand the experiences and challenges faced by people of African descent. Same as AFST 560.

AFRO 595  Directed Independent Readings  credit: 1 to 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/595/)
Primarily but not exclusively for students who are completing a minor or concentration in African American Studies. Approved for both letter and S/U grading. May be repeated in the same or separate terms to a maximum of 12 hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

AFRO 597  Problems in African-Am Studies  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/597/)
Focused reading and study of special problems in African American Studies. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Prerequisite: Graduate standing, AFRO 500 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.

AFRO 598  Res Sem in African-Am Studies  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/598/)
Graduate seminar on special topics based on current research trends. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Prerequisite: Graduate standing, AFRO 500 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.

AFRO 599  Thesis Research  credit: 0 to 16 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AFRO/599/)
Individual direction in research and guidance in writing theses and dissertations for advanced degrees. Approved for S/U grading only. May be repeated in separate terms.