5 January 2015

TO: CEP
FR: T. Sharpley-Whiting, Interim Director, AADS

RE: Revisions to AADS curriculum

After careful review of the AADS curriculum, the program decided to revisit several matters in June 2014.

1. Alphabetize the areas of course of study for the major and minor with Gender and Sexuality becoming Area I and Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture becoming Area II. Social Science remains Area III. Faculty vote: 6 for 2 non-votes

2. Streamlining our Honors GPA requirements with our learning outcomes assessment requirements led the faculty to vote to increase the overall GPA requirement as well as the GPA requirement in AADS for Honors track in the major, from 3.0 to 3.3 (overall GPA) and 3.3 to 3.5 (in AADS major). Further rationale: 3.3-3.5 generally represents the threshold for cum laude-magna cum laude. Faculty vote: 6 for 2 non-votes

3. The program's learning outcomes assessment for the Senior Honor’s Thesis requires three faculty readers, two of whom must be involved in undergraduate teaching in the AADS program. The faculty voted to update the AADS catalog copy so that it would be consistent with the current learning outcomes assessment. Faculty vote: 6 for 2 non-votes

The changes require no new budgetary commitments. Please find below the clean catalog copy. Due to software issues (all edits but the comments disappeared when the document was migrated to this file), the edited catalog copy is attached.
African American and Diaspora Studies

DIRECTOR Tracy D. Sharpley-Whiting
DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES Tiffany R. Patterson
DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES Gilman W. Whiting
PROFESSORS Victor Anderson, Houston Baker, Tracy D. Sharpley-Whiting
ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS Trica Keaton, Tiffany R. Patterson, Gilman W. Whiting
WRITER IN RESIDENCE Alice Randall
MELLON ASSISTANT PROFESSOR Alicia Monroe

THE concentration in African American and Diaspora Studies requires 36 credit hours of course work. Approved courses taken at Fisk University may be counted as electives in the program of study. The course of study in the African American and Diaspora Studies program is divided into three areas: Area of Study I, Gender and Sexuality; Area of Study II, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture; and Area of Study III, Social Sciences. Courses that satisfy each area are listed under "Areas of Study and Electives" below.

Program of Concentration in African American and Diaspora Studies (AADS)
Requirements for the major include at least 36 credit hours of credit as follows:

1. 3 hours of credit from AADS 1010 (101), Introduction to African American and Diaspora Studies.
2. 6 hours of credit from Area of Study I, Gender and Sexuality.
3. 6 hours of credit from Area of Study II, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture.
4. 6 hours of credit from Area of Study III, Social Sciences.
5. 9 hours of credit from Electives, 9 credit hours of electives chosen from Areas of Study I, II, and III, not used to satisfy requirements 2 through 4 above.
6. 3 credit hours of credit from AADS 478 (270)4, Research Methods. Majors are advised to take this course in the fall of their junior year before their fourth year of study but not before the second semester of their sophomore year.
7. 3 credit hours of credit in either AADS 4978 (fall) or 4979 (spring) (299), Senior Thesis in African American and Diaspora Studies.

At least 6 hours of the concentration must focus on the Americas (outside of the United States) and/or Africa. No more than 9 hours of course work can be taken at the 1000 level (excluding AADS 1010 (101)).

Honors Program
The only route to honors in the major is writing a 3 credit hour Senior Honors Thesis in AADS 4998 (fall) or 4999 (spring) (298) and passing an oral examination. Admission to the Honors Program requires a student have a grade point average of at least 3.5 in all AADS courses and a cumulative GPA of 3.3. A committee of three faculty members (two of whom must be involved in undergraduate teaching in the African American and Diaspora Studies program) will evaluate the thesis. Students pursuing the Senior Honors Thesis may apply to the program for nominal funding to assist with research projects. The chair of the student’s thesis committee, and two readers must attend the oral examination. The oral defense will typically take place in the spring semester of the student’s senior year.

Requirements for the Honors major program include a cumulative GPA of 3.33 and a GPA of 3.55 in African American and Diaspora Studies, the 32.25 hours of the regular major as outlined in 1 through 6 above, and 42 hours of credit in AADS 4998 (fall), 4999 (spring) (298). Senior Honors Thesis. Students pursuing the Senior Honors Thesis may apply to the program for nominal funding to assist with research projects. The thesis must be approved by a committee of three faculty members (two of whom must be affiliated with the African American and Diaspora Studies program). Students pursuing the Senior Honors Thesis may apply to the program for nominal funding to assist with research projects.

Minor in African American and Diaspora Studies

The minor is designed to provide a broad overview of the African American and Diaspora Studies curriculum and includes a variety of courses offered in the department. The minor requires a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework, including at least 6 credit hours of course work at the 3000 level or above. Students interested in the minor should consult with the African American and Diaspora Studies advisor to plan their course of study.
Requirements for completion of the minor include at least 21 credit hours of credit as follows:

1. 3 hours of credit in AADS 1010, Introduction to African American and Diaspora Studies.
2. 3 hours of credit from Area of Study I, Gender and Sexuality, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture.
3. 3 hours of credit from Area of Study II, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture, Gender and Sexuality.
4. 3 hours of credit from Area of Study III, Social Sciences.
5. 9 hours of credit from Electives. 9 credit hours of electives chosen from Areas of Study I, II, and III, not used to satisfy requirements 2 through 4 above.

At least 6 credit hours of the minor must focus on the Americas (outside of the United States) and/or Africa, and no more than 6 credit hours of the minor can be taken at the 1000 level (excluding AADS 1010).

Minors are also encouraged, though not required, to take AADS 4278, Research Methods in the fall of their junior year, which counts as a course from Area of Study III, Social Sciences, but not before the second semester of the sophomore year.

Areas of Study and Electives

Courses with an asterisk in the lists below fulfill the Africa and Americas outside of the United States portion of the major and minor. Approved courses offered at Fisk may count toward elective requirements.

Area of Study I, Gender and Sexuality


Area of Study II, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture

AADS AFRICAN AMERICAN AND DIASPORA STUDIES: 1116, Race Matters; 1156, Reel to Reel: Film Aesthetics and Representation; 1706, Capoeira; 2066, Blacks in Country Music; 2306, Race, Mixed Race, and “Passing”; 2356, African Spirits in Exile: Diaspora Religions in the Americas; 3206, Mystery, Murder, and Mayhem in Black Detective Fiction; 3258, Black Issues in Education; 3278, Black Europe; 3458, Atlantic African Slave Trade; 4278, Research Methods.

Area of Study III, Social Sciences

AADS AFRICAN AMERICAN AND DIASPORA STUDIES: 1108, Making of the African Diaspora; 1408, Blacks in Latin America and the Caribbean; 2168, Black Migrations in the African Diaspora; 2178, Global Africa; 2208, Colonialism and After; 3198, Global Anti-Blackness and Black Power; 3208W, Blacks in the Military; 3258, Black Issues in Education; 3278, Black Europe; 3458, Atlantic African Slave Trade; 4278, Research Methods.
African American and Diaspora Studies

DIRECTOR Tracy D. Sharpley-Whiting
DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES Tiffany R. Patterson
DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES Gilman W. Whiting
PROFESSORS Victor Anderson, Houston Baker, Tracy D. Sharpley-Whiting
ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS Trica Keaton, Tiffany R. Patterson, Gilman W. Whiting
WRITER IN RESIDENCE Alice Randall
MELLON ASSISTANT PROFESSOR Alicia Monroe

The concentration in African American and Diaspora Studies requires 36 credit hours of coursework. Approved courses taken at Fisk University may be counted as electives in the program. The course of study in the African American and Diaspora Studies program is divided into three areas: Area of Study I, Gender and Sexuality; Area of Study II, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture; and Area of Study III, Social Sciences. Courses that satisfy each area are listed under “Areas of Study and Electives” below.

Program of Concentration in African American and Diaspora Studies (AADS)
Requirements for the major include at least 36 credit hours as follows:
1. 3 credit hours from 1010 {101}, Introduction to African American and Diaspora Studies.
2. 6 credit hours from Area of Study I, Gender and Sexuality.
3. 6 credit hours from Area of Study II, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture.
4. 6 credit hours from Area of Study III, Social Sciences.
5. 9 credit hours of electives chosen from Areas of Study I, II, and III, not used to satisfy requirements 2 through 4 above.
6. 3 credit hours from 4278 {270}, Research Methods. Majors are advised to take this course in the first semester of their junior year.
7. 3 credit hours in either 4978 (fall) or 4979 (spring) {299}, Senior Thesis in African American and Diaspora Studies.

At least 6 credit hours of the concentration must focus on the Americas (outside of the United States) and/or Africa. No more than 9 credit hours of coursework may be taken at the 1000 {100} level (excluding 1010 {101}).

Honors Program
The only route to honors in the major is writing a 3 credit hour Senior Honors Thesis in AADS 4998 (fall) or 4999 (spring) {298} and passing an oral examination. Admission to the Honors Program requires a student have a grade point average of at least 3.5 in all AADS courses and a cumulative GPA of 3.3. A committee of three faculty members (two of whom must be involved in undergraduate teaching in the African American and Diaspora Studies program) will evaluate the thesis. Students pursuing the Senior Honors Thesis may apply to the program for nominal funding to assist with research projects. The chair of the student’s thesis committee, and two readers must attend the oral examination. The oral defense will typically take place in the second semester of the student’s senior year.

Minor in African American and Diaspora Studies
Requirements for completion of the minor include at least 21 credit hours as follows:

1. 3 credit hours in 1010, Introduction to African American and Diaspora Studies.
2. 3 credit hours from Area of Study I, Gender and Sexuality.
3. 3 credit hours from Area of Study II, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture
4. 3 credit hours from Area of Study III, Social Sciences.
5. 9 credit hours of electives chosen from Areas of Study I, II, and III, not used to satisfy requirements 2 through 4 above.

At least 6 credit hours of the minor must focus on the Americas (outside of the United States) and/or Africa, and no more than 6 credit hours of the minor can be taken at the 1000 {100} level (excluding 1010).

Minors are encouraged, though not required, to take 4278 {270}, Research Methods in the first semester of their junior year.

Areas of Study and Electives
Courses with an asterisk in the lists below fulfill the Africa and Americas outside of the United States portion of the major and minor. Approved courses offered at Fisk may count toward elective requirements.

Area of Study I, Gender and Sexuality

Area of Study II, Literature, Theory, and Visual Culture

Area of Study III, Social Sciences
Dear Jonathan,

Attached you will find the application materials for a proposal for revisions to African American and Diaspora Studies curriculum*, approved pending minor revisions, by the Committee for Education Programs on January 15th, 2015 (6 voting in favor). Attached are the revised documents, redline and approval memo indicating that the CEP is recommending this for consideration by Faculty Council.

Best Regards,

Brian Bachmann

---

Brian O. Bachmann, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
PI, Laboratory for Biosynthetic Studies
Vanderbilt University
Department of Chemistry
Nashville, TN 37235
http://biosyntheticstudies.com/