African American and Diaspora Studies

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

VANDERBILT University’s African American and Diaspora Studies program offers an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, and comparative curriculum of study of the histories, literatures, music, visual cultures, and politics of people of African descent around the world. To that end, the African American and Diaspora Studies program focuses on several geographic areas: Africa, Europe, the Americas, and the Caribbean. The certificate in diaspora studies has been designed to complement students' disciplinary training, expose them to the interdisciplinary trends in the academy, and broaden their career possibilities.

The diaspora studies certificate provides graduate students with access to interdisciplinary scholarship in the dynamic and continually evolving field of studies in the worldwide African diaspora. The certificate also gives students a competitive edge and interdisciplinary training for the still robust career outlook for specialists in pan-black studies as well as in the search for postdoctoral fellowships in the humanities and social sciences.

The certificate in diaspora studies is open to any student enrolled in graduate study at Vanderbilt University. Acceptance to the program requires the approval of the African American and Diaspora Studies program graduate studies committee, comprised of the director of graduate studies, the director of African American and Diaspora Studies, and one other faculty member from African American and Diaspora Studies.

Students must also submit as part of the application to the certificate program: 1) a one-page description of their interests in African diaspora studies and how it relates to their graduate program of study; and 2) complete an Intent to Enroll form, which must be signed by the student, the AADS director of graduate studies, and the director of Graduate Studies for the degree program in which the student is enrolled. A signed copy of the form should be submitted to the Graduate School (richard.hoover@vanderbilt.edu), to the University Registrar’s Office (URO) (university.registrar@vanderbilt.edu), and to the AADS program administrator (tara.f.williams@vanderbilt.edu).

For more detailed information on the diaspora certificate, please go to www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst or contact the director of graduate studies in the African American and Diaspora Studies program.

Requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Diaspora Studies

1. 12 credit hours of coursework, which includes:

a. 3 credit hours of African American and Diaspora Studies 5002. Interdisciplinary introduction to materials, teaching methods, debates, and theoretical terms of scholarly research in Diaspora Studies. A three-week section devoted to course design and development will also be taught in conjunction with the Center for Teaching. Students will be required to prepare a syllabus for the introductory course in African Diaspora Studies, AADS 1010.
b. 9 credit hours of interrelated graduate level coursework on race and its intersection with gender, class, religion, power, and/or sexuality, which are appropriate to the student’s graduate program of study. Students may take African American and Diaspora Studies 5095 Directed Study with a faculty member in African American and Diaspora Studies to fulfill 6 credit hours. No more than 6 credit hours of specifically-named courses required for the primary degree may be applied toward the Certificate. All courses must be approved by the African American and Diaspora Studies program graduate committee and must form an intellectually cohesive whole. Students will be required to provide a copy of course syllabi to the graduate committee so that the committee may determine whether the courses taken or proposed to be taken by the student are indeed appropriate for certificate credit.

2. Participation in a minimum of five extracurricular activities sponsored by the Callie House Research Center for the Study of Global Black Cultures and Politics. A short paper reflecting on the insights gained from participating must be submitted to the Director of Graduate Studies before conferral of the certificate.

3. The conferral of the certificate requires a cumulative GPA of 3.3, satisfactory performance of 3.3 B+ or better in AADS 5002, and completion of all the aforementioned requirements.

Graduate courses successfully completed at Vanderbilt University prior to admission to the program may be counted toward the certificate requirements with the approval of the director of the program if the course can satisfy one of the curriculum requirements of the program. Or if the program doesn’t require the permission of the director: Graduate courses successfully completed at Vanderbilt University prior to admission to the program may be counted toward the certificate requirements if the course can satisfy one of the curriculum requirements of the program.

An undergraduate course may be substituted for a graduate course required by the program’s curriculum with the approval of the director of the program and the Graduate School.

Approved List of Courses

AFRICAN AMERICAN AND DIASPORA STUDIES: 5002 (300), Theories of Diaspora; 5095 (395a), Directed Study; 5654 (265) Memoirs and Biographies;

ANTHROPOLOGY: 8220 (349), The Historical Archaeology of Latin America;

ENGLISH: 8450 (320), Studies in American Literature; 8455 (321), Studies in Southern Literature; 8430 (325), Seminar in Modern British and American Literature; 8137 (337a), Introduction to Literary Theory; 8150 (350), Special Problems in English and American Literature; 8155 (355), Special Topics in English and American Literature;

FRENCH: 8070 (388), Seminar in Francophone Literature;

GERMAN: 5795 (395), The Racial Imagination;

HISTORY: 6400 (302A), Readings in American History; 6410 (302B), Readings in American History; 6500 (303A), Readings in Early Latin American History; 6510 (303B), Readings in Modern Latin American History; 8050 (305), Studies in Comparative History; 8600 (358), Comparative Slavery in the Colonial Americas; 8610 (359), Atlantic World History, Fifteenth to the Nineteenth Century; 8620 (361), Studies in Latin American History; 8630 (365), Research Seminar in Latin American History; 8700 (371), Studies in Early American History to 1783; 8710 (372), Studies in the Middle Period of American History, 1783–1861; 8720 (373), Studies in U.S. History, 1861–1900; 8730 (374), Studies in Recent American
History; 8740 (375), Research Seminar in Recent American History; 8732, Religion and the Civil Rights Movement; 8745 U.S. and the World; 8750 (381), Studies in American History;

PHILOSOPHY: 9020 (352), Topics in Philosophy (must be AADS-related); 9000 (353), Figures in Philosophy (must be AADS-related);

POLITICAL SCIENCE: 8305 (305), Feminist Social and Political Thought; 8330 (330), Studies in American Politics; 8332 (332), Electoral Behavior and Public Opinion;

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: 7131 (3415), Feminist/Womanist Ethics; 3442, African American Political Theology; 3535, Black Islam in America; 3538, The Black Church in America; 3822, The Amarna Period; 3852, Slave Thought; 3882, African American Biblical Hermeneutics;

SOCIOLOGY: 6302, Contemporary Theory; 8331, Survey Seminar on Collective Behavior and Social Movements; 8333, Survey Seminar on Cultural Sociology; 8345, Survey Seminar on Social Stratification;

SPANISH: 8345, Introduction to Latin American Colonial Studies; 9240, Ordering and Disrupting Fictions in Latin America; 8200, Seminar: Studies in Colonial Literature; 9270, The Politics of Identity in Latino U.S. Literature; 9520, Special Topics in Spanish American Literature;

WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES: 8301, Gender and Sexuality: Feminist Approaches; 8302, Gender and Pedagogy.
I. The Mission Statement

African American and Diaspora Studies program offers an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, and comparative curriculum of study of the histories, literatures, music, visual cultures, and politics of people of African descent around the world. To that end, the African American and Diaspora Studies program focuses on several geographic areas: Africa, Europe, the Americas, and the Caribbean. The certificate in diaspora studies has been designed to complement students’ disciplinary training, expose them to the interdisciplinary trends in the academy, and broaden their career possibilities.

The diaspora studies certificate provides graduate students with access to interdisciplinary scholarship in the dynamic and continually evolving field of studies in the worldwide African diaspora. The certificate also gives students a competitive edge and interdisciplinary training for the still robust career outlook for specialists in pan-black studies as well as in the search for postdoctoral fellowships in the humanities and social sciences.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will develop and demonstrate proficiency to conduct research in African American and Diaspora Studies across various disciplines of the social sciences and humanities using a wide range of scholarly resources. By extending their studies beyond their disciplinary specialization, they will become familiar with different disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches and resources that address the complexities and diversity of the African diaspora.

2. All graduate students will prepare an introductory course syllabus for African American and Diaspora Studies 1010 Introduction as related to the three-week course design portion of AADS 5002.
3. Students will broaden their knowledge of the African Diaspora beyond their disciplinary specialization by participating in a minimum of five extracurricular activities sponsored by the Callie House Research Center for Study of Global Black Cultures and Politics, the research center arm of AADS.

### III. Assessment Measures (Please provide rubrics or assessment tools if used)

Students pursuing the Certificate in Diaspora Studies must complete a paper related to coursework in AADS 5002. The paper, an intense, supervised written topic of research, represents the culmination of study of theoretical paradigms and broader debates about race, religion, gender, culture, class, politics, sexuality, and color in relationship to the histories, literatures, music, visual cultures, and politics of the African diaspora.

Final papers will be evaluated on a 100-point scale by at least two members of the AADS graduate committee as well as the course instructor. Students must receive a minimum passing grade of 88 to indicate proficiency. The program draws upon the qualitative and quantitative rubrics delineated in Brown, Bull, & Pendlebury’s *Assessing Student Learning in Higher Education* (1997).

**Assessment Measure(s) for Student Learning Outcome 2**

Syllabi will be evaluated by an AADS committee consisting of the DGS, the course instructor, and the AADS DUGS. The rubric for evaluation will be drawn from Wiggins and McTighe, *Understanding by Design* (2012).

**Assessment Measure(s) for Student Learning Outcome 3**

Students are required to reflect on the insights gained from participating in five AADS-Callie House Research Center- sponsored extracurricular events by writing a short paper that will be reviewed by the Director of Graduate Studies.
Williams, Tara F

From: Welch, Heidi L
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 2:18 PM
To: Williams, Tara F
Cc: Welch, Heidi L; Harrington, Joel F; Sharpley-Whiting, Tracy D
Subject: for AADS, Graduate level courses in HIST

Dear Tara,

Joel has asked that I email you about your inquiry regarding HIST graduate courses.

"Yes" to your list below, those courses are valid and correct.

However we have other graduate courses in the areas of America, and Latin America that you might want to know about:

We also offer:
HIST 6400 Readings in American History (fall term)
HIST 6410 Readings in American History (spring term)
HIST 6500 Readings in Early Latin American History
HIST 6510 Readings in Modern Latin American History
And two new courses:
HIST 8732 Religion and the Civil Rights Movement
HIST 8745 U.S. and the World

Thanks for asking!

-Heidi

Heidi Welch
Vanderbilt University
Department Education Assistant, History Department
Benson Hall, room 227, M-F 8 am – 4 pm
Email: Heidi.welch@vanderbilt.edu
615-322-2575

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From: Williams, Tara F
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:00 PM
To: Harrington, Joel F
Subject: Approval Request

Dear Professor Harrington

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.

HISTORY: 8050, Studies in Comparative History; 8600, Comparative Slavery
Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate
USAC Representative (Group 16)
Administrative Assistant
Program in African American and Diaspora Studies & Research Center
2301 Vanderbilt Place
PMB 351516
Nashville, TN 37235
Office: (615) 343-6390
Fax: (615) 343-1767
www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst
Dear Tara,

this is a yes with the caveat that this course won't be offered any time soon. Just to let you know.

Kind greetings, Meike

Dr. Meike G. Werner
Assoc. Prof. of German and European Studies Chair, Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages
Vanderbilt University PVU Station B #351567 Nashville, TN 37235-1567 tel 615.322.2611 fax 615.343.7258
e-mail: meike.werner@vanderbilt.edu

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Dear Professor Werner,

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed “Yes” will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.

5975 The Racial Imagination

Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate
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2301 Vanderbilt Place
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Office: (615) 343-6390
Fax: (615) 343-1767
www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst
Dear Tara:

Yes, English is pleased to continue our association with AADS in the granting of a graduate certificate. Michael Kreyling.

Michael Kreyling  
Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of English  
Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, TN 37235  
615-322-2541  
615-343-8028 (FAX)

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From: Williams, Tara F  
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 12:53 PM  
To: Kreyling, Michael P  
Subject: Approval Request

Dear Professor Kreyling,

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.

ENGLISH: 8450, Studies in American Literature; 8455, Studies in Southern Literature; 8430, Seminar in Modern British and American Literature; 8137, Introduction to Literary Theory; 8150, Special Problems in English and American Literature; 8155, Special Topics in English and American Literature.

Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

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www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst
YES.

In addition, we occasionally have a special topics seminar Span 9520 Special Topics in Spanish American Lit that might be relevant. I assume that if Prof. Luis offers Span 9520 with the topic of Afro-Hispanic Literature (as he may do in the spring), that that could also count.

Thanks,

Victoria A. Burrus
Associate Professor of Spanish
Vice Chair, Dept of Spanish and Portuguese
304 Furman Hall

From: Williams, Tara F
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:12 PM.
To: Burrus, Victoria A
Subject: Approval Request

Dear Professor Burrus,

We are currently in the process of reapproving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.


Thanks! Make it a great day! ☺

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate
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Fax: (615) 343-1767
www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst
Hi Tara,

Yes! Thanks for asking.

Laura

*****
Laura M. Carpenter
Interim Director, Women's and Gender Studies

From: <Williams>, Tara F <tara.f.williams@Vanderbilt.Edu>
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:14 PM
To: Laura Carpenter <laura.carpenter@vanderbilt.edu>
Subject: Approval Request

Dear Professor Carpenter,

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES: 8301, Gender and Sexuality: Feminist Approaches; 8302, Gender and Pedagogy.

Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate
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Nashville, TN 37235
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www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst
Yes

From: Williams, Tara F  
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:10 PM  
To: Donato, Katharine  
Subject: Approval Request

Dear Professor Donato,

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.

SOCIOL:Y 6302, Contemporary Theory; 8331, Survey Seminar on Collective Behavior and Social Movements; 8333, Survey Seminar on Cultural Sociology; 8345, Survey Seminar on Social Stratification.

Thanks! Make it a great day! ☺

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate  
USC Representative (Group 16)  
Administrative Assistant  
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www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst
Yes.

David E. Lewis, Interim Chair  
William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Vanderbilt University

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From: Williams, Tara F  
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:05 PM  
To: Lewis, David Eric  
Subject: Approval Request

Dear Professor Lewis,

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.

8305 Feminist Social and Political Thought  
8330 Studies in American Politics  
8332 Electrical Behavior and Public Opinion

Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate  
USAC Representative (Group 16)  
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Nashville, TN 37235  
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www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst
YES

From: Williams, Tara F  
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 10:50 AM  
To: Saggi, Kamal  
Subject: Approval Request

Dear Professor Saggi,

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.

8220, The Historical Archaeology of Latin America.

Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate  
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Dear Tara,

Most definitely, Yes.

Best wishes,
Paul DeHart

Dear Professor DeHart,

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.


Thanks! Make it a great day!

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate
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Nashville, TN 37235
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Fax: (615) 343-1767
www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Williams, Tara F" <tara.f.williams@vanderbilt.edu>
Date: April 24, 2015 at 9:49:20 AM CDT
To: "Greene, Senta V" <senta.v.greene@vanderbilt.edu>
Subject: RE: Final Approval for Grad Certificate

I already sent you the others in an email with the final Graduate Certificate documents.

Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate
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From: Greene, Senta V
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2015 9:37 AM
To: Williams, Tara F
Subject: RE: Final Approval for Grad Certificate

Tara,

Was this the only permission letter you received? If not, could you please send the othersa?

Thanks,
Vicki

From: Williams, Tara F
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2015 10:04 AM
To: Greene, Senta V
Subject: Final Approval for Grad Certificate
Hi Dean Greene,

I had not received this one when I emailed the others. Please add this one to the Graduate Certificate documents we have already sent over.

Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate
USAC Representative (Group 16)
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www.vanderbilt.edu/aframst

From: Scott, Virginia M
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2015 6:18 PM
To: Williams, Tara F
Subject: RE: Approval Request

Sorry – I was late in replying. YES!! We really appreciate the work in AADS and need the Grad Certificate for many of our students.
Virginia Scott

From: Williams, Tara F
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 12:55 PM
To: Scott, Virginia M
Subject: Approval Request

Dear Professor Scott,

We are currently in the process of re-approving courses offered for graduate credit for the Graduate Certificate in African Diaspora Studies offered by AADS. Several courses in your department were already approved in 2008. We are writing to again request approval. An emailed "Yes" will suffice. Please reply by Friday, April 17th.

8070 Seminar in Francophone Literature

Thanks! Make it a great day! 😊

Tara F. Williams, B.A., M.Div Candidate
USAC Representative (Group 16)
Administrative Assistant
Program in African American and Diaspora Studies & Research Center