Master of Arts Degree in AAADS

This program is open to any eligible student with a bachelor's degree from an accredited college. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Admissions decisions will be made based mainly on letters of recommendation, a brief personal essay, and GRE scores. All students in the program will complete a minimum of 32 credit hours with a minimum 3.0 grade point average.

- AAADS MA students are required to complete the following courses:
  - Introduction to African American & African Diaspora Studies, Part I;
  - Race and Culture or Race and Politics;
  - Race and the Global City, Part I and II;
  - Interdisciplinary Methods;
  - Electives offered in AAADS or by adjunct faculty;
  - Core Readings; and
  - MA Thesis: Field Study Seminar.

In addition, students must complete the foreign language requirement of the University Graduate School by satisfactory completion of course work or by passing a language proficiency exam.

MA/MFA in AAADS & Creative Writing

This dual degree program allows students to combine critical studies of the African diaspora experience, especially in literature, with creative and original works of poetry and prose. Students must apply separately to either the Creative Writing MFA program or AAADS, indicating on the application form that they are also applying for the MA/MFA dual degree in African American & African Diaspora Studies and Creative Writing.

- Courses for these two degrees can be combined for a total of 68 credit hours:
  - At least 16 hours of writing workshops;
  - Four courses in literature, culture, African diaspora studies, and language (12-16 hours), at least two of which are 600 level or above from offerings in English, AAADS, or Comparative Literature (courses from other departments must be approved by the director of creative writing in consultation with the AAADS director of graduate studies);
  - CW courses must include Teaching Creative Writing and Topics in Current Literature or Theory and Craft of Writing;
  - AAADS courses must include Introduction to African American & African Diaspora Studies (Part I or II), Core Readings, and Special Topics in AAADS;
  - Foreign language (two semesters); and
  - Creative thesis and scholarly essay (Field Study Seminar).

MA/MLS in AAADS & Library Science

Students must apply for admission to the master's programs of both African American & African Diaspora Studies and the School of Library and Information Science and meet the admissions criteria for each.

- AAADS MA Requirements (28 credit hours minimum):
  - Introduction to AAADS, Part I
  - Core Readings in AAADS
  - Proposed graduate internship
  - Specialization (12 credit minimum):
    - Students take a minimum of 9 graduate hours in one of three concentration areas in AAADS. An additional 3 graduate hours are taken in one of the other concentration areas.
  - MA Thesis: Field Study Seminar

Library Science MLS Requirements (30 credit hours minimum):
  - Completion of the MLS Foundation courses (15 credits)
  - Either Information in the Humanities or Information in the Social Sciences
  - SLIS elective courses (12 credits)

MA/MPA in AAADS & Public & Environmental Affairs

Students must apply separately to and be accepted into both the African American & African Diaspora Studies MA program and the School of Public and Environmental Affairs MPA program, indicating on both application forms that they are applying for the AAADS/SPEA dual degree.

- AAADS MA Course Requirements (28 credit hours minimum):
  - Core Readings in AAADS
  - Proposed graduate internship
  - Specialization (12 credit minimum):
    - Students take a minimum of 9 graduate hours in one of three concentration areas in AAADS. An additional 3 hours are taken in one of the other concentration areas.
  - MA Thesis: Field Study Seminar

SPEA MPA Course Requirements (36 credit hours minimum):
  - 21 credit hours in SPEA core courses
  - Specialized Concentration (15 credits): Students are required to develop specialized concentrations approved by SPEA faculty advisors.

New! Doctorate in AAADS

The IU African American & African Diaspora Studies PhD is an interdisciplinary degree that focuses on the experiences of people of African descent in the U.S. and throughout the world. This diasporic approach closely examines — internationally and transnationally — emancipation, imperialism, decolonization, racism, and other phenomena through the disciplines of history, politics, sociology, and literature and the arts. The MA degree is automatically granted to students passing the qualifying examination.

PhD Minor

At the time of admission, the doctoral student and the graduate advisor together plan an individualized program of study, including the selection of a major concentration area. A total of 15 credit hours in the department is required, with 9 in one concentration area and 6 in another area. With written permission of the graduate advisor, students may take 12 hours in a single concentration area and 3 in another area. A cumulative GPA of 3.4 is required of work for the PhD minor; a comprehensive examination usually is not required.

Individual Dual Degrees

Students also have the opportunity to combine African American & African Diaspora Studies with another degree program for an individualized dual degree. Such degrees have been granted in Art History, Higher Education/Student Affairs, Journalism, Political Science, and Religious Studies.

- A formal dual MA degree in AAADS and Folklore/Ethnomusicology is currently in the works.
- All MA students may participate in the graduate student-produced Herman Hudson Symposium, which commemorates the department's founder.