

# Master of Arts

## Department of African American & African Diaspora Studies

University Graduate School at Indiana University Bloomington

### Meet the Faculty

#### AAADS Faculty

Valerie Grim, Chair  
A.B. Assensoh  
Matthew Guterl  
Eileen Julien  
Trica D. Keaton  
Audrey T. McCluskey  
John McCluskey Jr.  
Frederick L. McElroy  
Iris Rosa  
John Stanfield II  
Vernon J. Williams Jr.

#### Adjunct Faculty

Yvette Alex-Assensoh  
David Baker  
Kevin Brown  
Mellonee Burnim  
Carolyn Calloway-Thomas  
Claude Andrew Clegg  
Mary Hamilton-Howard  
George Hutchison  
Grace Jackson-Brown  
Onwuchekwa Jemie  
Monroe H. Little  
James Madison  
Portia Maulsby  
Michael McGerr  
Najjaf Modibo  
Frank Motley  
James E. Mumford  
Charlie Nelms  
Samuel Obeng  
Gary A. Sailes  
Amos Sawyer  
Charles E. Sykes

#### Emeritus Faculty

Winona Fletcher  
Herman Hudson  
Phyllis Klotman  
William Wiggins Jr.

#### Director, Graduate Studies

A.B. Assensoh,  
Memorial Hall East, M-31,  
(812) 855-3903

The Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies (AAADS) at Indiana University is committed to being one of the world's leading multi- and interdisciplinary graduate studies programs focused on peoples of African descent in the United States in comparison to peoples of African descent in other global contexts.

AAADS emphasizes diverse epistemologies, theories, methodologies, ethical considerations, and innovative teaching pedagogies. As an intellectual enterprise, the department's goals are to

- offer students an intense program in the examination of African American issues, as well as diasporic issues inside and outside the United States, and their transnational continuities and discontinuities;
- encourage students to develop and fine-tune excellent and creative research skills, superb written and oral communications skills, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary analytical skills, technological competencies, innovative problem solving and problem creation skills, collaborative research skills, and intercultural competence;
- provide students with intellectual training by bridging curriculum content and practical experience gained through fieldwork, research, and internships;
- give an excellent research foundation to students planning to pursue doctoral training in the social sciences, humanities, or interdisciplinary fields; and
- prepare students for a broad spectrum of career possibilities in academia, creative and performing arts, nonprofit management, public policy, libraries, philanthropy, museums, urban studies, conflict resolution, and social services.

As a humanistic discipline in the democratic tradition, the department seeks to dispel the myths and expose those attitudes that perpetuate racism in American life by

- creating and sharing with academic and nonacademic communities scholarship of the highest quality, dealing with the broad range of the African American and African diasporic experience;
- promoting the study and understanding of historical and contemporary connections among Africans, African Americans, and other New World black communities; and
- affirming the democratic tradition of equal opportunity for all by combating all forms of discrimination based on ethnicity, gender, class, sexual orientation, disability, and religious differences, and by dispelling the myths and exposing the attitudes that perpetuate racism in American life.

AAADS also offers a bachelor of arts degree and a doctoral minor, and a PhD program has been proposed.

*Visit our web site for more information on the department, faculty, programs, and courses: [indiana.edu/~afroamer](http://indiana.edu/~afroamer).*

### Resources

- Black Film Center / Archive
- African American Arts Institute (African American Dance Company, the African American Choral Ensemble, and IU Soul Revue)
- Archives of African American Music & Culture
- Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center

AAADS takes pride in the centers of creative activity directly and indirectly connected to the department and the opportunity those resources offer to students of film, the arts, culture, and music. Whether students choose to take classes, pursue research, or attend performances through one of the centers, they can be sure of a memorable experience that will enhance their lives and their learning.

### Contact Information:

Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies  
Memorial Hall, M-18  
Indiana University  
1021 East Third St.  
Bloomington, IN 47405

Phone: (812) 855-3875

Fax: (812) 855-4432

E-mail:  
[aaads@indiana.edu](mailto:aaads@indiana.edu)

Web:  
[indiana.edu/~afroamer](http://indiana.edu/~afroamer)

## Graduate Programs in African American and African Diaspora Studies

### Master of Arts Degree in AAADS

The 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. Letters of recommendation, a brief personal essay, and GRE scores are the main sources of information upon which decisions will be made.

All students will complete a minimum of 32 credit hours with a minimum 3.0 grade point average. Students are required to complete the following courses:

- Introduction to African American and African Diaspora Studies, Parts I and II;
- Choice of two proseminars (Writings and Literatures; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Performing, Visual, and Material Arts; or Historical and Cultural Studies);
- Research and Master's Thesis Colloquium;
- Seminars in the area of specialization;
- Core Readings; and
- Field Study and Research Seminar

In addition, students must complete the foreign language requirement of the University Graduate School by showing satisfactory completion of course work or passing a language proficiency exam. Students in the History, Culture, and Social Issues concentration have the additional option of selecting computer science or statistical methods.

### PhD Minor

Doctoral students in good standing are admitted to the AAADS minor through interview or correspondence with the graduate advisor. At the time of admission, the student and the graduate advisor together plan an individualized program of study, including the selection of a major concentration area. A cumulative grade point average of 3.4 is required of work for the PhD minor.

The minor requires a total of 15 credit hours (to include Introduction to African American and African Diaspora Studies I or II and A690), 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 comprehensive examination usually is not required.

### Joint Degree in AAADS and Public and Environmental Affairs (MA/MPA)

Students must apply separately to and be accepted into both the African American and African Diaspora

Studies Master of Arts degree program and the School of Public and Environmental Affairs degree program. Students must indicate on both application forms that they are applying for the AAADS/SPEA dual degree. The MA in AAADS requires a minimum of 28 credit hours, and the SPEA degree requires a minimum of 36 credit hours.

AAADS Course Requirements:

- A500 Introduction to Afro-American Studies
- A690 Core Readings in Afro-American Studies
- Proposed graduate internship
- Specialization (12 credit minimum): Students take a minimum of 9 graduate hours in one of the three concentration areas in AAADS. An additional 3 hours are taken in one of the other concentration areas.
- MA Thesis: A698 Field Study Seminar

SPEA Course Requirements:

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

### Joint Degree in AAADS and Library Science (MA/MLS)

Students must apply for admission to the master's programs of both African American and African Diaspora Studies and the School of Library and Information Science and meet the admissions criteria established for each. The two degrees must be awarded at the same time. The dual program requires completion of a minimum of 58 credit hours of graduate course work, 28 in AAADS and 30 in SLIS.

AAADS Requirements:

- A500 Introduction to Afro-American Studies
- A690 Core Readings in Afro-American Studies
- Proposed graduate internship
- Specialization (12 credit minimum): Students take a minimum of 9 graduate hours in one of the three concentration areas in AAADS. An additional 3 graduate hours are taken in one of the other concentration areas.
- MA Thesis A698 Field Study Seminar

Library Science Requirements:

- Completion of the MLS Foundation courses (15 credits)
- Either SLIS L623 Information in the Humanities or SLIS L625 Information in the Social Science
- SLIS elective courses (12 credits)

### Master's-Level Courses in AAADS

A500 Introduction to African American and African Diaspora Studies, Part I	A584 Blacks in American Drama and Theater, 1945-Present	A691 Proseminar on Cultural and Historical Studies in African American and African Diaspora Studies
A501 Seminar in the Harlem Renaissance	A585 Seminar in Black Theatre	A692 Proseminar in Writings and Literature in African American and African Diaspora Studies
A502 Seminar on Wright, Baldwin, and Ellison	A590 Special Topics in African American and African Diaspora Studies	A693 Proseminar on Social and Behavioral Sciences in African American and African Diaspora Studies
A503 Introduction to African American and African Diaspora Studies, Part II	A591 Black Intellectual Traditions	A694 Proseminar on Performing, Visual, and Material Arts in African American and African Diaspora Studies
A552 History of the Education of Black Americans	A594 Black Music in America	A695 Research and Master's Thesis Colloquium
A561 Afro-American Autobiography	A597 Popular Music of Black America	A698 Field Study Seminar (development of the final master's project)
A571 Black Literature for Teachers	A669 Independent Project in Black Social Issues	A699 Independent Project in Black Music
A579 Early Black American Writing	A678 Early Black American Poetry, 1746-1910	
A580 Contemporary Black American Writing	A679 Contemporary Black Poetry	
A583 Blacks in American Drama and Theater, 1767-1945	A680 The Black Novel	
	A689 Independent Project in Black Literature	
	A690 Core Readings in African American and African Diaspora Studies	