



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF AFROAMERICAN AND AFRICAN STUDIES

Established in 1970, the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies (DAAS) is an interdisciplinary program of research, instruction, and community outreach. Our intellectual mission is to participate in and reflect on emerging directions in the study and representation of the diverse cultures, experiences and societies of Africans and peoples of African descent across the African continent and diaspora. We offer a wide selection of opportunities

for learning about the continent of Africa. We encourage independent and imaginative thinking in our students, preparing them to identify the contributions, as well as to confront the problems, of the African diaspora. Students who take courses in our program come away with rich and varied understandings of African diasporic locations, experiences, and issues.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A DAAS CERTIFICATE?

Graduate certificates enable students who are already pursuing a doctoral, terminal masters, or professional degree at the University of Michigan to supplement their disciplinary training with concentrated inquiry in a specific field. Increasingly, academic institutions and industries seek an educated workforce with cultural proficiency in race, ethnicity, and inclusion; the graduate certificates in DAAS demonstrate deep

engagements with the African continent and its diasporas in the United States, the Caribbean, Latin America and beyond. The graduate certificates in DAAS provide rigorous interdisciplinary training that signal you can integrate diverse racial and ethnic perspectives into your discipline whether it is in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, or a professional school arena.



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**RACKHAM
GRADUATE SCHOOL**

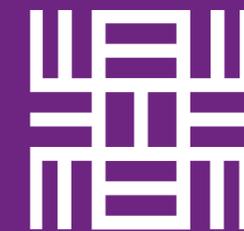
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Scan to find out more!



GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Department of Afroamerican
and African Studies



QUALIFICATIONS

The DAAS Graduate Certificate Program (GCP) is for graduate students enrolled at the University of Michigan:

- Enrolled in Rackham Graduate School or Non-Rackham Graduate School (e.g., School of Social Work)
- Must be working on a Master's degree or Ph.D. degree
- Must complete at least one term of graduate school before applying for the certificate program

REQUIRED COURSES

- African American & Diasporic Studies Certificate
AAS 601 Pro-seminar and
Either AAS 891 Capstone Seminar
or AAS 890 Independent Study Capstone
- African Studies Certificate
AAS 600 Pro-seminar and
Either AAS 892 Capstone Seminar
or AAS 890 Independent Capstone

ELECTIVE COURSES

- Complete three electives related to the program selected

Select an advisor from the program

- Email daasgcpcoordinators@umich.edu if you do not have an advisor or if you have questions

Please visit Websites for applications and information about the DAAS GCP and Rackham Graduate School:

- DAAS Graduate Certificate Website: myumi.ch/abGXr
- Rackham Website: myumi.ch/6nn7n



WHAT CAN A **DAAS CERTIFICATE** DO FOR YOU?

Participation in one of the certificate programs enables graduate students who are already pursuing a Ph.D., terminal masters, or professional degree at the University of Michigan to supplement their disciplinary training with concentrated inquiry in a specific field of inquiry. The aim of the certificate programs are to encourage students to both widen and deepen their understanding of the key issues and debates in either African Studies or Afro-American and Diasporic Studies.

The interdisciplinary focus of the Certificate programs offers students in many fields the opportunity to explore and interrogate currents of thought and diverse methodological approaches outside their own particular fields of specialization. The comprehensive but flexible curriculum provides a solid foundation for students to engage with a wide range of programs and departments at University of Michigan.

Enrollment in the core Certificate courses offers a platform for students to interact with, and learn from, fellow-students and faculty who come from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds. Obtaining a Certificate in either program indicates proficiency in either African Studies or Afro-American and Diasporic Studies. This formal recognition is acknowledged on the student transcript.

AAS 600: Pro-seminar on Interdisciplinary Approaches to African Studies

This course seeks to broaden our understanding of historical and contemporary Africa, allowing for a forum for the exchange of ideas among participants drawn from a diversity of disciplines. Course theme include colonialism and its legacies; performance and culture; extractive resources and environmental degradation; nationalism, politics, and development; and urbanization. Rather than treating 'Africa' as an undifferentiated place of socioeconomic malaise, famine and war, failed states, and distorted urbanism, the course seeks to understand the complexity of the processes at work that produce the "Africa" of today.

AAS 601: Introduction to African-American and African Diaspora Studies

When and how did African American Studies become formalized as an interdisciplinary academic field? What is African Diaspora Studies, and where and how does this field fit in? What have been the main currents, conflicts, intersections, and innovations in these fields? Despite the existence of many strong African American Studies departments and programs around the country, can we even think of African American Studies as a unified enterprise? Cornerstone topics in both fields have been cultural production, class, labor, racial formation, slavery and the Atlantic slave trade, black "internationalism," African retentions, and so on. What impact have African American and African Diaspora Studies had on fields that have traditionally been oblivious to the impact of race?

GET INVOLVED



Through the DAAS African Initiative program, the Department has supported research, travel, and study abroad opportunities for scores of U-M students in a wide range of departments and schools. The Department collaborates actively with the African

Studies Center, located in the International Institute, in enhancing African studies in Southeast Michigan and building research and exchange partnerships between the University of Michigan and African universities.



LJ Center | The Lemuel Johnson Center (LJC), located on the fifth floor of Haven Hall, is a light-filled, tree-top space overlooking the central campus and Diag. The LJC offers quiet space for individual students, study groups, lab groups, and community engagement project meetings. Students will find advising support, computer access, snacks, course and career information, and student-oriented activities like "Movie Mondays," holiday gatherings, and exam study breaks. The LJC holds the DAAS historical collection of black periodicals, current black culture periodicals, as well as a unique collection of books on black arts, fiction and poetry. These materials can be accessed for relevant student research projects or relaxed reading.



Gallery DAAS | GalleryDAAS supports the mission of DAAS by exhibiting emerging and established artists from the African Diaspora. The gallery offers opportunities for exploring original art and historical displays, not only through our exhibitions, but also by hosting visits, and encouraging unique teaching experiences for both DAAS and the broader University of Michigan community. Contact GalleryDAAS@umich.edu for more information.