



## ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

Deepening the impact of essential work and cementing LSA as a national leader in selected academic fields

Endowed professorships have long been recognized as both a hallmark of academic quality and a means by which a university honors its most esteemed scholars, artists, and teachers while creating a philanthropic legacy. They are instrumental in attracting and retaining the most eminent scholars in the field, who influence generations of students and enhance the reputation of the department and institution. Professors of the highest caliber can also help in securing future prestigious research grants, which raise the profile of the department and university.

LSA has some of the highest-regarded academic departments at the University of Michigan. Three such departments—the Departments of Afroamerican and African Studies, Women’s and Gender Studies, and American Culture—are centers of academic excellence, and yet they do not have important tools to recruit or recognize outstanding faculty that endowed professorships provide.

A gift to establish a professorship in the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies, Women’s and Gender Studies, or in the ethnic studies programs in the Department of American Culture would ensure sustained excellence and would cement the University of Michigan’s place at the forefront of original research and scholarly knowledge in these disciplines, as well as instruction and community outreach. This would be a landmark in our DEI efforts in LSA.

### College matching program underscores professorship priority

In response to the urgency of this need, and to demonstrate LSA’s commitment to being the leader and best in these fields, the college is offering a match to those who choose to endow a professorship in these areas—\$250,000 per professorship, furthering the impact of donor funding. The standard investment of \$2.5M for a professorship in LSA would qualify for a \$250,000 match, enabling a gift of \$2.25M to establish an endowment to support a professorship in one of these departments. Furthermore, a gift of \$9M would receive \$1M in matching funds and would transform the Department of American Culture and its impact on society and the field by endowing its four ethnic studies areas: Arab and Muslim American Studies, Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies, Latina/o Studies, and Native American Studies. Once the university has received payments totaling at least half of your gift, the dean will initiate the process for the U–M Board of Regents to establish the professorship and name the inaugural holder of the endowed professorship.

## AFROAMERICAN AND AFRICAN STUDIES

The department of Afroamerican and African Studies (DAAS) is one of the foremost departments in the world for the study of people of African descent. With more than 50 years of interdisciplinary research, instruction, and community outreach, DAAS embraced a comparative and diasporic framework of inquiry long before most other Black Studies departments. The department has made significant strides in the fields of African American, Caribbean, and African studies by encouraging the production and public dissemination of creative, original research and exceptional scholarly knowledge.



## AMERICAN CULTURE

Faculty in American Culture (AC) are leaders in the study of the intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality, and religion, within and extending beyond the borders of the United States. AC is recognized nationally for advancing research and teaching of ethnic studies rooted in global migration and movement, transnational identities, and transforming technologies. The department is the home of the university's programs in Arab and Muslim American Studies, Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies, Latina/o Studies, and Native American Studies. At the leading edge of a new American Studies, these programs pull together scholars across traditional disciplinary boundaries.

## WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

For more than 50 years, the Department of Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Michigan has been a potent force for curricular, scholarly, and social transformation. The department is recognized for its groundbreaking research and social justice work, and for fostering a commitment to the public good by bringing practical knowledge out of the academy and into the world. It is one of the first programs of its kind in the world, centering women, gender, race, class, sexuality, and disability in the study of complex social issues. The department seeks endowed professorships in the areas of gender and health, sexuality studies, and feminist psychology.

## WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your partnership connects the college's rich past to a boundless and bright future. You can change lives with gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities, and create a meaningful legacy through your bequest, trusts, gift annuities, and other planned gifts. Your generosity makes an impact on what's next, for a better tomorrow.

*for what's next* ▶

**Look to Michigan**

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