African Studies Minor

Students interested in studying Africa at Wesleyan choose from an exciting variety of courses from across the Wesleyan curriculum: art history, dance, economics, English, feminist gender & sexuality studies (FGSS), history, government, music, and Romance languages & literatures.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

The African studies minor allows students to create a coherent course of study by taking at least 5 courses that offer breadth and depth in the study of the continent. It enables them to develop an understanding of African history, contemporary issues facing the continent, and the creative and intellectual contribution of Africans. The minor consists of a minimum of 5 courses.

Although there is no overall GPA requirement to stay in the minor, a grade of B or higher is required to receive minor credit for a course.

At least one African History survey course:

- HIST212: African History Since 1870, Modern Africa, Jewish Art and Rituals in Context
- HIST217: African History Before 1870, Africa to 1800, History of Tropical Africa

Four additional African Studies courses from History, the Social Sciences, or Humanities with the following conditions:

- No more than 3 total History courses may count.
- No more than 2 MUSC and/or DANC may count.
- No more than one 100 level may count.

African History (See WesMaps for a complete list)

- AFAM203: African American History, 1444-1877
- ARHA299: African History and Art
- ARHA300: Iberian Expansion and the "Discovery" of Africa in Travel Narratives and Art, 1420-1640, Iberian Expansion and the "Discovery" of Africa in Travel Narratives and Art, 1420-1640
- HIST138: The Environment and Society in Africa
- HIST212: African History Since 1870, Modern Africa, Jewish Art and Rituals in Context
- HIST217: African History Before 1870, Africa to 1800, History of Tropical Africa
- HIST226: Gender and Authority in African Societies, Queen Mothers, Unruly Women: Histories of Gender and Sexuality in Africa
- HIST302: Race Discourse in the Americas, Reproductive Politics and the Family in Africa
- HIST334: Social History of Islam in Africa

Social Studies (See WesMaps for a complete list)

- ECON366: The Economics of Developing Countries
- GOVT324: Africa in World Politics
- GOVT355: Political Theory and Transitional Justice

Humanities (See WesMaps for a complete list)

- ENGL131: Writing About Places, Writing About Places: Africa
- FIST125: Jungle and Desert Adventures
- FREN303: Negotiating Gender in the Maghreb
- MUSC295: Global Hip-Hop
- MUSC445: West African Music and Culture—Beginners
- SPAN264: Orientalism: Spain and Africa

Students are encouraged, but not required to study Arabic, French, Portuguese, or to pursue study of an African language through the Self-Instructional Program (SIPL). Students who complete 1 credit of coursework through SIPL may count their language instruction as 1 credit out of the total 5 credits.

Students are encouraged to study abroad in Africa, and they may count 1 course taken abroad to fulfill one of the additional history, social sciences, or humanities course requirements. The study abroad course must focus on the study of Africa, or an African region.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Students may also create their own University Major (http://www.wesleyan.edu/studentaffairs/resources/majordeclaration/umajor.html) centered on the study of Africa.

FURTHER RESEARCH, LANGUAGE, AND STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

RESEARCH

Besides participating in a variety of study abroad programs throughout the year, Wesleyan students often undertake their own original research in Africa as part of completing senior honors theses for their respective departments.

Theses are available here. (http://wesscholar.wesleyan.edu/etds)

LANGUAGE

Students who wish to study an African language are encouraged to submit a petition through the Language Resource Center and the Self-Instructional Language Program (http://www.wesleyan.edu/ltlts/silp.html) (SIPL).

STUDY ABROAD

Information on current programs may be obtained from the Office of Study Abroad (http://www.wesleyan.edu/studyabroad), and should be discussed with a member of the African studies faculty cluster.