

african american studies major

Unlocking the Power of Knowledge: An In-Depth Look at the African American Studies Major

Author: Dr. Evelyn Reed, Professor of African American Studies and History, Howard University. Dr. Reed has published extensively on the history of the African diaspora, Black feminist thought, and the development of African American Studies programs.

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Introduction:

The African American Studies major offers a transformative educational experience, providing students with a deep understanding of the historical, cultural, social, and political experiences of African Americans. This rigorous field of study goes beyond simply learning about historical events; it equips students with the critical thinking skills needed to analyze systemic racism, understand its ongoing impact, and actively participate in creating a more just and equitable society. Choosing an African American Studies major is a commitment to engaging with complex issues, challenging dominant narratives, and contributing to meaningful social change.

H1: The Historical Context of the African American Studies Major

The establishment of African American Studies programs across American universities wasn't a spontaneous event but rather a direct response to the Civil Rights Movement and the growing demand for Black liberation and self-determination. The late 1960s and early 1970s witnessed the rise of Black Power, prompting students to demand more relevant and inclusive curricula

reflecting the experiences and perspectives of African Americans. Many early African American Studies majors were interdisciplinary, drawing from history, sociology, literature, and political science to create a holistic understanding of the Black experience. This historical context is crucial to understanding the core tenets and methodologies of the African American Studies major today.

H2: Core Disciplinary Areas within an African American Studies Major

An African American Studies major typically encompasses a broad range of disciplines. Students can expect to explore courses in:

African American History: This examines the multifaceted history of African Americans from slavery to the present, challenging traditional narratives and centering the voices and experiences of Black people.

African American Literature: This analyzes the rich literary traditions of African American writers, focusing on themes of identity, resistance, and social commentary.

African American Art and Culture: This explores the diverse artistic expressions of African Americans, including music, visual arts, and performance art, demonstrating their cultural significance and influence.

African American Politics and Policy: This examines the political participation of African Americans, the challenges they face in the political system, and the development of policies aimed at addressing racial inequality.

Sociology of Race and Ethnicity: This provides a sociological framework for understanding race, racism, and their effects on social structures and individual lives. This is often a crucial component of the African American Studies major.

Critical Race Theory: This interdisciplinary perspective examines how race and racism are embedded in legal systems and social institutions.

Understanding Critical Race Theory is essential within an African American Studies major.

H3: Developing Critical Thinking Skills within the African American Studies Major

The African American Studies major is not just about absorbing information; it's about cultivating critical thinking skills. Students are encouraged to analyze primary sources, engage in rigorous debate, and develop their own informed perspectives on complex social issues. This critical engagement is central to the African American Studies major's contribution to higher education. The ability to deconstruct dominant narratives, identify biases, and formulate counter-narratives is a valuable skillset transferable to many fields.

H4: Career Paths for African American Studies Majors

Graduates with an African American Studies major possess a unique blend of knowledge and skills making them highly sought after in various fields.

Potential career paths include:

Education: Teaching at the K-12 or higher education levels.

Government and Non-profit Organizations: Working on social justice initiatives and advocating for policy changes.

Journalism and Media: Reporting on issues of race, social justice, and cultural diversity.

Museum and Archives: Curating exhibitions and preserving historical materials related to African American history and culture.

Community Organizing: Working with communities to address local needs and challenges.

Research and Academia: Pursuing graduate studies in African American Studies or related fields.

H5: The Future of the African American Studies Major

The African American Studies major continues to evolve, reflecting the changing social and political landscape. The field is increasingly interdisciplinary, drawing on insights from other disciplines such as gender studies, LGBTQ+ studies, and environmental studies to provide a more nuanced understanding of the interconnectedness of social issues. The African American Studies major is vital for fostering understanding, challenging inequalities, and building a more just society.

Conclusion:

The African American Studies major offers a unique and enriching educational journey. It provides students not only with a deep understanding of the African American experience but also equips them with the critical thinking skills and analytical tools necessary to address contemporary challenges. By engaging with the complexities of race, identity, and power, students in this major are empowered to become agents of social change and contribute meaningfully to building a more just and equitable world. Choosing an African American Studies major is choosing to participate in a crucial conversation that shapes the future.

FAQs:

1. Is an African American Studies major only for African Americans? No, the African American Studies major welcomes students from all backgrounds who are interested in learning about and critically engaging with the history, culture, and social issues related to African Americans.

1. What kind of jobs can I get with an African American Studies major? Graduates can pursue careers in education, government, non-profit organizations, journalism, museums, archives, community organizing, and research.

1. Is an African American Studies major hard? Like any major, the difficulty depends on the student's dedication and work ethic. The coursework is rigorous, requiring critical thinking and analytical skills.

1. How does an African American Studies major prepare me for graduate school? The major develops research, writing, and critical analysis skills, all essential for success in graduate studies.

1. Is there a difference between African American Studies and Black Studies? The terms are often used interchangeably, although some institutions might emphasize different aspects of the field.

1. What are some common courses in an African American Studies major? Common courses include African American History, Literature, Art and Culture, Politics, and Sociology of Race and Ethnicity.

1. Is an African American Studies major relevant in today's world? Absolutely! Understanding race, racism, and social justice is more crucial than ever.

1. How can I find out more about African American Studies programs? Visit the websites of universities offering the major or contact their African American Studies departments.

1. What is the difference between an African American Studies major and a minor? A major requires a more significant number of courses focused on the subject, while a minor allows students to explore the field

alongside their primary major.

Related Articles:

1. The Evolution of African American Studies: From Protest to Academia: This article traces the historical development of African American Studies programs, highlighting key milestones and intellectual debates.
1. Critical Race Theory and the African American Studies Curriculum: This article analyzes the role of Critical Race Theory in shaping the curriculum and pedagogy of African American Studies.
1. African American Women's Studies: A Focus on Intersectionality: This article explores the experiences of African American women through an intersectional lens, examining how race, gender, and class intersect to shape their lives.
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1. Career Opportunities for Graduates with an African American Studies Degree: This article provides a detailed overview of potential career paths for graduates, showcasing the diverse opportunities available to those with an African American Studies background.

african american studies major: *The Women of Brewster Place* Gloria Naylor, 2021-05-11 The National Book Award-winning novel—and contemporary classic—that launched the brilliant career of Gloria Naylor, now with a foreword by Tayari Jones “[A] shrewd and lyrical portrayal of many of the realities of black life . . . Naylor bravely risks sentimentality and melodrama to write her compassion and outrage large, and she pulls it off triumphantly.” —The New York Times Book Review “Brims with inventiveness—and relevance.” —NPR's Fresh Air In her heralded first novel, Gloria Naylor weaves together the stories of seven women living in Brewster Place, a bleak-inner city sanctuary, creating a powerful, moving portrait of the strengths, struggles, and hopes of black women in America. Vulnerable and resilient, openhanded and openhearted, these women forge their lives in a place that in turn threatens and protects—a common prison and a shared home. Naylor renders both loving and painful human experiences with simple eloquence and uncommon intuition in this touching and unforgettable read.

african american studies major: *Dreaming the Present* Irvin J. Hunt, 2022-02-22 This is a story of art and movement building at the limits of imagination. In their darkest hours, W. E. B. Du Bois, Ella Baker, George Schuyler, and Fannie Lou Hamer gathered hundreds across the United States and beyond to build vast, but forgotten, networks of mutual aid: farms, shops, schools, banks, daycares, homes, health clinics, and burial grounds. They called these spaces cooperatives, local challenges to global capital, where people pooled all they had to meet their needs. By reading their activism as an artistic practice, Irvin Hunt argues that their primary need was to free their movement from the logic of progress. From a remarkably diverse archive, Hunt extrapolates three new ways to describe the time of a movement: a continual beginning, a deliberate falling apart, and a simultaneity, a kind of all-at-once-ness. These temporalities reflect how a people maneuvered the law, reappropriated property, built autonomous communities, and fundamentally reimaged what a movement can be. Their movement was not the dream of a brighter day; it was the making of today out of the stuff of dreams. Hunt offers both an original account of Black mutual aid and, in a world of diminishing futures, a moving meditation on the possibilities of the present.

african american studies major: *Black Campus Life* Antar A. Tichavakunda, 2021-12-01 An in-depth ethnography of Black engineering students at a historically White institution, *Black Campus Life* examines the intersection of two crises, up close: the limited number of college graduates in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields, and the state of race relations in higher

education. Antar Tichavakunda takes readers across campus, from study groups to parties and beyond as these students work hard, have fun, skip class, fundraise, and, at times, find themselves in tense racialized encounters. By consistently centering their perspectives and demonstrating how different campus communities, or social worlds, shape their experiences, Tichavakunda challenges assumptions about not only Black STEM majors but also Black students and the “racial climate” on college campuses more generally. Most fundamentally, Black Campus Life argues that Black collegians are more than the racism they endure. By studying and appreciating the everyday richness and complexity of their experiences, we all—faculty, administrators, parents, policymakers, and the broader public—might learn how to better support them. This book is freely available in an open access edition thanks to TOME (Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem)—a collaboration of the Association of American Universities, the Association of University Presses, and the Association of Research Libraries. Learn more at the TOME website, available at: openmonographs.org, and access the book online through the SUNY Open Access Repository at <http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12648/7009>

african american studies major: Afro-Latin American Studies Alejandro de la Fuente, George Reid Andrews, 2018-04-26 Alejandro de la Fuente and George Reid Andrews offer the first systematic, book-length survey of humanities and social science scholarship on the exciting field of Afro-Latin American studies. Organized by topic, these essays synthesize and present the current state of knowledge on a broad variety of topics, including Afro-Latin American music, religions, literature, art history, political thought, social movements, legal history, environmental history, and ideologies of racial inclusion. This volume connects the region's long history of slavery to the major political, social, cultural, and economic developments of the last two centuries. Written by leading scholars in each of those topics, the volume provides an introduction to the field of Afro-Latin American studies that is not available from any other source and reflects the disciplinary and thematic richness of this emerging field.

african american studies major: *Crossing the Color Line* Carina E. Ray, 2015-10-15 Interracial sex mattered to the British colonial state in West Africa. In *Crossing the Color Line*, Carina E. Ray goes beyond this fact to reveal how Ghanaians shaped and defined these powerfully charged relations. The interplay between African and European perspectives and practices, argues Ray, transformed these relationships into key sites for consolidating colonial rule and for contesting its hierarchies of power. With rigorous methodology and innovative analyses, Ray brings Ghana and Britain into a single analytic frame to show how intimate relations between black men and white women in the metropole became deeply entangled with those between black women and white men in the colony in ways that were profoundly consequential. Based on rich archival evidence and original interviews, the book moves across different registers, shifting from the micropolitics of individual disciplinary cases brought against colonial officers who “kept” local women to transatlantic networks of family, empire, and anticolonial resistance. In this way, Ray cuts to the heart of how interracial sex became a source of colonial anxiety and nationalist agitation during the first half of the twentieth century.

african american studies major: *The Harvard Guide to African-American History* Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, 2001 Compiles information and interpretations on the past 500 years of African American history, containing essays on historical research aids, bibliographies, resources for women's issues, and an accompanying CD-ROM providing bibliographical entries.

african american studies major: *From Black Power to Black Studies* Fabio Rojas, 2010-09-01 The black power movement helped redefine African Americans' identity and establish a new racial consciousness in the 1960s. As an influential political force, this movement in turn spawned the academic discipline known as Black Studies. Today there are more than a hundred Black Studies degree programs in the United States, many of them located in America's elite research institutions. In *From Black Power to Black Studies*, Fabio Rojas explores how this radical social movement evolved into a recognized academic discipline. Rojas traces the evolution of Black Studies over more than three decades, beginning with its origins in black nationalist politics. His

account includes the 1968 Third World Strike at San Francisco State College, the Ford Foundation's attempts to shape the field, and a description of Black Studies programs at various American universities. His statistical analyses of protest data illuminate how violent and nonviolent protests influenced the establishment of Black Studies programs. Integrating personal interviews and newly discovered archival material, Rojas documents how social activism can bring about organizational change. Shedding light on the black power movement, Black Studies programs, and American higher education, this historical analysis reveals how radical politics are assimilated into the university system.

african american studies major: Introduction to Black Studies Karenga (Maulana.), 1993

african american studies major: *The Legend of the Black Mecca* Maurice J. Hobson, 2017-10-03 For more than a century, the city of Atlanta has been associated with black achievement in education, business, politics, media, and music, earning it the nickname the black Mecca. Atlanta's long tradition of black education dates back to Reconstruction, and produced an elite that flourished in spite of Jim Crow, rose to leadership during the civil rights movement, and then took power in the 1970s by building a coalition between white progressives, business interests, and black Atlantans. But as Maurice J. Hobson demonstrates, Atlanta's political leadership--from the election of Maynard Jackson, Atlanta's first black mayor, through the city's hosting of the 1996 Olympic Games--has consistently mishandled the black poor. Drawn from vivid primary sources and unnerving oral histories of working-class city-dwellers and hip-hop artists from Atlanta's underbelly, Hobson argues that Atlanta's political leadership has governed by bargaining with white business interests to the detriment of ordinary black Atlantans. In telling this history through the prism of the black New South and Atlanta politics, policy, and pop culture, Hobson portrays a striking schism between the black political elite and poor city-dwellers, complicating the long-held view of Atlanta as a mecca for black people.

african american studies major: *Black Intellectual Thought in Modern America* Brian D.

Behnken, Gregory D. Smithers, Simon Wendt, 2017-09-07 Contributions by Tunde Adeleke, Brian D. Behnken, Minkah Makalani, Benita Roth, Gregory D. Smithers, Simon Wendt, and Danielle L. Wiggins Black intellectualism has been misunderstood by the American public and by scholars for generations. Historically maligned by their peers and by the lay public as inauthentic or illegitimate, black intellectuals have found their work misused, ignored, or discarded. Black intellectuals have also been reductively placed into one or two main categories: they are usually deemed liberal or, less frequently, as conservative. The contributors to this volume explore several prominent intellectuals, from left-leaning leaders such as W. E. B. Du Bois to conservative intellectuals like Thomas Sowell, from well-known black feminists such as Patricia Hill Collins to Marxists like Claudia Jones, to underscore the variety of black intellectual thought in the United States. Contributors also situate the development of the lines of black intellectual thought within the broader history from which these trends emerged. The result gathers essays that offer entry into a host of rich intellectual traditions.

african american studies major: *Keywords for African American Studies* Erica R.

Edwards, Roderick A. Ferguson, Jeffrey O.G. Ogbar, 2018-11-27 Introduces key terms, interdisciplinary research, debates, and histories for African American Studies As the longest-standing interdisciplinary field, African American Studies has laid the foundation for critically analyzing issues of race, ethnicity, and culture within the academy and beyond. This volume assembles the keywords of this field for the first time, exploring not only the history of those categories but their continued relevance in the contemporary moment. Taking up a vast array of issues such as slavery, colonialism, prison expansion, sexuality, gender, feminism, war, and popular culture, *Keywords for African American Studies* showcases the startling breadth that characterizes the field. Featuring an august group of contributors across the social sciences and the humanities, the keywords assembled within the pages of this volume exemplify the depth and range of scholarly inquiry into Black life in the United States. Connecting lineages of Black knowledge production to contemporary considerations of race, gender, class, and sexuality, *Keywords for African American*

Studies provides a model for how the scholarship of the field can meet the challenges of our social world.

african american studies major: Leading Issues in African-American Studies Nikongo Ba-Nikongo, 1997 African-American Studies remains one of the more controversial disciplines in the courses of academic pursuit today. In part, much of the controversy emanates from an inability of practitioners to agree upon any rigid definition of just what constitutes and just what is encompassed within the field. At least, there is some agreement that its achievement of institutional acceptance with separate programs, departments, and granting of advanced degrees warrants its treatment as a legitimate field of pursuit in and of itself--but indeed, this is where the agreement ends. On a range of topics, scholars in the field of African-American Studies hold decidedly different opinions. What ought we to include as African-American Studies? Is Afrocentricity a figment of the imagination or sound scientific enquiry? And what place if any does race and racism continue to play in the life changes of African-Americans? Bi-racialism, underclassness, intra-community crime and Afro-Jewish relations are also prominent subjects of consideration. In Leading Issues in African-American Studies, BaNikongo has brought together scholars from every associated field of African-American Studies and offers a range of perspective on a myriad of topics. The text presents differing viewpoints on political, social, economic, cultural and legal issues and succeeds in addressing every major contemporary area of debate in African-American academic circles.

african american studies major: Encyclopedia of Black Studies Molefi Kete Asante, Ama Mazama, 2005 In the 1960s Black Studies emerged as both an academic field and a radical new ideological paradigm. Editors Molefi Kete Asante and Ama Mazama (Black Studies, Temple U.), both influential and renowned scholars, have compiled an encyclopedia for students, high school and beyond, and general readers. It presents analysis of key individuals, events, a

african american studies major: Major Problems in African American History Thomas C. Holt, Holt, 2000-09-15

african american studies major: The History of Black Studies Abdul Alkalimat, 2021-10-20 A peerless reference guide to the history of Black Studies from one of the discipline's founders

african american studies major: The Psychic Hold of Slavery Soyica Diggs Colbert, Robert J. Patterson, Aida Levy-Hussen, 2016-07-20 What would it mean to "get over slavery"? Is such a thing possible? Is it even desirable? Should we perceive the psychic hold of slavery as a set of mental manacles that hold us back from imagining a postracist America? Or could the psychic hold of slavery be understood as a tool, helping us get a grip on the systemic racial inequalities and restricted liberties that persist in the present day? Featuring original essays from an array of established and emerging scholars in the interdisciplinary field of African American studies, The Psychic Hold of Slavery offers a nuanced dialogue upon these questions. With a painful awareness that our understanding of the past informs our understanding of the present—and vice versa—the contributors place slavery's historical legacies in conversation with twenty-first-century manifestations of antiblack violence, dehumanization, and social death. Through an exploration of film, drama, fiction, performance art, graphic novels, and philosophical discourse, this volume considers how artists grapple with questions of representation, as they ask whether slavery can ever be accurately depicted, trace the scars that slavery has left on a traumatized body politic, or debate how to best convey that black lives matter. The Psychic Hold of Slavery thus raises provocative questions about how we behold the historically distinct event of African diasporic enslavement and how we might hold off the transhistorical force of antiblack domination.

african american studies major: Phenomenology and Psychiatry André J. J. Koning, André J. J. de Koning, Frederick Alexander Jenner, 1982

african american studies major: The Black Studies Reader Jacqueline Bobo, Cynthia Hudley, Claudine Michel, 2004-05-15 First published in 2004. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

african american studies major: Black Bone Bianca Lynne Spriggs, Jeremy Paden, 2018-02-23 The Appalachian region stretches from Mississippi to New York, encompassing rural

areas as well as cities from Birmingham to Pittsburgh. Though Appalachia's people are as diverse as its terrain, few other regions in America are as burdened with stereotypes. Author Frank X Walker coined the term Affrilachia to give identity and voice to people of African descent from this region and to highlight Appalachia's multicultural identity. This act inspired a group of gifted artists, the Affrilachian Poets, to begin working together and using their writing to defy persistent stereotypes of Appalachia as a racially and culturally homogenized region. After years of growth, honors, and accomplishments, the group is acknowledging its silver anniversary with *Black Bone*. Edited by two newer members of the Affrilachian Poets, Bianca Lynne Spriggs and Jeremy Paden, *Black Bone* is a beautiful collection of both new and classic work and features submissions from Frank X Walker, Nikky Finney, Gerald Coleman, Crystal Wilkinson, Kelly Norman Ellis, and many others. This illuminating and powerful collection is a testament to a groundbreaking group and its enduring legacy.

african american studies major: *South Africa-China Relations* Phiwokuhle Mnyandu, 2021-10-19 In *South Africa-China Relations: Between Aspiration and Reality in a New Global Order*, Phiwokuhle Mnyandu analyzes South Africa-China relations in the context of South Africa's quest to reduce unemployment and transform its economy to ensure lasting social stability. Mnyandu uses trade patterns, analyses of governmental organizations and initiatives, and other socio-economic data to determine the extent to which developmental change or stasis has taken place as relations between South Africa and China have deepened. Tracing South Africa's changing attitudes and policies towards China's involvement, the impact of programs involving commodities trades on unemployment, and the prospective outcomes of an endogenous developmental policy, Mnyandu concludes by proposing a quadri-linear model as a tool for more comprehensive analyses of China's relations not only with South Africa, but other African countries as well to avoid disinformation on Africa-China issues.

african american studies major: *Slavery and the University* Leslie Maria Harris, James T. Campbell, Alfred L. Brophy, 2019-02-01 *Slavery and the University* is the first edited collection of scholarly essays devoted solely to the histories and legacies of this subject on North American campuses and in their Atlantic contexts. Gathering together contributions from scholars, activists, and administrators, the volume combines two broad bodies of work: (1) historically based interdisciplinary research on the presence of slavery at higher education institutions in terms of the development of proslavery and antislavery thought and the use of slave labor; and (2) analysis on the ways in which the legacies of slavery in institutions of higher education continued in the post-Civil War era to the present day. The collection features broadly themed essays on issues of religion, economy, and the regional slave trade of the Caribbean. It also includes case studies of slavery's influence on specific institutions, such as Princeton University, Harvard University, Oberlin College, Emory University, and the University of Alabama. Though the roots of *Slavery and the University* stem from a 2011 conference at Emory University, the collection extends outward to incorporate recent findings. As such, it offers a roadmap to one of the most exciting developments in the field of U.S. slavery studies and to ways of thinking about racial diversity in the history and current practices of higher education.

african american studies major: *The Autobiography of An Ex-Colored Man* James Weldon Johnson, 2021-01-01 First published in the year 1912, 'The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man' by James Weldon Johnson is the fictional account of a young biracial man, referred to as the Ex-Colored Man, living in post-Reconstruction era America in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

african american studies major: *More Auspicious Shores* Caree A. Banton, 2019-05-09 Offers a thorough examination of Afro-Barbadian migration to Liberia during the mid- to late nineteenth century.

african american studies major: *African American Studies* Jeanette R Davidson, 2010-10-19 This book presents the diverse, expansive nature of African American Studies and its characteristic interdisciplinarity. It is intended for use with undergraduate/ beginning graduate students in African American Studies, American Studies and Ethnic Studie

african american studies major: Harlem Nocturne Farah Jasmine Griffin, 2013-09-10 As World War II raged overseas, Harlem witnessed a battle of its own. Brimming with creative and political energy, the neighborhood's diverse array of artists and activists took advantage of a brief period of progressivism during the war years to launch a bold cultural offensive aimed at winning democracy for all Americans, regardless of race or gender. Ardent believers in America's promise, these men and women helped to lay the groundwork for the Civil Rights Movement before Cold War politics and anti-Communist fervor temporarily froze their dreams at the dawn of the postwar era. In *Harlem Nocturne*, esteemed scholar Farah Jasmine Griffin tells the stories of three black female artists whose creative and political efforts fueled this historic movement for change: choreographer and dancer Pearl Primus, composer and pianist Mary Lou Williams, and novelist Ann Petry. Like many African Americans in the city at the time, these women weren't native New Yorkers, but the metropolis and its vibrant cultural scene gave them the space to flourish and the freedom to express their political concerns. Pearl Primus performed nightly at the legendary Cafe Society, the first racially integrated club in New York, where she debuted dances of social protest that drew on long-buried African traditions and the dances of former slaves in the South. Williams, meanwhile, was a major figure in the emergence of bebop, collaborating with Dizzy Gillespie, Thelonious Monk, and Bud Powell and premiering her groundbreaking *Zodiac Suite* at the legendary performance space Town Hall. And Ann Petry conveyed the struggles of working-class black women to a national audience with her acclaimed novel *The Street*, which sold over a million copies -- a first for a female African American author. A rich biography of three artists and the city that inspired them, *Harlem Nocturne* captures a period of unprecedented vitality and progress for African Americans and women, revealing a cultural movement and a historical moment whose influence endures today.

african american studies major: Exodus Politics Robert J. Patterson, 2013-11-29 Using the term *exodus politics* to theorize the valorization of black male leadership in the movement for civil rights, Robert J. Patterson explores the ways in which the political strategies and ideologies of this movement paradoxically undermined the collective enfranchisement of black people. He argues that by narrowly conceptualizing civil rights in only racial terms and relying solely on a male figure, conventional African American leadership, though frequently redemptive, can also erode the very goals of civil rights. The author turns to contemporary African American writers such as Ernest Gaines, Gayl Jones, Alice Walker, and Charles Johnson to show how they challenge the dominant models of civil rights leadership. He draws on a variety of disciplines—including black feminism, civil rights history, cultural studies, and liberation theology—in order to develop a more nuanced formulation of black subjectivity and politics. Patterson's connection of the concept of racial rights to gender and sexual rights allows him to illuminate the literature's promotion of more expansive models. By considering the competing and varied political interests of black communities, these writers reimagine the dominant models in a way that can empower communities to be self-sustaining in the absence of a messianic male leader.

african american studies major: Africana Studies Mario Joaquim Azevedo, 2005 The third edition of *Africana Studies: A Survey of Africa and the African Diaspora* is an update of the second edition (1998) and incorporates new chapters that include expanded coverage of issues on women, health, terrorism, the African Union, and many others, as well as the most recent theories and methods in *Africana studies*. To date, *Africana Studies* remains the most comprehensive and most suitable text for both teachers and students interested in Africa and the Diaspora in the US, the Caribbean, Afro-Latin-America, and elsewhere. The book is divided into five parts: the state of the art of *Africana studies*; the evolution of the history of black people; analysis of the contributions of the black world; the present and future status of these peoples; and the societies and values of black people. The book also includes a chronology of significant events in the history of peoples of African descent and a number of maps. [This book] attempts in one volume to present more accurately the experiences and contributions of the African world. It introduces readers to the most comprehensive account of black interdisciplinary subjects to date and summarizes the research of specialists in a variety of fields... The number of contributors, variety, and depth of coverage show that the work

was carefully thought out. -- Insights, on an earlier edition

african american studies major: The Practice of Diaspora Brent Hayes EDWARDS, Brent Hayes Edwards, 2009-06-30 Edwards revisits black transnational culture in the 1920s and 1930s, paying particular attention to links between the intellectuals of the Harlem Renaissance and their Francophone counterparts in Paris. He suggests that diaspora is less a historical condition than a set of practices through which black intellectuals pursue international alliances.

african american studies major: Research Methods in Africana Studies Serie McDougal (III), 2014 This textbook is the first of its kind, offering instruction on how to conduct culturally relevant critical research on Africana communities in the American context, in addition to the African diaspora. It contains a collection of the most widely used theories and paradigms designed for exploring, explaining, and advancing Africana communities through science.

african american studies major: Black Culture Centers Fred L. Hord, 2005 A compilation of essays presenting the conditions and promises of the university for African American faculty and students that is enhanced by the development of Black culture centers in the university community.

african american studies major: Mama's Gun Marlo D. David, 2016 In *Mama's Gun: Black Maternal Figures and the Politics of Transgression*, Marlo D. David identifies five bold, new archetypes of black motherhood for the post-civil rights generation in order to imagine new ways of thinking about pervasive maternal stereotypes of black women. Rather than avoiding negative images of black motherhood, such as welfare queens, teen mothers, and baby mamas, *Mama's Gun* centralizes these dispossessed figures and renames them as the Young Mother, the Blues Mama, the Surrogate, Big Mama, and the Mothership. Taking inspiration from African American fiction, historical accounts of black life, Afrofuturism, and black popular culture in music and on screen, David turns her attention to Sapphire's *Push*, Octavia Butler's *Dawn*, and Suzan-Lori Parks's *Getting Mother's Body* as well as the performance art of Erykah Badu and the films of Tyler Perry. She draws out the implications of black maternal figures in these texts who balk at tradition and are far from ideal. David's study shows how representations of blackness are deeply embedded in the neoliberal language of contemporary American politics and how black writers and performers resist such mainstream ideologies with their own transgressive black maternal figures.

african american studies major: Undergraduate Announcement University of Michigan--Dearborn, 1987

african american studies major: Critical Black Studies Reader Rochelle Brock, Dara Nix-Stevenson, Paul Chamness Miller, 2017 The *Critical Black Studies Reader* is a ground-breaking volume whose aim is to criticalize and reenvision Black Studies through a critical lens. The book not only stretches the boundaries of knowledge and understanding of issues critical to the Black experience, it creates a theoretical grounding that is intersectional in its approach. Our notion of Black Studies is neither singularly grounded in African American Studies nor on traditional notions of the Black experience. Though situated work in this field has historically grappled with the question of «where are we?» in Black Studies, this volume offers the reader a type of criticalization that has not occurred to this point. While the volume includes seminal works by authors in the field, as a critical endeavor, the editors have also included pieces that address the political issues that intersect with - among others - power, race, class, gender, sexuality, religion, place, and economics.

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