

Africana Studies - English Literature Joint Major

www.africanastudies.pitt.edu/academic-programs/major

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The joint major offers an especially coherent experience in interdisciplinary learning by bringing together Africana studies and English literature in two interrelated ways. Students get a rich and rigorous exposure to African and African Diaspora literature written in English through literature produced in the United States, Africa, Canada, Great Britain, and the Caribbean. Additionally, students examine some of the significant relationships between African and African Diaspora works and a range of English language literary traditions.

The major exposes students to important questions and traditions in literary interpretation and offers them political, social, and cultural contexts for the literature they will read. Like most liberal arts majors, it helps students learn to think analytically and to make and assess arguments, skills that are important in many jobs and courses of graduate study. The major is also useful for prospective teachers who are interested in developing and teaching curricula that include African Diaspora literature within other English language traditions. Students who complete the joint major will have fulfilled most of the School of Education's undergraduate requirements for secondary education certification in English.

The Africana Studies-English Literature joint major requires 45 credits distributed as follows: four core courses, four literature courses from the Department of Africana Studies, three literature courses from the Department of English, and four electives, one of which must be a history course in the Department of Africana Studies. No more than two upper-division courses can count toward the major before a student has completed the introductory courses, and three of the required courses in each department excluding the core courses must be taken before a student enrolls in a senior seminar.

Required Courses for the Africana Studies-English Literature joint major

Core courses

AFRCNA 0031 Introduction to Africana Studies
ENGLIT 0500 Introduction to Critical Reading
ENGLIT 1900 Junior Seminar

One of the following

AFRCNA 1068 Africana Senior Research Seminar
ENGLIT 1909 Senior Seminar
ENGLIT 1910 Senior Seminar

Four of the following

AFRCNA 0016 Introduction to African American Theater
AFRCNA 0022 Introduction to African Literature
AFRCNA 0050 Introduction to African-American Lit
AFRCNA 1004 Africana World Literature
AFRCNA 1006 World Literature in English
AFRCNA 1020 African American Literary Criticism
AFRCNA 1044 The African Novel
AFRCNA 1049 Contemporary Caribbean Literature

Three of the following

ENGLIT 1125 Renaissance in England
ENGLIT 1150 Enlightenment to Revolution
ENGLIT 1175 Nineteenth Century British Literature
ENGLIT 1200 American Literature to 1860
ENGLIT 1220 Emergence of Modern America
ENGLIT 1325 The Modernist Tradition
ENGLIT 1380 World Literature in English

Elective courses

Students must choose four elective courses from offerings in the departments of Africana studies and English. One of these electives must be a History course offered by the Department of Africana Studies. Students might also use electives to pursue more extensive work in particular areas of study, such as African, African-American, British, Caribbean, or U.S. literature.

Students interested in careers in education should pay particular attention to courses required by various School of Education certification programs.

In light of the interdisciplinary and international character of the joint major, it would also be appropriate for students to petition to have a closely related course taught in a foreign language (for example, a course on Francophone-Caribbean literature in the Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures) count as one of the electives toward the joint major.

Grade requirements: A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in those courses that count toward the joint major.

Satisfactory/No Credit option: There is no limit on the number of courses in the joint major that can be taken on an S/NC basis.

Writing (W) requirement: Joint majors automatically fulfill both Arts and Sciences W-course requirements. Students pursuing a second major would be required to complete an additional W-course for that major.

Related area: A related area is not required due to the interdisciplinary nature of the major.

Advising: Fiore Pugliano
CL 617B
412-624-6510
fiore@pitt.edu

Mark Kemp
CL 617B
412-624-6656
mkemp@pitt.edu

Checklist for the Africana Studies-English Literature joint major

Core courses

_____ AFRCNA 0031
_____ ENGLIT 0500
_____ ENGLIT 1900
_____ AFRCNA 1068 or ENGLIT 1909 or 1910

Africana Studies courses (four of the following)

_____ AFRCNA 0016
_____ AFRCNA 0022
_____ AFRCNA 0050
_____ AFRCNA 1004
_____ AFRCNA 1006 (cross listed with ENGLIT 1380)
_____ AFRCNA 1020
_____ AFRCNA 1044
_____ AFRCNA 1049

English Literature courses (three of the following)

_____ ENGLIT 1125
_____ ENGLIT 1150
_____ ENGLIT 1175
_____ ENGLIT 1200
_____ ENGLIT 1220
_____ ENGLIT 1325
_____ ENGLIT 1380 (cross listed with AFRCNA 1006)

Elective courses

_____ AFRCANA (HIST) _____
_____ AFRCNA/ENGLIT _____
_____ AFRCNA/ENGLIT _____
_____ AFRCNA/ENGLIT _____