

Minor in Africana Studies

At least 18 hours distributed as follows: AFST 130 and 14 hours selected from the AFST courses and the Africana Studies electives listed below. Special topics courses may count as electives in the minor with the approval of the Africana Studies Director. Courses must be taken from at least two different academic disciplines in addition to AFST. Students must earn a minimum 2.00 grade-point-average on all minor courses taken at UNC Asheville. One-half of the hours required for a minor must be completed at UNC Asheville, to include at least 6 semester hours of 300-400 level courses outside of the required AFST courses.

2. Add: On page 69, in the appropriate order, the following new electives for the AFST minor:

DAN	132	Afro-Cuban Dance (1)
DAN	135	Jazz I (1)
DAN	235	Jazz Dance II (2)
DAN	261	Jazz Dance Repertory (2)
DAN	335	Jazz Dance III (2)
EDUC	352	Introduction to West African Education (3)
HIST	303	Colonial North America (3)
HIST	307	Women in the Modern Civil Rights Movements (3)
HIST	309	History of the "Old South" (3)
HIST	330	World War II (3)
HIST	391	The History of the Atlantic World, 1492-1820 (3)
IST	263	African American Colloquium (3)
LIT	364	Postcolonial Literature (3)
POLS	343	Politics of the Civil Rights Era (4)
POLS	362	African Politics (4)
RELS	312	Religion in America to 1865 (3)
RELS	313	Religion in America Since 1865 (3)
SOC	359	Women of Color and Feminism (3)
SOC	364	Population and the Environment: An International Perspective (3)
SOC	365	Violence in America (3)

Impact:

There will be no added faculty resources needed for these additions to the list of electives since the courses are already being taught across the university.

Rationale:

For our institution to stay relevant, especially in this current fiscal climate, it is imperative that we strive to be creative and competitive. Our competitiveness and relevance will come from training undergraduates for a diversified and internationalized curriculum that reflects the challenges of the 21st century. This would include training our students to be culturally and globally competent with enhanced civic responsibilities and global citizenship. The 21st century graduate should have the necessary creative and intellectual tools to comprehend the complexities of the current global system. These are some of the guiding principles that have influenced the proposed revisions to the Africana Studies minor. The changes also reflect current practices and trends in critical area studies.

The proposed curricular changes to the Africana Studies minor will provide students the opportunity to diversify and internationalize their academic experience at UNC Asheville. Another important dimension worth noting is that a vibrant Africana Studies program validates UNC Asheville's commitment to diversity. The curricular content of the minor is being enhanced by expanding the number of elective courses, both in and out of the program. These courses cut across many disciplines and departments. The reduction of credit hours for the minor from its current 21 hours to 18 hours is aimed at making the Africana Studies minor curriculum consistent with other minors at UNC Asheville, as well as to make it more sustainable in these times of budgetary constraints.