

African Studies Program 2016-17 Yearly Assessment Report

Type of Program: Minor

Division: College of Arts and Sciences

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Submitted: October 26, 2017

Mission Statement

USF's African Studies Program is an interdisciplinary minor program that seeks to deepen students' knowledge and understanding of the history and culture of African peoples in Africa and the African Diaspora. Through African-focused courses and events in history, politics, theology and religious studies, art, music, and literature, students are introduced to the diversity of African experiences and African contributions to global history and culture.

African Studies Program Learning Outcomes

Students will:

1. Understand and critically analyze the complex historical, political, social and economic processes—on the local, regional, and global levels—that have shaped the lives of Africans in Africa and the African Diaspora
2. Understand the diversity of Africa and its peoples from at least two perspectives (e.g., historical, cultural, social, religious)
3. Demonstrate some familiarity with the methodologies of a variety of disciplines (e.g., political, historical, economic, literary) to analyze Africa's experiences
4. Demonstrate some familiarity with the region's artistic and literary production and its contributions to global culture

Brief Summary of Most Recent Program Assessment Plan

The African Studies Program is in the process of developing a new assessment plan. It will then implement the plan within the minor. The plan will do the following:

- Identify how each course satisfies the Program Learning Outcomes for the minor
- Assess whether each graduating minor has satisfied these outcomes
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the minor, and implement new ways of strengthening the programming and curriculum

Academic Program Review

The African Studies Program has mapped out its curriculum and identified how each course satisfies the Program Learning Outcomes for the minor. The minor is also developing an “exit

survey” to each graduating student with a minor in African studies to assess whether these students have satisfied the minor. These data will start being available in December 2017.

Methods

The Curriculum Map outlines how each Full Coverage African Studies course satisfies the Program Learning Outcomes:

Course Name	Course Number	PLO	Type of Diversity	Methodology
Modern African History	HIST 150	1,2,4	Historical and Social	Historical
African Politics and Development	POLS 348	1,2,3	Political and Economic	Political and Economic
Africa Films Africa	FREN 250	2,4	Cultural and Social	Cultural
History of South Africa	HIST 340	1,3	Historical and Political	Historical
Survey of African Music	MUS 212	2,4	Cultural and Social	Cultural
African Theologies	THRS 270	1,2	Cultural and Religious	Cultural
FYS: A Season in the Congo	FREN 195	1,2,4	Cultural and Social	Cultural
a.k.a. Africa	FREN 260	1,4	Cultural and Social	Cultural
Rencontres: L’Afrique francophone	FREN 330	1	Cultural	Linguistic
Theology in HIV/AIDS Contexts	THRS 306	1,2	Cultural and Religious	Historical and Cultural

* Political, Economic, and Social diversities and methodologies are supplemented with numerous partial coverage course offerings including the following courses: Intro to International Politics; Colonialism and Empire; Food Security and Global Justice; The Global Economy; Global Inequalities and Social Justice; Introduction to Sacred Scripture; Economic Development; Francophone Literature and Culture; Introduction to Globalization; Foreign Aid and International Development.

The African Studies Program deals with two major challenges:

1. Lack of African language offering at USF
2. Limited study abroad options in Africa

We will continue working with the African Studies program at UC-Berkeley to brainstorm ways to provide African language training at USF. We are considering a joint-application for the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program. In addition, we are working with the Internationalization committee to improve study abroad options on the African continent. Currently, students attend programs in Tunisia, Morocco, and South Africa.

The Programming Map outlines how each Programming Contribution satisfies the Program Learning Outcomes:

Program	Type	PLO
Africa Movie Night	Film Series	1,2,4
Frontiers in the Politics of Development	Speaker Series	1,3
Critical Dialogue on Peaceful African Elections	Speaker/Discussion Series	1
Human Rights Film Festival	Film Festival	1,4
Forum for Transnational Collaboration in the Arts	Conference	1,3
a.k.a Africa Speakers	Speaker Series	1,2,4
Development Progress and the Route to Democracy Conference	Conference	1,2,3
African Studies Graduate Student Conference--2018	Conference	1,2,3
This Week in Africa	Weekly Email Bulletin	1,2,3,4
“eye Bókoo” Conversation Hour	Discussion	1,2

Results

We will know more about whether graduating seniors have satisfied the requirements of the minor starting in December 2017 when students fill out their “exit survey” for the minor. We are in the process of developing the survey in line with the Program Learning Outcomes. We will use the results of the survey to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the minor, and implement new ways of strengthening the programming and curriculum.

Closing the Loop

The program has three immediate goals:

1. Devise an “exit survey” to all graduate minors, analyze the data, and use the results to improve curriculum and programming.
2. Boost the number of students in the minor program from 13 (2017) to 25 (2018) and 30 (2019).
3. Expand language and study abroad opportunities for African Studies minors.