

African Studies Program 2019-20 Yearly Assessment Report

Type of Program: Minor

Division: College of Arts and Sciences

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We redesigned the curriculum so that it is better aligned with top African Studies programs across the globe, as well as more in line with our current course offerings.

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 assessment plan does 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 has developed an “exit survey” to each graduating student with a minor in African studies to assess whether these students have satisfied the minor.

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 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
This Week in Africa	Weekly Email Bulletin	1,2,3,4

Results

We now more about whether graduating seniors have satisfied the requirements of the minor after analyzing the results from the students’ “exit survey.” We have developed 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.

We need to administer the survey to graduating seniors.

Closing the Loop

In last year’s assessment, the program outlined three immediate goals. Here is the progress we made:

1. Redesign the curriculum and submit through Curriculog.

We did this and it has been approved for Fall 2021.

2. Retain a steady number of minors.

The program has 17 students. The goal is to keep steady around 20.

3. Expand language and study abroad opportunities for African Studies minors.

We continue to work with the Vice Provost of Internationalization and FABI on these efforts.

In addition, the program has continued strong programming. To inform the African Studies community, the program sends out a newsletter with a list of events on campus and in the Bay Area approximately every few weeks. The programming includes:

African Studies Programming, 2019-20

Africa Movie Night

March 18, 2020: *Atlantics* (Cancelled due to COVID)

March 26-28, 2020: Human Rights Film Festival (Cancelled due to COVID)

April 15, 2020: Burial of Kojo (Cancelled due to COVID)

African Studies Social gatherings

November 16, 9am-1pm: Workshop on Leadership in Africa, Keynote speaker Honorable Robert Sentamu Kyagulanyi (aka Bobi Wine), Member of Parliament, Kyadondo East Constituency, Kampala, Uganda

African Studies Lectures

October 23, 6:30-8:00 pm: The Fight for the Future of Food: A Conversation with African Activists

November 4, 5-6:30 pm: The Foundations of Police Intelligence Under British Rule, Chase Arnold

November 13, 4:45-6:15: Revivalist Churches in the Congo

November 18, 3:30-5:00pm: Launch of *Democracy in Ghana: Everyday Politics in Urban Africa*, Jeffrey Paller in conversation with Joseph Asunka, Hewlett Foundation

Critical Dialogue on Peaceful African Elections

November 6, 2019: Mobilizing a Revolution: Evidence from Sudan, Mai Hassan

Affiliated events

November 7, 2019: Economics Department Research Seminar, Aurelie Harou, “When does information make a difference? A field experiment with plot-specific soil information in Tanzania”

November 19, 2019: Peace building and Restorative Justice in Africa: Lessons from the field, Dialogue with Barwende Sane, S.J. (with Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice)

March 2, 1-2:30 pm: Politics Research Colloquium, Adrienne Johnson, “Extraction, Entanglements, and (Im)Materialities: The Politics of Thinking and Doing Natural Resource Industries Fieldwork.”

March 2-4: Global Women’s Rights Forum (Cancelled due to COVID)

April 4, 2020: Conference on Immigration and Social Justice for African and Afro-Caribbean Migration in the Bay Area (Cancelled due to COVID)

April 21: Stephen Zunes, “Sudan’s Pro-Democracy Revolution: The Triumph of Nonviolence.” (Cancelled due to COVID)

April 28, 4:30-6:30 pm: Chandan Deuskar, “Urban Planning and the Politics of Informal Urbanization in the Global South.” (Cancelled due to COVID)