

5/9/22

African American Studies minor (AAS) AY22-23 Assessment Report

Primary Contact:

The Director of AAS, Ronald R. Sundstrom, rrsundstrom@usfca.edu.

Faculty Advisory Committee:

Tracy Benning
David Guy Brizan
Candice Harrison
Chloe Hyunt
Emile Lawrence
Rivka Louissant
Teresa Moore
Robert Moses
Kathy Nasstrom
Stephanie Sears
James Taylor

Mission Statement (No changes to report)

The African American Studies minor exposes students to the interdisciplinary study and intellectual traditions of African Americans. Students are grounded in the fundamentals of African American history and learn how the African American experience is at the heart of our nation and world. The minor provides opportunities for students to engage in rigorous examinations of social inequality, change, and justice.

Program Learning Objectives (No changes to report)

1. The minor introduces students to the interdisciplinary study of the history, politics, art, experiences and intellectual traditions of African Americans. Through this educational experience, students will understand the vital role of African Americans and African American culture in the United States and globally
2. The minor prepares students to examine social inequality, change and justice through a uniquely African American and intersectional framework and to apply this framework to movements for social justice.
3. The minor aims to train students for graduate and professional work in the humanities, social sciences, education, health and law; to use their cultural and intellectual knowledge in their prospective careers; and to responsibly and respectfully engage in our common pursuit of justice.

Curricular Map (attached below)

Assessment Schedule

5/9/22

During AY22–23, AAS will review and discuss the changes made to its course catalog that resulted from last academic year's (AY21-22) and its effects on the structure of the program. We will continue to engage in indirect assessment with the goal of improving the quality of the structure of our program.

Retrospective of Assessment Activities:

During AY21-22, the faculty advisory committee (primarily through the work of Prof. Kathy Nasstrom) polled the instructors for each of the courses in the catalog to determine which courses were actively being taught. The program discussed the resulting list and determined the courses to be retained and cut (attached below). We as a program, through our polling and discussion, engaged in *indirect assessment*.

During AY20-21, AAS was focused on survival and guiding our students. We adjusted our program to the demands of teaching during the pandemic. We also discussed concerns about our catalog and program. At the end of AY20-21, I took over the directorship because the former director, Prof. Walker, took an extended leave-of-absence.

During AY21-22, AAS continued to discuss the contents of its course catalog and the structure of its program. Our aim was to update our course catalog, to identify courses that are no longer being taught, and to remove them from our catalog and program requirements.

Assessment Methods and Findings

After this academic year's review and discussion, we will follow up with the CAS Dean's office to make any needed changes to our program and catalog, and we will discuss whether to engage in direct assessment of our associated courses in subsequent academic years.