

Black Studies, BA

Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Black Studies prepares students for careers in a broad range of professions requiring cultural literacy, emotional intelligence, and evidence-based advocacy. Graduates with degrees in Black Studies have found rewarding careers in schools and universities; as counselors in family services and juvenile justice agencies; as diversity consultants; as entrepreneurs; as community organizers, diplomats and ambassadors in the foreign service; as cultural and content specialists in non-governmental organizations; and numerous specialized positions in the private sector.

The interdisciplinary degree program fosters an understanding of the global experiences of African, African American, and African-descended peoples with a range of intellectual tools and practical strategies for engaging race, gender, class, and culture. Students will gain an appreciation for the diverse character of humanity through the lens of the Black experience, explore the complex historical and cultural relations between Africans on the continent and African-descended peoples in the Diaspora, and engage in a comparative study of contemporary issues. In consultation with an advisor, students will discuss a specialized degree program that complements core areas of cultural production, social and structural analysis, historical investigation, and community engagement with hands-on experiential and applied learning. Students will apply course concepts in study abroad and/or virtual exchange, internships and/or co-op programs, or entrepreneurship and/or community engagement projects.



This program is a part of the Norman J. Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Admission, Enrollment, and Graduation Policies

Admission Requirements

This program does not have specific admission requirements and only admission to Kennesaw State University is required. For more information visit the Admissions section of the catalog.

Graduation Requirements

Each student is expected to meet the requirements outlined in Academic Policies 5.0 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & GRADUATION.

Program Course Requirements

Core IMPACTS Curriculum (42 Credit Hours)

General Education Core IMPACTS Curriculum

Core Field of Study (18 Credit Hours)

Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses.

Required Courses (9 Credit Hours)

- BLCK 1101: Introduction to Black Studies
or
- BLCK 1102: Issues in Black Studies
- BLCK 2100: Career Success with Black Studies
- BLCK 2200: Black Thought Matters
or
- GWST 2000: Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies
or
- ISD 2001: Introduction to Diversity and Social Justice

Elective Courses (9 Credit Hours)

Select 9 credit hours of 1000–4000 level coursework from the University Catalog approved by the faculty advisor. Students are encouraged to take 1000–2000 level coursework from the following prefixes: BLCK, ASIA, AMST, GWST, ISD, LALS, LDRS, NAIS, PAX, RELS, or STS. Note: Per BOR Policy, HPE 1000-level courses cannot be used to fulfill Field of Study requirements.

Major Requirements (27 Credit Hours)

Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses.

Required Courses (6 Credit Hours)

- ISD 3100: Interdisciplinary Studies Research Methods Or any 3000/4000 level Research Methods course approved by faculty advisor
- BLCK 4499: Senior Seminar
or
- ISD 4498: Senior Seminar in Interdisciplinary Studies

Area I: Cultural Production & Expression (6 Credit Hours)

Select 6 credit hours from the following list of courses:

- BLCK 3100: Black Religion & Spirituality
- BLCK 3200: Race and Technology
- BLCK 3300: Black Popular Culture
- BLCK 3310: Introduction to Hip Hop Studies
- BLCK 3510: Black Women Writers
- ENGL 3360: Major African American Writers
- ENGL 3500: Topics in African American Literature
- ENGL 3600: Topics in African Diaspora Literatures
- MUSI 3200: Gospel Choir
- MUSI 3411: Survey of African-American Music

Area II: Social & Structural Analysis (6 Credit Hours)

Select 6 credit hours from the following list of courses:

- BLCK 3400: Black Activism in Brazil
- BLCK 3500: The Black Woman
- BLCK 3520: Black Masculinities
- BLCK 3550: Black Women's Health
- BLCK 4031: Black Panthers
- BLCK 4500: Social Policy & Grassroots Organizing
- BLCK 4550: Black Genocide
- GWST 3020: Black Feminisms

Area III: Historical Investigation (6 Credit Hours)

Select 6 credit hours from the following list of courses:

- BLCK 3440: Black Biography
- HIST 3333: African American History to 1865
- HIST 3334: The Africans in the Diaspora
- HIST 3335: African American History, 1865 to Present
- HIST 3357: Africans in Asia
- HIST 3358: Africans in Latin America and the Caribbean
- HIST 3382: North Africa and Middle East in Modern Times
- HIST 3391: History of West Africa
- HIST 3392: History of Southern, Eastern and Central Africa
- HIST 4391: Emerging Themes in African History
- HIST 4905: History of the Atlantic World

Area IV: Community and Professional Engagement (3 Credit Hours)

Select 3 credit hours from the following list of courses:

- BLCK 3380: Study Abroad
- ISD 4497: International Virtual Exchange
- BLCK 3390: Black & Minority Entrepreneurship
- ISD 3398: Interdisciplinary Studies Internship
- BLCK 4100: Directed Applied Research

Major Electives (12 Credit Hours)

Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses. Select 12 credit hours of 3000–4000 level coursework not already used as a requirement in Areas I, II, III, or IV, or any combination of those area courses and the following list of courses:

- ANTH 3310: Cultural Diversity in the U.S.
- ANTH 3360: Anthropology and Africa
- ANTH 3365: Afro-Brazilian Culture and Politics
- ARH 3100: African Art and Architecture
- ARH 3300: Ancient Egyptian and Nubian Art and Architecture
- ARH 4150: African-American Art
- BLCK 3780: Contemporary Topics & Trends in Black Studies
- BLCK 4040: Major Issues and Figures
- BLCK 4400: Directed Study in Black Studies
- BLCK 4490: Special Topics in Black Studies
- FREN 4434: Topics in Language, Literature, and Culture
- GEOG 3350: Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa
- POLS 3328: African American Politics
- POLS 4412: Urban Politics
- POLS 4454: Politics of the Middle East
- POLS 4455: International Relations of Africa
- PSYC 3355: Cross-Cultural Psychology
- PSYC 3385: Ethnic Minority Psychology
- SOCI 3314: Race and Ethnicity
- SOCI 3350: Intersections of Race, Class, and Gender
- SOCI 4434: Emerging Social Issues in Africa

Any other Black Studies related course approved by faculty advisor. Black Studies related courses do not have to have the BLCK prefix.

University Electives (21 Credit Hours)

In accordance with KSU Graduation Policy, students must earn a grade of "D" or better in these courses while maintaining a minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA.

Free Electives (21 Credit Hours)

Select 21 credit hours of 1000-4000 level coursework from the University Catalog. Students are encouraged to complete the Black & Minority Track in the Entrepreneurship Certificate or the Diversity & Community Engagement Certificate.

Program Total (120 Credit Hours)