The African-American Studies department of The College of New Jersey is an interdisciplinary teacher-scholar community whose faculty embodies professional excellence, promotes engaged learning, and provides original intellectual contributions to their respective fields. As teachers of the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences the department promotes the discovery and creation of knowledge, independent and critical inquiry, professional and scholarly activity, and student/faculty/community collaboration.

Meet our Chair!
Winnifred Brown-Glaude, Ph.D.

Dr. Brown-Glaude is an associate professor with a joint appointment in the departments of African American Studies and Sociology. Dr. Brown-Glaude holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from Temple University. Her primary fields of research include race and ethnicity in the Anglophone-Caribbean; Race, Gender and Informal Economies; Gender and Globalization. Dr. Brown-Glaude teaches various courses on race, ethnicity, Latin America and women and gender studies. Her most recent book is Higgler’s in Kingston: Women’s Informal Work in Jamaica. She is currently working on her third book project, Feminist Mosaics: The Politics of Embodiment in the English Speaking Caribbean.
AAS Minor Requirements

Students graduating with an African-American Studies minor will embody the following learning objectives:

Graduates will be...

- Knowledgeable of the strengths and weaknesses of the theoretical models related to African Diaspora courses, scholarship, and issues.
- Able to articulate an enhanced awareness of the socioeconomic and political implications and consequences of a multiracial world.
- Able to explain global constructions of race.
- Have an understanding of the diversity of African and its Diaspora’s voices.
- Able to identify women and men central to the history, religious practices, literary traditions, artistic production, intellectual movements, institutional developments, and study of people of African descent.

Minor Requirement Courses:

AAS 205: African-American History to 1865
1 Course Unit

AAS 206: African-American History Since 1865
1 Course Unit

Options
3 Course Units

Special Topics in African American Studies!

Image, Art, Resistance, and Representation: African American Women Activist Artist & Performers in the Twentieth Century

AAS 370: Special Topics in Africana Studies · Tuesday/Friday 11am-12:20pm

This class will explore lives, activism, and artistic production of African American women artist and performers in the greater half of the twentieth century. Prominent cultural, social, and political movements will be considered and assessed in connection with the on and off stage work of key activist artists. This course will be interdisciplinary and incorporates history, feminist theory, and cultural studies. Notable artists and performers including Aida Overton Walker, Florence Mills, Augusta Savage, Hazel Scott, Lena Horne, Abbey Lincoln and Miriam Makeba will be discussed and their contributions to image and representation unpacked.

Consider taking an AAS course over Winter Term 2015

AAS 280 / WGS 260: Women of Color: A Global Perspective
Dr. Winnifred Brown-Glaude ~ Monday - Thursday -- 9:00am - 12:00pm

This course examines historical and contemporary experiences of women of color in a global context including the United States. The term ‘women of color’ refers to women of various racial and ethnic backgrounds. Students will gain an understanding of the intersection of race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality and how they help shape women’s experiences in distinct ways in the era of globalization. Themes addressed in this course include colonization, development, globalization, paid and unpaid labor, poverty, sex work, among others. One assumption of this course is that while women of various backgrounds share similar experiences that are largely shaped by constructions of gender, significant differences exist among them. To understand this complexity, we attempt to develop a framework for analyzing women’s experiences that emphasizes the specificity of difference among women while celebrating their commonalities.
Offered AAS Classes (Spring 2015)

AAS 205 / HIS 179 : African American History to 1865  
Dr. Zahra Caldwell ~ Tuesday/Friday -- 2:00 - 3:20pm  
An examination of the history of African Americans from their ancestral home in Africa to the end of the United States Civil War. The course encompasses introducing the cultures and civilizations of the African people prior to the opening up of the New World and exploring Black contributions to America up to 1865.

AAS 206 / HIS 180 : African American History 1865 to Present  
Dr. Christopher Fisher ~ Monday/Thursday -- 12:30pm - 1:50pm (01 section) & 2:00 - 3:20pm (02 section)  
An examination of the history of African Americans from the end of slavery in the United States to the civil rights revolution of 1950s and 1960s. This course is designed to explore the history of African Americans since the Reconstruction and their contributions to the civil rights revolution of the present era.

AAS 240 / MUS 245: History of Jazz  
Dr. Gary Fienberg ~ Tuesday/Friday -- 9:30 - 10:50am  
An introduction to jazz music through an examination of its content, history, and cultural legacy. The course begins with the emergence of jazz out of early African-American musical forms, and considers the profound connection between the African-American experience and the development of jazz. It is an examination of how jazz evolved through artistic and technological innovations as well as through cultural, commercial, and political forces. The course engages students in critical listening and research-based writing skills.

AAS 282 / HIS 190: History of Race Relations in the US  
Dr. David McAllister ~ Monday -- 5:30pm—8:20pm  
A socio-historical examination of race as a category in the United States. The course approaches the United States as a multiracial society and discusses how the various racial groups negotiate their differences politically, economically, intellectually, socially, and culturally.

AAS 370: Special Topics in Africana Studies  
Dr. Zahra Caldwell ~ Tuesday/Friday -- 11:00am-12:20pm (see page 2 for full course title and description)

AAS 376 / WGS 361 / HIS 365: African American Women’s History  
Dr. Zahra Caldwell ~ Tuesday/Friday -- 8:00am - 9:20am (section 01) & 9:30 - 10:50am (section 02)  
A study of the experience of African American women in the United States, from both historical and contemporary perspectives. Through a survey of critical time periods, key social institutions, and crystallizing experiences, the course will explicate the role of African American women in shaping present American society. Readings, lectures, discussions, recordings and movies will be used to present a comprehensive and cohesive understanding of African American women.

AAS 378 / LIT 378: African American Literature 1920-1980  
Dr. Kendrix Williams ~ Monday/Thursday -- 2:00 - 3:20pm  
A study of literature in the African American tradition, focusing on the realist and naturalist writings of this period, as well as the prose, poetry, essays and speeches of the Harlem Renaissance and Black Arts Movement. We will interrogate how the social matrices of competing definitions of black identity are reflected in and through writing produced by African Americans, while we trouble notions of authenticity, representation, and essentialism. The course will also explore the canon of African American Literature, its literary traditions, and the intersections with and diversions from the canon of American Letters.