PROMOTING SCHOLARSHIP AND DIALOGUE ON ISSUES RELATED TO AFRICA AND ITS DIASPORA.

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.

Exciting News from the Chair!
**AAS Major launches Fall 2016**

I am so happy to report that African American Studies will launch our new major this Fall 2016. This interdisciplinary major will consist of 5 core requirements and 5 elective courses. (see page 2 for details) Remember, if you double-major, you may cross count up to 3 courses so the AAS major can work very well as a second major. The skills taught in this major lend themselves to a wide range of careers and for graduate programs in many disciplines. This major provides students with the cultural competency needed to flourish in an increasingly diverse workforce and is designed to accommodate minors, second majors, and international study. For a full list of approved courses and to declare the major, please stop in the department office, SSB 317.

CONTACT US...

For more information about the AAS Department, go to: www.african-americanstudies.pages.tcnj.edu

Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter!
“Department of African American Studies at The College of New Jersey” (FB) and TCNJAFAM (Twitter)
Benefits of an AAS Major or Minor

Students graduating with an African American Studies major or 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.

African American Studies Major Requirements:

5 Core course requirements
- AAS 179: African American History to 1865
  1 Course Unit (crosslisted with HIS 179)
- AAS 180: African American History Since 1865
  1 Course Unit (crosslisted with HIS 180)
- AAS 378: African American Literature 1920-1980
  1 Course Unit (crosslisted with LIT 378)
- Co-requisite in Methods/Statistics (choose from approved list upon advisement)
- AAS 495: Senior Capstone-Independent Research

Electives: 5 Course Units from AAS courses (or crosslisted sections);
  1 course must be on Africa and one course must be in the Social Sciences.

AAS Minor Requirements:

AAS 179: African American History to 1865 (formerly AAS 205)
  1 Course Unit (crosslisted with HIS 179)
AAS 180: African American History Since 1865 (formerly AAS 206)
  1 Course Unit (crosslisted with HIS 180)
Electives: 3 Course Units from AAS courses (or crosslisted sections)
Offered AAS Classes—Fall 2016

AAS 179 / HIS 179 : African American History to 1865 (80456/82135)
Dr. Mekala Audain
Monday/Thursday from 8:00am - 9:20pm

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 180 / HIS 180 : African American History 1865 to Present (80450/82136)
Dr. Christopher Fisher
Tuesday/Friday from 9:30am - 10:50am

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 (80445/80243)
Dr. Michael Conklin
Monday/Thursday from 12:30pm - 1:50pm

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 252 / WGS 252: Gendering the Harlem Renaissance: Black Paris
Dr. Zakia Adair
Tuesday/Friday from 11:00am - 12:20pm (section 01—80454/80901)
OR 3:30pm-4:50pm (section 02—80455/80902)

This course will focus on performance, literature and intellectual creation during the period known as the Harlem Renaissance, 1920-1935. Departing from scholarship that locates the Harlem Renaissance in a fixed geographical or historic time frame this course will explore the ways the Harlem Renaissance took place outside of Harlem as well as explore the ways that the Harlem Renaissance was an international phenomenon that incorporated black political, intellectual and creative production from throughout the diaspora. Additionally this course will explore popular gender tropes in performance production. A main focus of this course will be on the intersection of socially construed identities and the ways that race, gender and sexuality were constructed during the Harlem Renaissance. Queering the Harlem Renaissance includes analysis of the ways spaces and performances were queer spaces for transgressive possibilities, the uses by black women of the international in theme and practice to create greater economic and career opportunities for women.
Women of African Descent in Global Perspective is a global, cross-cultural survey of the lives and contributions of women of African ancestry. Emphasis will be placed upon shared elements of African culture that, when impacted by colonialism and/or the Atlantic slave trade, resulted in similar types of resistance to oppression, and analogues cultural expression among the women of four locales: Africa, South America and the Caribbean, North America and Europe. Theoretical methodologies, historical narrative, literature, demographic data, material culture, representations of self, and representations by others will be explored to illuminate/explain the: History, Cultural artifacts, Cultural retentions and Self-concept.

A broad sociological study of race in the dynamics of American power, privilege, and oppression. The course argues race, as a concept and social phenomenon, is fluid, malleable, and socially constructed and those characteristics have made it a persistent and useful feature in US historical development.

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.
For Summer 2016, the Department of African American Studies offers the following courses:

**AAS 207/HIS 351 (Ancient and Medieval Africa—SESSION 1 (May 23-June 10))**
Dr. Matthew Bender
*Monday-Thursday from 1:00pm—4:45pm*
Course id: 60674/60569

*This introductory course surveys ancient and medieval African history through the eyes of princesses, archaeologists, peasants, religious leaders, storytellers, and women. While the course reconstructs the great civilizations of ancient Africa—Egypt, Zimbabwe, Mali, and others—it is not primarily focused on kings and leaders. Rather, the course explores how ordinary Africans ate, relaxed, worshiped, and organized their personal and political lives.*

**fulfills Race & Ethnicity, Global, and Social Change in Historical Perspectives Liberal Learning**

**AAS 240/MUS 245 : The History of Jazz**
Dr. Gary Feinberg
*ONLINE*

Course id:

*A survey course covering the development and content of Jazz music. The course covers major innovations and styles and emphasizes both listening and writing skills.*

**fulfills Race & Ethnicity and Literary, Visual, & Performing Arts Liberal Learning**

**AAS 282/HIS 190 : US Race Relations - SESSION 1 (May 23-June 10)**
Dr. Christopher Fisher
*Monday-Friday from 10:00am - 1:15pm*

*History of race relations in the United States, placing the concept of race within the context of America's economic, cultural, social, and political development. The course treats the concept of race as an open-ended question and traces it across class, ethnic, geographic, and temporal boundaries in the U.S.*

** fulfills Race & Ethnicity and Social Change in Historical Perspectives Liberal Learning**