

# AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

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

OCTOBER 2020

**CELEBRATING  
50 YEARS!**



**Department Chair:  
Dr. Piper K Williams**

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Dept Office—SSB 317 or  
304

The AAS major, which launched in the Fall of 2016, continues to grow! This interdisciplinary major consists of 5 core requirements and 5 elective courses. 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 or 304

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE AAS DEPARTMENT, GO TO:  
AFRICAN-AMERICANSTUDIES.TCNJ.EDU**

# SPRING 2021 SCHEDULE

## Monday - Thursday

**42130**  
**AAS 150.01 Introduction**  
**to Social Justice**  
**11:00 - 12:20**  
**Mitchell**

**42588**  
**AAS 338.01**  
**African Literature**  
**9:30 - 10:50**  
**McMann**

**42137**  
**AAS 370.02**  
**Special Topics:**  
**Racism,**  
**Crime & Prisons**  
**12:30 - 1:50**  
**Francis**

**40489**  
**AAS 373.01**  
**Slavery and Black**  
**Womanhood**  
**11:00 - 12:30**  
**Audain**

**42131**  
**AAS 150.02**  
**Introduction**  
**to Social Justice**  
**12:30 - 1:50**  
**Mitchell**

**42132**  
**AAS 353.01**  
**Race & Crime**  
**11:00 - 12:20**  
**Mitchell**

**42550**  
**AAS 370.03**  
**Special Topics:**  
**Archaeology of Slavery**  
**2:00 - 3:20**  
**Leader**

**40475**  
**AAS 378.01**  
**African American**  
**Literature**  
**1920 - 1980**  
**9:30 - 10:50**  
**Williams**

**40483**  
**AAS 470.01**  
**Advanced Special Topic: History of**  
**Black Women Prisoners**  
**5:00 - 7:50**  
**Francis**

**42308**  
**AAS 280.01**  
**Women of African Descent**  
**in Global Perspective**  
**11:00 - 12:20**  
**Kumar**

**40482**  
**AAS 370.01**  
**Special Topics:**  
**Racism,**  
**Crime & Prisons**  
**11:00 - 12:20**  
**Francis**

**42550**  
**AAS 370.03**  
**Special Topics:**  
**Archaeology of Slavery**  
**2:00 - 3:20**  
**Leader**

**40478**  
**AAS 378.01**  
**African American**  
**Literature**  
**1920 - 1980**  
**11:00 - 12:20**  
**Williams**

**THURSDAY**  
**EVENING**



# **SPRING 2021 SCHEDULE**

## **Tuesday - Friday**

**40479**

**AAS 282.01**

**History of Race  
Relations in the U.S.**

**9:30 - 10:50**

**Fisher**

**40476**

**AAS 240.01**

**History of Jazz**

**11:00 - 12:20**

**Fienberg**

**40480**

**AAS 321.01**

**Race, Gender, and The  
News**

**11:00 - 12:20**

**Pearson**

**42830**

**AAS 282.02**

**History of Race  
Relations in the U.S.**

**11:00 - 12:30**

**Fisher**

**40485**

**AAS 270.01**

**Topics in African  
American Studies:  
Race & Gender in  
Protest Music**

**11:00 - 12:20**

**Adair**

**40486**

**AAS 270.02**

**Topics in African  
American Studies:  
Race & Gender in  
Protest Music**

**2:00 - 3:20**

**Adair**

**42136**

**AAS 235.01**

**African American Film**

**3:30 - 4:50**

**Adair**

**Have you considered an  
AAS 399 Internship?  
Should you have  
questions, be sure to  
reach out to your  
advisor.**



**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.**

**ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE 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.**





# **MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

## **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 499: SENIOR CAPSTONE-INDEPENDENT RESEARCH**

**DON'T FORGET...  
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.**





## AAS150/WGS 150 : INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

THIS INTRODUCTORY COURSE EXAMINES HOW RACISM, CLASSISM, SEXISM, ABLEISM AND OTHER PATTERNS OF INEQUALITY INTERSECT, AND THUS CREATE BARRIERS TO THE REALIZATION OF A MORE EQUAL AND JUST SOCIETY. THE COURSE WILL BEGIN WITH A THEORETICAL EXAMINATION OF WHAT WE MEAN BY JUSTICE, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND WHY THESE MATTER. STUDENTS WILL THEN EXAMINE THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONS OF GENDER, RACE, AND SEXUALITY AND HOW THEY ARE SHAPED BY PARTICULAR CONTEXTS, TIMES, AND PLACES. USING AN INTERSECTIONAL FRAMEWORK, THE COURSE WILL THEN EXAMINE PRESSING CURRENT SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES SUCH AS POVERTY, RACE AND INCARCERATION, IMMIGRATION, ETC. AND HOW THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF SOCIAL IDENTITIES AND FORCES AMPLIFY THE IMPACT OF THESE ISSUES ON OPPRESSED POPULATIONS. STUDENTS WILL EXAMINE STRATEGIES TO CREATE CHANGE, INCLUDING ORGANIZING, CAMPAIGNS, AND ADVOCACY.

## AAS 235: AFRICAN AMERICAN FILM

A SURVEY OF THE IMAGES OF AFRICAN AMERICANS AS PRESENTED IN AMERICAN FILM. EMPHASIZES THE VIEWING OF A SELECTED NUMBER OF WORKS WHICH DEPICT VARIOUS TYPES OF MOVIE-MYTH AFRICAN AMERICANS.

## AAS 240/MUS 245: HISTORY OF JAZZ

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: GENDER AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION

THIS COURSE PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF THE VARIOUS PERFORMANCE GENRE MADE POPULAR IN THE LATE NINETEENTH-EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY BY AFRICAN AMERICANS. THE COURSE WILL MAKE EXPLICIT CONNECTIONS BETWEEN BLACK DIASPORIC CULTURAL PRODUCTION AND INTELLECTUALISM DURING THE PERIOD KNOWN AS THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE.







## AAS 270 - TOPICS IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES: RACE & GENDER IN PROTEST MUSIC

THIS COURSE PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF THE VARIOUS PERFORMANCE GENRE MADE POPULAR IN THE LATE NINETEENTH-EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY BY AFRICAN AMERICANS. THE COURSE WILL MAKE EXPLICIT CONNECTIONS BETWEEN BLACK DIASPORIC CULTURAL PRODUCTION AND INTELLECTUALISM DURING THE PERIOD KNOWN AS THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE.



## AAS 280/WGS 260/SOC 270: WOMEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

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.

## AAS 281/ SOC 281: SOCIOLOGY OF RACE IN THE U.S.

A BROAD SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF RACE IN THE DYNAMICS OF THE 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 THE US HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT.

## AAS 282/HIS 190: HISTORY OF RACE RELATIONS IN THE U.S.

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 321: RACE, GENDER, AND THE NEWS**

THROUGH INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION, CASE STUDY ANALYSIS, ONGOING RESEARCH, AND "OLD-FASHIONED REPORTING," THIS CLASS EXPLORES THE ROLE AND INFLUENCE OF THE NEWS MEDIA AS IT COVERS STORIES RELATED TO RACE, GENDER, AND RELIGION.

## **AAS 338/ LIT 338: AFRICAN LITERATURE**

THIS COURSE FOCUSES ON LITERATURE PRODUCED IN AFRICA FROM THE ERA OF EUROPEAN IMPERIALISM THROUGH THE PRESENT. LIT/AAS 338 WILL FOCUS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS, REGIONS, NATIONS, OR TRADITIONS WITHIN AFRICAN LITERATURE. THIS COURSE WILL SURVEY AFRICAN WRITINGS IN ENGLISH AGAINST A BACKDROP OF COLONIALISM, NEOCOLONIALISM, AND GLOBALIZATION.

## **AAS 353 ADVANCED CRIMINOLOGY: RACE & CRIME**

A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF THE CORRELATION BETWEEN RACE AND CRIME IN AMERICA. THE COURSE WILL FOCUS ON FOUR MAJOR AREAS: RACE AND THE LAW, RACE AND CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY, RACE AND VIOLENT CRIME, AND MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT RACE AND CRIME. THROUGH CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF READINGS AND OFFICIAL STATISTICS, STUDENTS WILL COME TO UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEXITY OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RACE AND CRIME WITHIN THE AMERICAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND BROADER SOCIAL CONTEXT.

## **AAS 370 SPECIAL TOPIC: RACISM, CRIME & PRISONS**

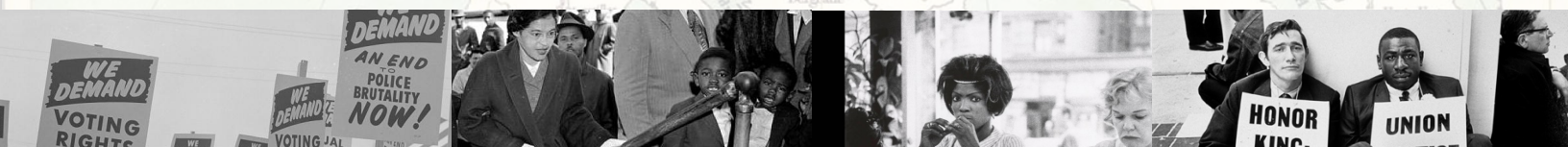
FOCUSES ON DIFFERENT TOPICS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORAS. MAY BE REPEATED AS TOPIC/INSTRUCTOR VARIES.

## **AAS 370 SPECIAL TOPIC: ARCHAEOLOGY OF SLAVERY**

FOCUSES ON DIFFERENT TOPICS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORAS. MAY BE REPEATED AS TOPIC/INSTRUCTOR VARIES.

## **AAS 373: SLAVERY AND BLACK WOMANHOOD**

HARRIET JACOBS LAMENTS IN HER 1861 SLAVE NARRATIVE INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF A SLAVE GIRL" THAT "SLAVERY IS TERRIBLE FOR MEN; BUT IT IS FAR MORE TERRIBLE FOR WOMEN." ENSLAVED WOMEN IN EARLY AND ANTEBELLUM AMERICA NOT ONLY ENDURED THE LEGAL CLASSIFICATION OF BEING CHATTEL PROPERTY, BUT ALSO THE LEGAL VULNERABILITY OF BEING SEXUAL OBJECTS. THE EVERYDAY SEXUAL VIOLATION OF BLACK WOMEN BY SLAVEHOLDERS, OVERSEERS, AND OTHERS, NOT ONLY TESTED LEGAL DEFINITIONS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RAPE, BUT ALSO SHAPED THE LIVES OF ENSLAVED WOMEN. USING PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIALS, BIOGRAPHIES, MONOGRAPHS, AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION, STUDENTS WILL EXAMINE THE CHALLENGES THAT ENSLAVED BLACK WOMEN FACED IN THE LATE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY AND THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. SPECIFICALLY, THIS COURSE WILL FOCUS ON UNPAID LABOR, RAPE, EXCLUSION FROM FIRST-WAVE FEMINISM, RESISTANCE, INCARCERATION, AND REPRODUCTION AS CORE EXPERIENCES OF BLACK GIRLHOOD AND WOMANHOOD.





## AAS 378: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE 1920 - 1980

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.

## AAS 470: ADVANCED SPECIAL TOPIC: HISTORY OF BLACK WOMEN PRISONERS

CHECK IT OUT

URBAN, OR ELEMENTARY, OR EARLY  
CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN  
STUDIES

CHECK IT OUT

TCNJ'S DUAL MAJOR AFFORDS PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK CERTIFICATION IN URBAN, OR ELEMENTARY, OR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY. DUAL MAJORS WILL HAVE THE CONTENT TRAINING TO ALSO SEEK CERTIFICATION IN ENGLISH, THUS SATISFYING NEW JERSEY STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION AS BOTH A GENERALIST AND WITHIN AT LEAST ONE CONTENT AREA.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE MINOR

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE MINOR OFFERS STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERROGATE AND THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES AND INJUSTICES, AND TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR CREATING AND SUSTAINING AN EQUITABLE AND JUST WORLD. THIS INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR INTRODUCES STUDENTS TO THE COMPLEXITY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES AND HELPS THEM DEVELOP AN INTERSECTIONAL FRAMEWORK THAT RECOGNIZES WAYS IN WHICH VARIOUS FORMS OF OPPRESSION AND PRIVILEGE INTERACT, AND HOW OPPRESSIVE SYSTEMS SUCH AS RACISM AND SEXISM ARE INTRICATELY CONNECTED. MINORS WILL BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE INEQUALITIES AND WILL GAIN THE SKILLS TO ADDRESS UNJUST PRACTICES IN A VARIETY OF SETTINGS. THE MINOR IS ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS WHO ANTICIPATE WORKING IN ADVOCACY ROLES IN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES, OR IN GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.



# IMPORTANT COLLEGE POLICIES

Please familiarize yourself with the following policies (Click Links):

**[Academic Integrity Policy](#)**

**[Grade Appeal Policy](#)**

**Liberal Learning Policy:**

Students completing their Liberal Learning breadth requirement through Option C (i.e., excluding double majors, Interdisciplinary Concentrations, and self-designed second majors) will be required to complete eight Liberal Learning courses, with one course from each of the six domains (Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; World Views and Ways of Knowing; Behavioral, Social, or Cultural Perspectives; Social Change in Historical Perspectives; Natural Science (with lab); and Quantitative Reasoning), and the remaining two from different broad sectors (Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences and History, and Natural Science and Quantitative Reasoning).



# HSS OVERLOAD

## Overload Requirements:

- Humanities and Social Sciences majors – who have earned 8 units at the college and maintain a 3.3 cumulative GPA may request an overload for more than 4.5 course units but no more than 5 course units. Students who are seeking an overload should first discuss this with their faculty advisor or department chair. The advisor and/or department chair should inquire as to why they are requesting the overload, review their academic record, and determine the likelihood of a successful semester with such an overload. If approved, students should complete the overload request form and have the department chair sign the form. Please click link at bottom of page 9 to be redirected to the form.
- If you are applying for Independent Study or Internship and need Overload permission, you should submit your Overload application using the HSS Independent Study and Internship Application Portal (below) where you will upload both your Overload form and your Independent Study or Internship Application. The Associate Dean will review it and sign the form and grant overload.
- The Associate Dean will review paperwork.

Should you have any questions, feel free to email [smithch@tcnj.edu](mailto:smithch@tcnj.edu) or click the link below

[Link to HSS Forms and Explanations](#)