

Africana Studies

The Africana studies program is the examination of and critical reflection about the experiences, history and civilizations, intellectual and economic development, social organization and cultures of the peoples of Africa on the continent and in the Diaspora. Multidisciplinary and global in nature, Africana studies provides access to Afrocentric and other cultural studies perspectives that inform research and teaching about African and Diasporan peoples. Students explore a wide range of African and African-American texts and gain an appreciation for the development and awakening of peoples throughout the Diaspora.

A Distinctive Program

Africana studies students and faculty actively engage with local community organizations or residents. Students gain practical experience in helping communities solve problems by applying knowledge gained in the classroom.

Academics and Research

Independent research

Many Africana studies students do independent research study projects with Stetson University faculty that are tailored to their area of interest within the minor and their major. Students frequently present their work at academic conferences.

Preparation for graduate study

Senior Africana studies students have the opportunity to incorporate an Africana focus into the senior thesis paper for their major. Senior capstone courses emphasize using research and methodology that produces publication-quality thesis papers, thus ensuring they are well prepared for graduate and

Fast Facts

Number of faculty: 14

Can you major in this program? No

Can you minor in this program? Yes

Emphasis within the major: African-American studies, Caribbean studies, African studies

Department:

stetson.edu/africana

Students in this program engage with the local community.

professional work.

Awards and Recognition

Distinguished faculty

The Africana studies program has three members who are Fulbright Scholar Grant recipients, one member of the National Council for Black Studies (NCBS) Board of Trustees, one former executive committee member of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium and one member who received the Stetson University Hand Award for Scholarly Achievement and the Stetson University Hand Award for Community Impact.

- [Ranjini Thaver](#), Ph.D., University of Notre Dame; department chair
- [Mario Rodriguez](#), Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
- [William Nysten](#), Ph.D., Columbia University, comparative politics
- [Patrick Coggins](#), Ed.S., University of Connecticut
- Shawnrece Campbell, Ph.D., Kent State University
- [Peter Smucker](#), Ph.D., University of Chicago, music theory
- [Shahram Amiri](#), Ed.D., College of William and Mary, higher education administration

Grant-funded research

Shawnrece Campbell and Anita Choice were awarded the NCBS National Black United Fund (NBUF) Grant for the Afrocentric summer enrichment program at Free to Be Me, Inc. and the Central Florida Freedom School. Students are encouraged to participate in the Stetson Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE), which provides funding for equipment, room and board and travel.

Undergraduate awards and honors

The department gives the Outstanding Senior in Africana Studies Award to one student each year.

Beyond the Classroom

Internships

Students have interned for DeLand-based African American Museum of the Arts, Free to Be Me, Inc. and the Central Florida Freedom School.

More Information



Office of Admissions
421 North Woodland Boulevard, Unit 8378
DeLand, Florida 32723



386-822-7100 or 800-688-0101



admissions@stetson.edu



stetson.edu/admissions

After Stetson

Diverse careers

Recent alumni of the department have gone on to law school; recent choices include Columbia University and Stetson University. Others have continued on to Ph.D. and M.B.A. programs.



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