

Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in African Studies
Submitted by the African Studies Institute
Director- Akinloye Ojo

A Graduate level Certificate in African Studies is being proposed by the African Studies Institute (ASI) to complement the undergraduate academic programs (Certificate and Minor) currently offered in the Institute. The interdisciplinary focus of the institute has ensured that the proposed Graduate Certificate in African Studies (GCAS) is interdisciplinary in nature with adequate provision for candidates to incorporate academic work in their own field of specialization. As such, the GCAS is designed to not only provide knowledge about Africa and the field of African Studies but to also augment graduate education in any major area of study at the University of Georgia. This unique opportunity for UGA students in virtually all areas of specialization to enhance their graduate degrees makes the proposed GCAS ideally justifiable.

Through the proposed GCAS, ASI is responding to the awareness of the increasing interconnections of societies worldwide. In order for UGA graduate students to become better participants in the new global economy, they must be tutored to appreciate globalization as primarily entailing interactions that are not country or continent-bound; and which would require knowledge systems that are not geographically or disciplinarily bounded. To best survive in the globalized environment, our graduate students must acquire sufficient knowledge about most parts of the world, including Africa. The GCAS will provide UGA graduate students with valuable knowledge about Africa and various aspects of life on the continent. It will be for the graduate students wishing to gain international perspectives before entering the global marketplace.

Finally, the interdisciplinary inquiry-oriented design of the GCAS will ensure that graduate students acquire in-depth knowledge regarding issues of commerce, history, economics, culture, politics, urban poverty, pollution, industrialization, language use, religious practice, and infrastructural management on the African continent and how these issues impact society and education absolutely. The proposed GCAS will be situated in the multi-disciplinary ASI which works with units and academic programs across UGA interested in the study of Africa. Core and Affiliate Faculty members participating in the academic life (teaching, researching and advising) of ASI are housed in various departments of Franklin College and in all colleges and schools of the University. This diverse and multi-disciplinary academic workforce ensures that no additional staffing will be required to implement the GCAS.

Summary of proposed GCAS:

Students seeking the graduate certificate in African Studies must take the following courses:

- AFST 7010 (Graduate Introduction to African Studies)
- Either: AFST 6200 (Critical Issues in Contemporary Africa)
Or AFST 6465 (Globalization and Indigenous Cultures in Africa)
- Nine credit hours of graduate level AFST, AFST cross-listed, or pre-approved courses complementary to the student's major field program of study and
- Make a presentation as part of the ASI APERO Africana Brown bag lecture series.

Students must undergo advisement concerning the certificate at the Institute for African Studies prior to beginning and at the completion of the certificate program requirements.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN AFRICAN STUDIES (GCAS)

Requirements for the Graduate Certificate

15 hours

I. APERO REQUIREMENT

Each candidate must make a presentation in the APERO Brownbag Lecture series prior to the completion of the GCAS program.

II. REQUIRED COURSES Choose two 6 units

Candidates must choose two required courses from the three listed courses. These will include AFST 7010 and a choice between AFST 6200 and AFST 6465 (3 units each):

AFST 7010	Graduate Introduction to African Studies (awaiting ASI faculty approval)
AFST 6200	Critical Issues in Contemporary Africa
AFST 6465	Globalization and Indigenous Cultures in Africa

III. AFRICAN STUDIES ELECTIVES Choose three 9 units

Candidates must choose three elective courses from the listed courses. All courses are 3 units each and are already on the books unless otherwise stated:

AFST 6245	Oral Literature in Africa
AFST 6260	Black & Green Atlantic: Crosscurrents of the African & Irish Diasporas
AFST 6291	African Music
AFST 6461	African Ethnography
AFST 6470	African Theatre: An Historical Overview
AFST 6500	Studies in African History
AFST 6515	African Slavery and Slave Trades
AFST 6531	Africans in the Americas
AFST 6540	Conflict in 20th Century Southern Africa
AFST 6545	Comparative Postcolonial Studies
AFST 6550	Christianity and Colonialism in Africa
AFST 6620	African Religion in Diaspora
AFST 6625	Eschatology in African Religion
AFST 6700	Model African Union
AFST 6710	International Agricultural Development
AFST 6710E	International Agricultural Development
AFST 6800	Education and Sports in Africa
AFST 6861	Applied Ethnomusicology: African Music
AFST 6880	The Origins of African Literature
AFST 6890	Postcolonial African Literature
AFST 6531	Africans in the Americas
AFST 6700	Model African Union
AFST 6460	History of Dramatic Art: Special Topics
AFST 7010	Graduate Introduction to African Studies

AFST 7950	Directed Research in African Studies
AFST 8020	Seminar in Literary Periods
AFST 8030	Seminar in Literary Genres
AFST 8345	Comparative Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa
AFST 8410	Education in the Black Diaspora: Identify, Community and Contestation
AFST 8960	Directed Reading in African Studies

- **Additional Options for electives** (limit of 3 units or one elective course):
 - a. Field Specific Elective: Candidates can request permission to take one Africa focused course in their specific graduate discipline.
 - b. Directed Study: Candidates can register for a graduate level directed studies course with an ASI faculty member. Such directed studies work must result in a publishable manuscript.



Proposal Summary / Announcement:

The African Studies Institute offers graduate students a graduate certificate in African Studies

Graduate Certificate in African Studies

Students seeking the graduate certificate in African American Studies must take the following courses:

- AFST 7010 (Graduate Introduction to African Studies)
- Either: AFST 6200 (Critical Issues in Contemporary Africa)
- Or AFST 6465 (Globalization and Indigenous Cultures in Africa)
- Nine credit hours of graduate level AFST, AFST cross-listed, or pre-approved courses complementary to the student's major field program of study.

Students must undergo advisement concerning the certificate at the Institute for African Studies prior to beginning and at the completion of the certificate program.