

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, MA

The program in African American studies at the University of Wisconsin–Madison is dedicated to carrying on the vision of the elders and ancestors who devoted themselves to the highest standards of intellectual rigor and to the realization of a vision of true equality and opportunity. Like W.E.B. Du Bois, Anna Julia Cooper, John Hope Franklin, Zora Neale Hurston, and James Porter, the department is committed to bringing the fruits of academic research to the broadest possible audience, within and beyond the walls of the university. The deepest understanding of the complex reality of race in America requires an interdisciplinary approach, one that draws on history and literature, the social sciences, and the arts. Graduate studies are concentrated in three areas:

1. African American Culture (literature, theater history, music and culture, art history, and visual culture);
2. History and Society;
3. Black Women's Studies

The MA program is based on personalized programs of study shaped to meet the needs of individual students, many of whom participate in the "Bridge" programs which enable them to move directly into PhD programs in English (<http://www.english.wisc.edu/grad-afroam.htm>) or history (<https://history.wisc.edu/our-graduate-program/bridge-program/>). Program faculty are experts in their fields and work collaboratively to ensure that graduate students are well prepared to either take on further study at the PhD level or careers in teaching, public service, and the private, corporate sector. The program also offers doctoral minors for students in many graduate programs including African languages and literature, art history, communication arts, comparative literature, education, English, history, music, political science, social work, and sociology.