



Student-Designed Cluster

This option is for motivated students who wish to create their own academic concentration. It is advised by **Khalid El-Hassan** (KASC).

Beyond the required foundation course, the student may select a thematic sequence of four courses around an interest or skill, and a related capstone exercise.

E.g., a cluster around Islam and African languages could be built with the following courses, and a capstone final course:
 ENGL 479/AAAS 433 African Islamic Literature
 REL 350/AAAS 349 Islam
 AAAS 545 Unveiling the Veil
 LING/AAAS 370 Intro to Languages of Africa
LING/AAAS 570 Language & Society in Africa*



African Studies Minor

The University of Kansas



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&

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The African Studies Minor offers the opportunity for students across the University, with majors in a variety of departments and schools, to gain basic competence in African Studies and to work with the best faculty advisers together with student peers.

The 18-hour Minor, taken over several years, brings the subject matter of African Studies - African languages, geography, literature, history, society, the arts, and religion - into focus for undergraduate students. The African Studies Minor is designed for the student who, as a major in a disciplinary department in the College, or pursuing a degree in a professional school, wishes to acquire competence in a focused area of study relating to Africa. After taking a Foundation course, the student is invited to join a small group of peers and a recognized faculty expert (identified in bold letters) in one of six African Studies thematic clusters.

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| <p>FOUNDATION – One required introductory course, 3 credits: AAAS 103 Introduction to Africa, or HIST 104 / AAAS 105 Introduction to African History</p> |
| <p>THEMATIC CLUSTER – Four courses at the 300-level or above, 12 credits, from one of the following cluster options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced African Language Study • African Societies & Civilizations • African Arts & Literature • Political Economy of Health & Development in Africa • People & Space in Africa • Student-Designed Cluster |
| <p>SENIOR PROJECT – A capstone learning experience for 3 credits (with Africanist adviser) <i>Select one project:</i> Senior Seminar & Research – such as AAAS 550 Honors Project – such as AAAS 695 Investigation and Conference – such as AAAS 690, or a disciplinary equivalent Field Experience – such as AAAS 496 Africa-related Internship Study Abroad in Africa</p> |

Advanced African Language Study

At least four courses of Arabic, Swahili, Hausa, or Wolof, at the 300-level or above; or two advanced language courses and a Language & Society course (other languages may apply with consent of faculty).

This cluster is devoted to those students who have taken two years of one of the languages and wish to concentrate on advanced study of that language through tutorials and the comparative study of African languages. These student-scholars are encouraged to participate in a study abroad experience for their senior project, and move as far toward language proficiency as possible in their bachelor's work. Language Coordinator **Naima Omar** (Arabic) advises this cluster, with the help of **Beverly Mack** (Hausa), **Harold Torrence** (Wolof), and language lecturers and tutors.

Courses:

ARAB 310 Advanced Arabic I
 ARAB 320 Advanced Arabic II
 ARAB 401 Readings in Arabic I
 ARAB 402 Readings in Arabic II
 KISW 310 Advanced Kiswahili I
 KISW 320 Advanced Kiswahili II
 KISW 401 Readings in Kiswahili I
 KISW 402 Readings in Kiswahili II
 HAUS 310 Advanced Hausa I
 HAUS 320 Advanced Hausa II
 HAUS 401 Readings in Hausa I
 HAUS 402 Readings in Hausa II
 WOLO 310 Advanced Wolof I
 WOLO 320 Advanced Wolof II
 WOLO 401 Readings in Wolof I
 WOLO 402 Readings in Wolof II
 LING/AAAS 370 Intro to Languages of Africa
 LING/AAAS 470 Language & Society in Africa
 AAAS 502 or AAAS 503 Directed Language Study

African Societies & Civilizations

Social dynamics; Gender studies; Religion and thought; Historical perspectives

This cluster is devoted to the study of Africa's complex societies and long-standing civilizations. Topics include e.g., gender, Kongo society and history, Islam in Africa, traditional African religion, divination in West Africa.

Liz MacGonagle (History/AAAS) advises students in this cluster with the assistance of many other faculty members such as Margaret Rausch (Religious Studies), Majid Hannoum (AAAS/Anthropology), Paul Mirecki (Ancient Egyptian and Coptic), or Ebenezer Obadare (Sociology).

Courses:

AAAS 300 African Traditional Religion & Thought
AAAS 360 Intro to West African History
AAAS 445 Arab Thought and Identity
AAAS 501 Regional History
AAAS 527 Popular Culture in Africa
AAAS 545 Unveiling the Veil
ANTH 390 Peoples of Africa
HIST 300/AAAS 305 Modern African History
HIST 598/AAAS 598 Sexuality and Gender in African History
HIST 599/AAAS 590 Rise and Fall of Apartheid
HIST 600/AAAS 520 West African History
JOUR 500 Topics in Journalism: International Journalism
REL 350/AAAS 349 Islam
REL 450/AAAS 450 Popular Culture in the Muslim World
REL 532/AAAS 532 Studies in Islam
REL 535/AAAS 542 History of Islam in Africa
WS 310/AAAS 310 Women of Africa Today
WS 315/AAAS 315 Women and Islam
WS 330/WS 340 Women in Contemporary African Literature
WS 560/AAAS 560 Race, Gender and Post-Colonial Discourses

African Arts & Literature

Oral and written traditions; Performing arts; Music, Art and art history

This cluster is dedicated to verbal, visual, dramatic, and musical arts in Africa.

Byron Caminero-Santangelo (English) & **Omofolabo Ajayi** (Theatre & Film and Women's Studies) advises this cluster with the help of many other faculty, including Peter Ukpokodu (AAAS), Gitti Salami (History of Art/AAAS), Samira Sayeh (French), among others.

Courses:

AAAS 323/AAAS 523 Cinema of the African Diaspora
AAAS 335 Intro to Southern African Literature
AAAS 433 Islamic Literature
AAAS 434 African Women Writers
AAAS 435 Muslim Women's Autobiography
ENGL 324/AAAS 320 The Novel in Africa
ENGL 326/AAAS 332 Intro to African Literature
ENGL 526 African Literature
FREN 432/AAAS 432 Francophone African Lit.
HA 376/AAAS 376/676 West African Art
HA 578/AAAS 578 Central African Art
HA 677/AAAS 677 African Design
TH&F 302/AAAS 320 African Film & Theatre
TH&F 326/AAAS 355 African Theatre & Drama
TH&F 530/AAAS 555 African Film and Video
TH&F 226/DAN 230 Intro to African Dance Theater
WS 330/WS 340 Women in Contemporary African Literature

Political Economy of Health & Development in Africa

Political and economic issues; Development studies; Health issues

A first set of courses is given that includes basic background skills suggesting an anthropology major. However, other disciplinary majors may take the minimum concentration for the African Studies Minor.

Sandra Gray (Anthropology) advises students in this cluster, assisted by John Janzen (Anthropology), Hannah Britton (Political Science & Women's Studies), Elizabeth Asiedu and Mohammed El-Hodiri (Economics), and Melissa Birch (CIBER), among others.

Courses (background courses 25-50% African content)

AAAS 680 Introduction to Modern Africa
ANTH545/AAAS 554 Contemporary Health Issues in Africa
ANTH 542 Biology of Human Nutrition
ANTH 543 Anthropology of Food and Nutrition
ANTH 650 Human Reproduction: Biology and Behavior
ANTH 752 Human Growth and Development
ANTH 461 Intro to Medical Anthropology
ANTH 540 Demographic Anthropology
ANTH 783 Doing Ethnography
ANTH 684 Anthropology and the Health Sciences
ECON 587 Economic Development of Africa
GEOG 553/AAAS 553 Geography of African Development
HIST 599/AAAS 599 Rise and Fall of Apartheid
IBUS 404 Business, Culture and Soc in Africa
POLS 665/AAAS 600 Politics in Africa
POLS 667 Islam and Politics

People & Space in Africa

Human and physical geography; Environmental issues

This cluster emphasizes the relationships between Africans and the places or environments they inhabit, manage, and transform. The courses mainly are those in physical and human geography, but anthropology and history courses offer depth and breadth in the mix.

Garth Myers (Geography /AAAS) works with this cluster, with assistance from Sandra Gray, John Janzen and Majid Hannoum (Anthropology) and Johan Feddema (Geography).

Courses:

AAAS 560 Race, Gender and Postcolonial Discourses
ANTH 390 Peoples of Africa
ANTH 549 Human Paleontology
ANTH 501/AAAS 520 Kongo Trans-Atlantic
GEOG 350/AAAS 350 Physical Geography of Africa
GEOG 351/AAAS 351 Africa's Human Geographies
GEOG 553/AAAS 553 Geography of African Development
GEOG 550/AAAS 551/EVRN 420 Environmental Issues in Africa
GEOG 557/AAAS 557 Cities and Development
HIST 300/AAAS 305 Modern African History
HIST 598/AAAS 598 Sexuality and Gender in African History
HIST 599/AAAS 590 Rise and Fall of Apartheid
HIST 600/AAAS 520 West African History
POLS 665/AAAS 600 Politics in Africa

NOTE: *For all of the Thematic Clusters, AAAS often has courses listed as 320/520 courses that may count toward the cluster. Please consult with your cluster adviser for these or other special courses.*
