

# African American Studies

African American Studies celebrates the achievements of Africans and peoples of African descent throughout the Diaspora while addressing their pursuit of justice, equality, and self-determination. The major focuses on North America while encompassing Africa, the Caribbean, and other parts of the world. It seeks to prepare students to become agents of change who will pursue social justice and promote an appreciation of racial and cultural differences in the United States and the wider world. African American Studies helps prepare students for a wide range of careers in such fields as human relations, social work, sports management, health care, criminal justice, education, management, and law.

## Why Guilford College?

Consistently rated nationally by *The Princeton Review* as well as being one of the 40 colleges in *Colleges that Change Lives* by Loren Pope, Guilford College inspires each student to achieve excellence through an engaging community, rooted in Quaker values, which nurtures creativity and social responsibility.

## What can a Guilford education offer you?

- An urban setting near other colleges & universities with an area student population of over 27,000 students
- A consortium agreement with University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro College, Bennett College, North Carolina A&T State University, Elon University and High Point University provides students with access to courses free of charge
- A college mission statement & core values based on, and consistent with, Quaker testimonies. Guilford's core values are: Community, Diversity, Equality, Excellence, Integrity, Justice & Stewardship.
- A challenging academic program which emphasizes not only academic tracks and the learning process, but also the interconnection between curricular and co-curricular pursuits
- A diverse student population providing a stimulating peer environment
- Excellent study abroad programs in China, England, France, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Scotland, Spain, and Wales

## The academic program in African American Studies

The bachelor of arts degree is offered in African American Studies.  
A minor is offered in African American Studies.

## Required courses for the African American Studies major

African American Studies is an interdisciplinary major that requires students to have a second major in a discipline and an adviser in both the disciplinary major and African American Studies. The major requires at least eight courses (32 credit hours). No more than two of these courses may be at the 100 level. Courses must be taken to satisfy the following requirements:

- *Historical Dimensions*
- *Creative Voices*
- *Theoretical Frameworks*
- *African Connections*
- *Practical Applications*: A one-semester advanced internship or independent study in the senior year, supervised by a faculty member teaching regularly in the African American Studies program.

## **Internship Opportunities**

Students may elect to complete an internship under the supervision of a faculty member in this department and receive credit for the experience. Such internships give majors the “hands-on” experience which is so necessary in this field. Among locations where African American Studies majors have completed internships are the following:

- Guilford College Multicultural Resource Center
- African Services Coalition
- Beloved Community Center
- Guilford County District Attorney’s Office
- NC Department of Juvenile Justice
- Triad Health Project
- YWCA Teen Parent Mentor Program

## **Where do graduates go?**

Students majoring in African American Studies have gone on to pursue careers in Human Resources, Counseling, Research, Teaching, the Professorate, Criminal Justice, Business, Law, Social Work, Sports, and Public Service.

## **Faculty**

Edwins Gwako, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Coordinator of African American Studies; [egwako@guilford.edu](mailto:egwako@guilford.edu)

Carolyn Beard Whitlow, Dana Professor of English

Joy Coates, Assistant Professor of History

Naadiya Hasan, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Adrienne Israel, Professor of History

Barbara Lawrence, Assistant Professor of Justice and Policy Studies

Lisa McLeod, Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Karen Tinsley, Associate Professor of Psychology

**For additional information about African American Studies at Guilford College visit [www.guilford.edu/academics](http://www.guilford.edu/academics)**

