

AFRICAN STUDIES

THE SCHOOLS OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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DEGREES OFFERED: NONE

African Studies is a broad-ranging field that is committed to an interdisciplinary approach to the study of African peoples and their complex histories, cultures, and languages. Drawn from the Schools of Social Science and Humanities, African Studies at Rice University has strengths in archaeological and anthropological research, historical studies, African religions and theology, African arts, and global health technologies, as well as potential collaborative research in business. These foci provide a unique opportunity for students broadly interested in historical, cultural, African diaspora studies, and contemporary issues and will attract students preparing for career fields related to their interest in Africa, including academia (potential applicants to graduate school, Fulbright, or other competitive scholarships), development, diplomacy, business and finance, governance, global health, law, and others.

The African Studies minor at Rice will benefit undergraduate students by providing a course of study to explore the richness and complexity of the continent and its place in issues of wider global concern and import. The interdisciplinary course will allow students to traverse departments and schools, creating links between diverse intellectual trajectories. Through study in the African Studies minor, students also can begin to appreciate the relationship contemporary Africa has with the large African Diaspora. Finally, the minor will help students to understand not only the place of Africa in global histories and networks, but the crucial role that it has played in them.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR IN AFST

The following requirements apply to the minor in African Studies:

- Students must complete at least six courses (18 credit hours)
- Students must take at least one the following core courses: RELI 111 *Introduction to African Religions*; HIST 231 *Introduction to African History: North, Western and Central Africa, Early Times to the Present*; HIST 232 *Introduction to African History: East, Central and Southern Africa, Early Times to the Present*; ANTH 312 *African Prehistory*.
- A list of noncore courses is available from AFST undergraduate advisors.
- At least three courses must be at the 300 level or higher.
- Students must take at least four courses with 100% African content; the remaining two courses must have at least 25% African content.
- No more than three courses can apply from transfer credits.

2 DEPARTMENTS / African Studies

- Up to two courses of transfer credit in African languages may be applied to the minor; this may include courses on African languages or other individualized study in African languages with advisor approval. 'African languages' does not include the languages of European colonial powers or Arabic. Other languages spoken on the continent, including Afrikaans, will be accepted. Together, all African language courses count toward one of the three required departments for the minor. They are considered to have 100% African content.
- Courses must be taken over at least three different departments.