

AFRICANA STUDIES (GRADUATE FIELD)

Program Website (<http://africana.cornell.edu/>)

Field Description

The Graduate Field of Africana Studies at Cornell University established the first Ph.D. program in Africana Studies in New York State in Fall 2013. The Africana Studies Ph.D. program is a small and high quality program designed to expand knowledge production about peoples of African descent and to train future generations of scholars who will deepen and refine the field. Africana Studies also offers an Africana Graduate Minor for Cornell graduate students learn more (<https://africana.cornell.edu/graduate/>).

An interdisciplinary field of study, Africana Studies embraces the study of people of African ancestry on the African continent and in the United States, the Caribbean, Latin America and the broader diaspora. Toward that end, it is at the forefront of scholarship that both transcends disciplinary fields and brings more powerful explanatory value to issues of race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality. Accordingly, since its inception, Africana Studies has profoundly shaped literature, scholars do not confine the field spatially or temporally in examining the dynamics of change for peoples of African ancestry. As a result, Africana Studies helps students to appreciate cultural and epistemological diversity, multidimensionality, multiple perspectives, and interconnectivity, which are essential for higher education and its production of knowledge and for the world in the 21st Century.

Indeed, the diversity of the Cornell University's college system, its strengths in the traditional disciplines and its strong support and encouragement of interdisciplinary work provides students an ideal environment in which to pursue graduate training in this field. Moreover, Cornell now has a critical mass of scholars in the Humanities, Visual and Expressive Culture and Social Sciences whose work collectively sits on the cutting edge of Africana Studies. Furthermore, our faculty offers regional expertise in Africa, the U.S., the Caribbean and Latin America allowing us to offer a Ph.D. program that is multi-disciplinary and transnational.

The Ph.D. program in Africana Studies augments Cornell University's mission to discover, preserve, and disseminate knowledge. Cornell's world class libraries makes it possible for its faculty and students to carry out the University's mission. Important collections on Africa and the diaspora are housed across the nineteen units of the University Library system. In addition, the John Henrik Clarke Africana Library at the Africana Studies and Research Center and its collection of [21,100] volumes focuses on the social and political dimensions of the history and culture of peoples of African ancestry.

We seek to enroll students who share the Cornell's mission and have demonstrated strong research, written and analytical skills either through the completion of an undergraduate thesis or a Master's degree in the humanities and social sciences. Although the cohort each year will be small, three to four students, we will recruit nationally and internationally for the best students. Successful applicants will help satisfy the future demand for scholars with the rigorous intellectual training that Africana Studies offers. Graduates of this Ph.D. program entering the field of Higher Education will be entering a vibrant and growing labor market for doctorates in Africana Studies. Students with doctoral degrees in

Africana Studies will be equally prepared to work in a variety of fields from business to the government.

Data and Statistics

- Doctoral Program Statistics (<https://gradschool.cornell.edu/about/program-metrics-assessments-and-outcomes/doctoral-program-statistics/?SelectGradField=70>)

Field Manual

- Manual (<https://africana.cornell.edu/phd-student-handbook/>)

Subject and Degrees

Africana Studies

- Africana Studies (PhD) (<https://catalog.cornell.edu/programs/africana-studies-phd/>)

Concentrations by Subject

Africana Studies

- Africana studies
- cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- historical, political, and social analysis

Faculty

N'Dri Assie-Lumumba (<https://africana.cornell.edu/ndri-therese-assie-lumumba/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** African and African diaspora education; gender issues; family and social structure

Ernesto E. Bassi Arevalo (<https://history.cornell.edu/ernesto-bassi/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** Role circulation (of goods, people, news, and ideas) across political boundaries plays in the configuration of geographic spaces, collective identities, geopolitical projects, and political allegiances.

Judith A. Byfield (<https://history.cornell.edu/judith-byfield/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** African and African diaspora history with emphasis on West Africa; gender; labor history and material culture; Caribbean History

Michell Chresfield (<https://americanstudies.cornell.edu/michell-chresfield/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: Africana studies; cultural, literary, and visual analysis; historical, political, and social analysis
- **Research Interests:** Africana Studies, Black and Indigenous histories, the history of science and medicine, and the history of racial formation and identity making in twentieth century America

Naminata Diabate (<https://catalog.cornell.edu/graduate-school/africana-studies/complit.cornell.edu/naminata-diabate/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** African, African American, Caribbean and Afro-Hispanic literatures with an emphasis on gender and sexuality studies

Parfait M Eloundou-Enyegue (<https://cals.cornell.edu/parfait-martial-eloundou-enyegue/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** demography of inequality; population and development; sociology of education; project evaluation; research methods

Grant A. Farred (<https://english.cornell.edu/grant-farred/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** African studies, postcolonial theory, cultural studies, philosophy, English literature

Siba Grovogui (<https://arthistory.cornell.edu/salah-m-hassan/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: historical, political, and social analysis
- **Research Interests:** International relations, political theory, Africana studies

Salah Hassan (<https://arthistory.cornell.edu/salah-m-hassan/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** African and African American art and folklore

Stacey A. Langwick (<https://anthropology.cornell.edu/stacey-langwick/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** anthropology of medicine, healing and the body; post-colonial science studies; African ethnography; ontological politics; culture and feminist theory; Tanzania; anthropology of knowledge/materiality

Fouad M. Makki (<https://anthropology.cornell.edu/stacey-langwick/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** development sociology; comparative literature; social theory; international development; historical sociology

Mostafa Minawi (<https://history.cornell.edu/mostafa-minawi/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: historical, political, and social analysis
- **Research Interests:** African history, migration, colonialism, Ottoman-Ethiopian relations

Riche D. Richardson (<https://africana.cornell.edu/rich%C3%A9-richardson/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** African-American literature; southern United States studies

Russell John Rickford (<https://history.cornell.edu/russell-rickford/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: Africana studies; historical, political, and social analysis
- **Research Interests:** pan-Africanism, black nationalism, black radicalism, transnational blackness, African-American political culture and American social movements

Samantha Noelle Sheppard (<https://catalog.cornell.edu/graduate-school/africana-studies/pma.cornell.edu/samantha-noelle-sheppard/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: Africana studies; cultural, literary, and visual analysis
- **Research Interests:** Black cultural production; African American cinema; critical race theory; sports cinema

Olúfẹ̀mí Táíwò (<https://africana.cornell.edu/olufemi-taiwo/>)

- **Campus:** Ithaca
- **Concentrations:** Africana Studies: cultural, literary, and visual analysis; historical, political, and social analysis
- **Research Interests:** Africa and Modernity; late transitions to modernity in Africa, Europe and Asia; African political thought; law and philosophy