Our department consists of scholars and intellectuals who focus their teaching, research, and service on the analysis, critique, and discussion of African continental and diasporic experiences and the systems of oppression and resistance that characterize those experiences, commonly referred to under the rubric of “blackness.”

As Africa is the home of humanity and of civilization and society, we believe the knowledge of these is central to the understanding of the whole of human experience. Moreover, the resonant theme of resistance to oppression, spiritual optimism, and social movement organization characteristic throughout the African experience is instructive to all who are interested in social change and cross-cultural communication and tolerance.

We stand at the epoch of a new resurgent African continent with some of the world’s fastest growing economies and most revolutionary political growth, and a diaspora confronted all of the complexities of cultural identity and hybridity in the modern, interdependent world. We stand also at the precipice of a newly revitalized discipline of Black Studies ready to engage multidisciplinary and cross-disciplinary perspectives.

Here at UNO, our staff brings expertise across a wide variety of subject areas including language and racial identity, “white” privilege, media representations, social stratification, music, epistemology, and critical theory. We invite you to join us and become part of this great adventure. The Department of Black Studies., UNO. The only thing missing is …YOU!

Knowledge & Skills gained as a Black Studies major:

Knowledge:

- Understand the history of Black Studies, the social-political and academic arena in which it developed, its major contributors, and how Black Studies distinctive treatment of subject matter has been affected by its historical evolution
- Knowledge of and respect for the culture, values, and belief systems of the global community; understand the commonalities and contrived differences between and among groups.

Skills:

- Critical analysis: Ability to use the African-centered perspective to interpret and analyze and critique ideas, texts, social, historical and cultural phenomena.
- Effective Communication: Ability to effectively discuss, analyze, and present ideas both oral and written.
- Problem solving: contribute to the betterment of society by identifying critical social issues and problems and employing appropriate empirical methods to pursue causes, effects, and solutions

Course Highlights in Black Studies:

- BLST 2510: Music and the Black Experience
- BLST 3120: The Black Experience in American Politics
- BLST 3140: Apartheid in South Africa
- BLST 4880: Seminar on Black Leadership in America
- BLST 3950: Philosophy of Afro-Americans

Black Studies Major at a glance:

- Degrees offered: B.S.
- Concentrations: No
- Credit hours needed: 30
- Minor offered: Yes
Career Opportunities

By nature, Liberal Arts majors make great employees in any field because of their ability to communicate effectively, think critically and solve complex problems. These timeless skills make them attractive to employers in a variety of professions. Specifically however, when the Black Studies major is matched with double majors and thoughtful internships, endless possibilities arise. A few examples are:

- **Black Studies + Business + Internship = Advertising, Consulting, General Management, Human Resources, Marketing, Entrepreneur**

- **Black Studies + Political Science + Internship = Community and Public Affairs, Economic Affairs, Governmental Relations, Public Office, Diplomacy, International Affairs, Attorney**

- **Black Studies + Education + Internship = Preschool/Head Start Programs, Elementary, Secondary, and Post-Secondary Education, Research Adult/GED Education, College Prep Administration, Greek Affairs Counseling (career and individual), Multicultural Affairs, Residence Life, Student Activities Principal/Administrator, Curriculum Development Programs, Guidance/Counseling**

- **Black Studies + Communications + Internship = Editing Public Relations, Publishing, Writing, Journalism**

- **Black Studies + Art or Theater + Internship = Artist Management, Marketing, Musician, Performer, Playwright, Teaching Curatorial and Archival Management**

Student Opportunities

- **BSSA - Black Studies Student Organization**
- **BSAA - Black Studies Alumni Association**
- **Ankh Maat Wedjau Honor Society**

Did you know?

- Dr. Omowale Akintunde, Associate Professor in Black Studies, won an Emmy for his documentary on the first inauguration of Barack Obama
- Dr. Nikitah Imani’s undergraduate advisor was Dr. Madeline Albright, Secretary of State under Bill Clinton
- Black Studies instructor, Peggy Jones, is an award winning visual artist and playwright.

For more information:

For program information, contacts and course requirements visit:

www.unomaha.edu/cas/blst

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