About the Major

Africana Studies is an interdisciplinary approach to understand the historical, political, and cultural experiences of people of Africa and African descent across the globe. You will develop your own unique perspective of justice, freedom, and equality. The major allows students to think critically about the function of race within individuals, institutions, and society while gaining an awareness of social justice issues. For this major, you will choose a concentration in one of three areas: Africa, Caribbean and Latin America, or North America.

Skills and abilities this major develops include: cultural competency, writing, public speaking, critical thinking, research, and team-work (IU School of Liberal Arts, 2017).

Opportunities after Graduation

Career Opportunities

Africana Studies majors have many different opportunities after graduation in Indianapolis and nation-wide. According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook (2017), employment in the field of human resources is expected to grow at an average rate of 5% for 2014-2024, public relations is expected to grow at an average rate of 6%, and the field of social and community service management is expected to grow at 10%.

Salary Information

The average starting salary for IU School of Liberal Arts graduates from IUPUI was $33,495 for the May 2016 graduating cohort. The median starting salary for minority studies was $46,750 for the class of May 2016 according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE, 2017).

(This section is intended for informational purposes, not prediction of actual salary.)

Graduate & Professional School Paths

Africana Studies majors often pursue advanced degrees in the following areas: Business, Law, Social Work, Education, Counseling, Medicine, Public Affairs, among others.

Where to Get More Information

IU School of Liberal Arts
Africana Studies
Department
Cavanaugh 441
liberalarts.iupui.edu

Africana Studies Association
Africanstudies.org

Liberal Arts Career Development Office
Cavanaugh Hall 243B
317-274-1224
Liberalarts.iupui.edu/careers

Sample Coursework:

- Intro to African American & African diaspora studies
- Globalization, struggle, & empowerment in African diaspora
- Cultures of Africa
- Black church in America
- Race & ethnic relations
- Black American writing

Possible Careers:

- Community service manager
- Human resources generalist
- Journalist
- Lawyer*
- Multicultural affairs officer
- Public relations specialist
- Social worker*

* = Career option requires additional training or education.

Where Could I Work?

- Business
- Community & public affairs
- Indiana public schools
- IUPUI
- Nonprofits

Complementing Interests:

Social                Enterprising      Investigative

Get your interest code at go.iupui.edu/interests

Have questions for Academic & Career Development? Schedule an appointment:

acd.iupui.edu  (317) 274-4856