Graduate Admission

Prospective students are admitted to the M.A. program for the fall or spring semester. The deadline to submit applications for fall admission is MAY 1ST, and October 1ST for spring admission. Online applications can be completed and submitted through the KU Graduate Studies website (http://www.graduate.ku.edu). Send all other requested application materials to the department:

Admission Requirements include:

- Graduate Application
- All academic transcripts (transcripts can be uploaded and attached to the online application).
- GRE scores (KU Code: 6871)
- TOEFL required (if student's native language is not English)
- Personal statement of purpose explaining your academic objectives
- 3 letters of recommendation from qualified individuals, preferring most recent professors.
- Sample of your writing. A paper from a previous course should be satisfactory.

Transcripts, statement of purpose and writing sample can be uploaded and attached to the online application. Letters of recommendation can also be submitted online.

M.A. Degree Requirements

The African and African-American studies M.A. program takes 2 years of full-time study. Nine upper-division and graduate courses, in addition to a thesis or additional course work for a nonthesis option, are required for the degree—a total of 33 credit hours. There are 4 core courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core courses (12)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAAS 801 Introduction to Africana Studies: African-American</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAAS 802 Introduction to Africana Studies: African</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAAS 803 Research Methods in Africana Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAAS 804 Seminar in Africana Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Area of specialization (15)

Students are expected to choose 5 courses in their areas of specialization.

Credit hours outside the department (6)

Students can take 6 credit hours outside the department in related course offerings including among others American studies; anthropology; art; communication studies; economics; education; English; film and media studies; geography; history; philosophy; political science; religion; sociology; theatre; and women, gender, and sexuality studies.

Research Skills

Students will fulfill a language/research skills requirement in accordance with the concentration chosen. Language/research skills courses must be at the 500 level or above to be counted toward the 33 hours required for the degree.

1. A master’s degree in African and African-American studies with an African studies concentration requires proficiency in an African language. Proficiency may be fulfilled by 1 of the following:
   - Completing 2 years of college-level language study at KU, at an equivalent institution, or through an intensive course. Language courses offered on a regular basis at KU that count toward...
proficiency are Amharic, Arabic, Hausa, KiSwahili, Somali, Wolof and any one of the number of African languages for which the Kansas African Studies Center has pedagogical materials and proficiency-testing capabilities.

- The equivalent of 2 years of an approved language.
- Proof that the student is a native speaker of an African language.

2. A master’s degree in African and African-American studies with an African-American Studies concentration requires that a student

- Fulfill the African language requirement outlined above, or
- Fulfill Haitian Creole or any other non-African language requirement employing standards comparable to those governing the African language requirement outlined above, or
- Demonstrate competence in a research skill relevant to the student’s specific concentration in African-American studies. Competence in a research skill is certified by the department’s graduate studies director.

In consultation with their advisors and to the satisfaction of the department, students must demonstrate that their choice of a language or research skill is appropriate for their specific research interest in the field of African-American studies.

**Handbook for Graduate Students**

Detailed information, application deadlines, and general information may be found in The M.A. Program in African and African-American Studies, available on request from the department (http://afs.ku.edu).

**Plan of Study**

Students are expected to discuss their plans of study with the graduate advisor. The information that follows is only a guide toward that discussion, using fall admission as an example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAAS 801 (required)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>AAAS 802 (required)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>AAAS 803 (required)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>AAAS 804 (required)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 electives</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2 electives</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1 elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Demonstrate research skill competence or begin work toward it</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demonstrate research skill competence or begin work toward it</th>
<th>Demonstrate research skill competence or continue work toward it</th>
<th>Demonstrate research skill competence or continue work toward it</th>
<th>Thesis or 2 courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>

**Total Hours: 33**