Graduate Certificate in African Studies

Academic goals of the program

The central objective of the Department of African & African-American Studies (AAAS) and The Kansas African Studies Center (KASC) in this certificate program is to formally recognize the expertise students in a range of disciplines already obtain in African Studies, in a manner that enhances students’ career opportunities. The Certificate in African Studies enables graduate students to formally claim expertise in an area of the field of African Studies, through completion of 12 hours of graduate coursework.

Why should I apply for the African Studies Graduate Certificate?

In any given year, KU regularly has more than 50 Africa-focused students in a variety of disciplines, across 7 professional schools and 17 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences departments. The Graduate Certificate in African Studies helps bring this wide-ranging body of graduate students into closer contact with the Center’s resource base. The Certificate also enhances graduate students’ future marketability. Many disciplines in which the AAAS & KASC graduate student community is concentrated advertise jobs for PhD candidates with African expertise. The Certificate in African Studies strengthens KU graduates’ opportunities in this specialist job market.

Admission to Graduate Studies

An applicant seeking to pursue graduate study in the College may be admitted as either a degree-seeking or non-degree seeking student. Policies and procedures of Graduate Studies govern the process of Graduate admission. These may be found in the Graduate Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies) section of the online catalog.

Please consult the Departments & Programs (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences) section of the online catalog for information regarding program-specific admissions criteria and requirements. Special admissions requirements pertain to Interdisciplinary Studies degrees, which may be found in the Graduate Studies section of the online catalog.

Admissions criteria

Eligibility criteria for admission to the certificate program follow Graduate Studies’ admission policy (http://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/admission-to-graduate-study). A student must hold a baccalaureate degree and have earned at least a B (3.0) grade-point average in previous academic work.

Application requirements differ for current KU students versus non-KU students. Please visit the Department’s website (http://afs.ku.edu/applying) for a full list of the required application materials. Non-native speakers of English must meet English proficiency requirements as described here (http://graduate.ku.edu/english-proficiency-requirements).

Requirements for the Graduate Certificate in African Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAAS 802</td>
<td>Introduction to Africana Studies: African</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional 9 hours or three courses</td>
<td>9</td>
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All courses, including language course work, must be at the 500-level or above. At least one of these courses (three credit hours) must be taken at the 700-level or above. Only courses with an Africa focus may count toward the required hours. No more than three hours of directed readings or independent study may be counted.