

Bachelor of Science

African American and African Studies (BS)

Please note: Admissions beyond Fall 2026 is on hold for program review.

Requirements

Lower-Division General Education

Written Communication (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#written)	6
Oral Communication (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#oral)	3
Mathematics (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#math)	3
Language and Culture (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#language)	0-6
Information Literacy and Research (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#information)	3
Human Behavior (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#behavior)	3
Human Creativity (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#creativity)	3
Interpreting the Past (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#interpret)	3
Literature (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#literature)	3
Philosophy and Ethics (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#philosophy)	3
The Nature of Science (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#nature)	8
Impact of Technology (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#impact)	3

STAT 130M is required to fulfill the Mathematics requirement

Language and Culture requirement - BS students' competence must be at the 102 level. BA students must have competence through the 202 level and competence is not met by the associate degree.

Information Literacy and Research requirement can be met in the major by AAST 308/POLS 308.

AAST 100S may not be used to satisfy the Human Behavior requirement.

The Interpreting the Past requirement is met in the major by AAST 105H/HIST 105H.

The requirements for African American and African Studies majors are outlined below. With the permission of the program director, courses not listed below may be approved as substitutions to fulfill program requirements.

Upper-Division General Education

- Option A. Approved Minor, 12-24 hours; also second degree or second major
- Option B. Interdisciplinary Minor; 12 hours specified by the department, three of which can be in the major
- Option C. An approved certification program such as teaching licensure
- Option D. Two Upper-Division Courses from outside the College of Arts and Letters or from the Arts and Humanities Component within the College of Arts and Letters that are not required by the major (6 hours).

AAST courses and any course listed as an elective choice for the major cannot be used to meet this option.

Requirements for Graduation

Requirements for graduation include the following:

- Minimum of 120 credit hours.
- Minimum of 30 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours of upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University.
- Minimum overall cumulative grade point average of C (2.00) in all courses taken.
- Minimum overall cumulative grade point average of C (2.00) in all courses taken toward the major.
- Minimum overall cumulative grade point average of C (2.00) in all courses taken toward a minor.
- Completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or ENGL 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better. The W course must be taken at Old Dominion University.
- Completion of Senior Assessment.

African American and African Studies Requirements

General Education

Complete lower-division requirements 35-44

Complete upper-division requirements (minimum of 6 credits) 6

African American and African Studies Core

AAST 100S	Introduction to African American Studies	3
AAST/HIST 105H	Interpreting the African Past	3
AAST 410	Africana Intellectual Thought and Economic Development	3

AAST 420W African American Political and Social Thought * 3

Select one of the following: 3

AAST/POLS 308 Research Design

AAST 320 Introduction to Research Methods

SOC 337 Social Research Methods

AAST 490 Senior Seminar 3

SOC 320 Social Inequality 3

Upper-Division African Studies Coursework 6

Upper-Division Humanities Coursework 6

Upper-Division Social Sciences Coursework 6

Total Credit Hours 80-89

* Grade of C or better required

Upper-Division Electives (BA and BS, 12 credit hours, 300 and 400 level courses)

Students majoring in African American and African Studies must earn a minimum of 12 credit hours in upper-division humanities and social science courses related to African American studies. Six credit hours of 300/400 level courses must be from the social sciences and six credit hours from the humanities. Courses may be selected from among those listed by category below. With the permission of the program director, courses not listed below may be approved as substitutions to fulfill program requirements.

Upper-Division Social Science Courses

AAST 310	Human Rights and Social Change in Africa	3
AAST/POLS 316	Politics of Africa	3
AAST/SOC 323	Sociology of Minority Families	3
AAST 368	Internship	3
AAST 395	Topics in African American Studies	3
AAST 396	Topics in African American Studies	3

AAST/POLS 412	Politics of the Civil Rights Movement	3
AAST/SOC 426	Minority Group Relations	3
AAST/CRJS/SOC 452	Diversity in Criminal Justice Organizations	3
AAST/PSYC 460	Psychology of African Americans	3
CRJS 450	Blacks, Crime and Justice	3
GEOG 452	Africa	3
POLS 309	Race, Culture and Public Policy	3
POLS 410	African American Politics	3
POLS 439	International Relations of African States	3
POLS 470	African Americans and Foreign Affairs	3
SOC/CRJS 444	Community Justice	3

Upper-Division Humanities Courses

AAST/HIST 361	African-American History to 1865	3
AAST 368	Internship	3
AAST 395	Topics in African American Studies	3
AAST 396	Topics in African American Studies	3
ENGL 465W	African American Literature	3
HIST 362	African-American History Since 1865	3
HIST 370	Africa and the Atlantic Slave Trade	3
HIST 455	African-American Historiography	3
HIST 475	Global Africa	3
MUSC 460	History of Jazz	3
WGS 302W	Dimensions of Diversity: Intersectionality Among Women	3

African Studies (BA and BS, 6 credit hours, 300 and 400 level electives)

In addition, students majoring in African American and African Studies must earn six credit hours in African Studies courses. Students may select courses from the following list (or topics courses as approved by the director):

AAST 310	Human Rights and Social Change in Africa	3
AAST/POLS 316	Politics of Africa	3
AAST/HIST 381	Africa in the 20th Century	3
GEOG 452	Africa	3
HIST 370	Africa and the Atlantic Slave Trade	3
HIST 382	African Civilizations	3
HIST 475	Global Africa	3
POLS 439	International Relations of African States	3

Courses taken in this category cannot duplicate upper-division social sciences and humanities courses taken to fulfill program requirements. At the discretion of the program director, substitutions may be approved to satisfy this requirement. The course options in this category will be expanded and/or modified as they become available.

Elective courses may be taken for the remainder of the minimum 120 credits required for the degree.

Degree Program Guide

The Degree Program Guide is a suggested curriculum to complete this degree program in four years. It is just one of several plans that will work and is presented only as broad guidance to students. Each student is strongly encouraged to develop a customized plan in consultation with their academic advisor. Additional information can also be found in Degree Works.

Course	Title	Credit Hours
Freshman		
Fall		
ENGL 110C	English Composition (Grade of C or better required)	3

Human Creativity		3
Elective or Language & Culture I (May be waived; See requirement details)		3
Oral Communication		3
AAST 100S	Introduction to African American Studies	3

Credit Hours 15

Spring

Literature		3
STAT 130M	Elementary Statistics	3
Elective or Language & Culture II (May be waived; See requirement details)		3
Human Behavior (AAST 100S may not be used)		3
AAST/HIST 105H	Interpreting the African Past (Satisfies Interpreting the Past)	3

Credit Hours 15

Sophomore

Fall

ENGL 211C or ENGL 231C	Writing, Rhetoric, and Research (Grade of C or better required) or Writing, Rhetoric, and Research: Special Topics	3
Nature of Science I		4
Select one of the following:		3

AAST/POLS 308	Research Design	
---------------	-----------------	--

AAST 320	Introduction to Research Methods	
----------	----------------------------------	--

SOC 337	Social Research Methods	
---------	-------------------------	--

Approved 300-/400-level Social Science		3
--	--	---

Elective course		3
-----------------	--	---

Credit Hours 16

Spring

Information Literacy & Research (May be met in major by AAST 308 or POLS 308)		3
Nature of Science II		4
Philosophy & Ethics		3
Impact of Technology		3
Approved 300-/400-level Humanities		3

Credit Hours 16

Junior

Fall

SOC 320	Social Inequality	3
---------	-------------------	---

AAST 420W	African American Political and Social Thought (Grade of C or better required)	3
-----------	---	---

Approved 300-/400-level Social Science		3
--	--	---

Elective course		3
-----------------	--	---

Upper-Division General Education Course or Minor		3
--	--	---

Credit Hours 15

Spring

AAST 410	Africana Intellectual Thought and Economic Development	3
----------	--	---

Elective course		3
-----------------	--	---

Elective course		3
-----------------	--	---

Elective course	3
Upper-Division General Education Course or Minor	3
Credit Hours	15
Senior	
Fall	
Approved 300-/400-level Humanities	3
Approved 300-/400-level African Studies	3
Elective course	3
Elective course	3
Minor or Elective	3
Credit Hours	15
Spring	
AAST 490 Senior Seminar	3
Approved 300-/400-level African Studies	3
Elective course	3
Elective course	1
Minor or Elective	3
Credit Hours	13
Total Credit Hours	120

catalog.odu.edu/graduate/business/public-service/). For additional information, please contact the School of Public Service in the Strome College of Business.

BA or BS to MBA (Master of Business Administration) Dual Dominion Program

The Dual Dominion BA/MBA or BS/MBA program is an early entry to the MBA program of study. The early-entry program is designed for well qualified non-business undergraduate ODU students to start their MBA program prior to completing their undergraduate degree. Well qualified non-business undergraduate students may take MBA-level courses as early as three semesters prior to graduation and count up to 12 graduate credits toward their undergraduate degree. Students participating in the early-entry program must earn a minimum of 150 credit hours (120 discrete credit hours for the undergraduate degree and 30 discrete credit hours for the graduate degree). Early-entry program students should carefully consider their undergraduate degree requirements when planning their course of study. Students in the early-entry program work in close consultation with the MBA Program Office and should refer to information in the Strome College of Business section in the graduate catalog (<https://catalog.odu.edu/graduate/stromecollegeofbusiness/>) to develop an individualized plan of study based on the required coursework.

BA or BS to MPA (Master of Public Administration) Dual Dominion Program

The Dual Dominion BA/MPA or BS/MPA program provides qualified Old Dominion University undergraduate students with the opportunity to earn a master's degree in public administration while taking credits in the MPA program as an undergraduate student. The program is designed for highly motivated students with the desire to immediately continue their education after the bachelor's degree. The program is especially relevant to individuals seeking to work (or currently working) in the public or non-profit sectors, but is suitable for students from any undergraduate major. Graduate courses may be taken during the fall and spring semester of the student's senior undergraduate year. Up to 12 graduate credits can count toward both the undergraduate and graduate degree and can meet upper-level General Education requirements. After receiving the undergraduate degree, a student will continue with the MPA program, taking MPA courses until completing the required 39 credit hours. Students in the Dual Dominion program must earn a minimum of 150 credit hours (120 discrete credit hours for the undergraduate degree and 30 discrete credit hours for the graduate degree).

Requirements for admission to the graduate program can be found in the School of Public Service section of the Graduate Catalog (<https://>