

PROPOSAL FOR A BACHELOR'S PROGRAM IN AFRICANA STUDIES

CIP Code 05.0201

CIP Code Description

Prepared by:

Donnetrice Allison, Professor of Communication Studies and Africana Studies

Darrell Cleveland, Associate Professor of Education

Shawn Donaldson, Associate Professor of Sociology

Garrison Page, Vera King Farris Fellow

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Proposal Template – Africana Studies Major
Projected for Fall 2019

Program Objectives

complete

course in Africana Studies, nor was it offered for credit on its own, it was difficult to require students to turn it in before graduation and have them all comply. In other words, there is no consequence for them not to turn in a portfolio, so we simply had to appeal to their commitment to the program and to their desire to participate in our closing Rite of Passage ceremony. As a result, such, this committee has determined that we will work towards preparing a survey method for our students, shortly before graduation, whereby we will attempt to measure their knowledge and appreciation of the discipline.

Finally, as was

Economics, Politics or Psychology. Moreover, we only have one literature professor and one history professor trained to teach African literature and history courses for our program.

Additionally, there is the question of whether a major in Africana Studies might negatively impact other majors at the institution, causing students to leave their current major in favor of Africana Studies. This may indeed happen, but we contend that the acceptance or rejection of this proposal should not be based on whether or not Africana Studies might cause other programs to lose students. Furthermore, Stockton's goal for 2021 is to increase student enrollment and student diversity. Therefore, we believe that it will be beneficial to have a major that might draw the interest of a more diverse student population.

On the other hand, in terms of the perception that a major in Africana Studies might attract few majors, we assert that the Philosophy Program at Stockton had 15 majors during the 2016-2017 academic year, and employed six full-time faculty. Hence, there is clearly justification for having 4 – 6 full-time faculty devoted to our program even if our numbers are similar to those of the Philosophy Program. Moreover, it is our expectation, based on a student survey administered last year, that our major enrollment will likely hold similar to our minor enrollment. We currently have 18 minors enrolled.

Finally, developing this major would certainly be in keeping with the university's current mission statement:

To develop engaged and effective citizens with a commitment to life-long learning and the capacity to adapt to change in a multicultural, interdependent world. As a public university, Stockton provides an environment for excellence to a diverse student body, including those from underrepresented populations, through an interdisciplinary approach to liberal arts, sciences and professional education.

2. Pat Reid Merritt – full time

Justification

In 1968, San Francisco State University established the first Black Studies Department on a four-year college campus in the United States, which came after several years of student protests. Those students were speaking out against the traditionally Eurocentric perspective that dominated the educational system. Eventually, the students' voices were heard, and several institutions across the country followed the lead of SFSU to establish their own Black Studies Departments. Their justification is simply and eloquently stated on the Africana Studies Department website at SFSU. It asserts:

Every student should know about the unparalleled and unmatched contributions African and African American people have made to human civilization. These contributions include the formulation of the first system of government for a territorial state; creation of the foundations of science, mathematics, and advanced technology; the first written script, the foundations of philosophy and psychology; the building of the great pyramids and such modern inventions as the first electric light filament, the first gas mask, the double effect evaporator, and the first design of a three-stage rocket capable of interstellar flight. In the Africana Studies program, students are able to learn about, critique, and be inspired by the accomplishments of African men and women who shaped and are shaping the moral conscience, artistic genius, scientific and technical achievements, and political activism of their time.

This statement is true today as it was nearly 50 years ago. Every student needs to have the opportunity to understand and appreciate the contributions of people of African descent; not only here in the US, but around the world. The hope is that armed with such knowledge, those students can begin to chip away at the old negative stereotypes and prejudices held about people of African descent.

Interest in moving the Africana Studies Program from a minor to a major is not new. In fact, in the spring of 2011, Dr. Molefi Kete Asante of Temple University – founder of the first Ph.D program in Africana Studies – served as external reviewer for the Africana Studies five-year review here at Stockton. In his report, he stated:

I believe that Richard Stockton College, given its prominence in the field by virtue of the work of Dr. Patricia Reid Merritt as an active scholar and as a Board Member of the National Council of Black Studies for many years, the perennial presence of Richard Stockton College's undergraduate students in the honor society of the profession, and the administrative support for the program – should move to create a major in the field. Most professionals across the country

Patricia Reid Merritt
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Stockton Alumni

Graduation Year

Profession

Introduction to basic methods of research and methodological issues in African American Studies. This course provides an overview of social research methods, addresses sociocultural issues in research conceptualization, operationalization and design, and introduces basic analytic concepts and operations

6. AFAN 4601 Senior Capstone (prerequisite: AFAN 1000x Africana Studies: An Introductory Perspective, AFAN 2000x Ancient African Civilizations, HIST 2330 African American Civilization to 1865, HIST 2331 African-American History since 1865, AFAN 3000x Research Methods), which will include a service learning requirement.

This course will be a forum for intellectual exchange on the dynamic African life and culture. The focus may vary each term but will range across historical perspectives, religious issues, social organizations, politics, economics, psychological perspectives, the creative and performing arts, and scientific/technological perspectives. The primary goal of the course will be to determine students' overall wealth of knowledge on the experiences and contributions of people of African descent within various fields.

Select four (4) courses from among the following (16 credits)

1. AFAN 1215 African-American Dance

2. AFAN 1216 African-American Theater Workshop

3. AFAN 1248 Music of Black Americans

4. AFAN 2000x African and Diaspora Rhythms (3 credits)

AFAN 2000x African and Diaspora Religious Traditions	X	X	New Faculty1
AFAN 2000x History of Black Education		X	Cleveland
AFAN 2000x African Americans and the Law	X		Donaldson
AFAN 2000x African Study Tour	X		Allison
AFAN 3000x The Psychology of Race	X	X	New Faculty2
AFAN 3190 Black Power	X		Cleveland
AFAN 2184 Hip Hop Culture		X	Allison
AFAN 3295 African American Movies	X		Reid-Merritt
COMM 2414 African Americans on Television	X		Allison
SOCY 2213 Minority-Majority Relations		X	Reid-Merritt
GAH 3109 Women, Minorities and the Media		X	Allison
AFAN 4601 Senior Capstone GIS 4601 African-Americans: A Seminar		X	Reid-Merritt
AFAN 3162 Africana Male/Female Relations		X	Reid-Merritt
GIS 4656 Documenting Hemmings and Jefferson		X	Donaldson
HIST 2128 Atlantic History, 1492-1888 LITT 2148	X		Murphy

of the African Diaspora			
GAH 2360 The Civil Rights Movement			New Faculty 2

It is important to note that only the core course offerings AFAN 1000x Africana Studies: An Introductory Perspective, AFAN 2000x Ancient African Civilizations, HIST 2330 African-American Civilization to 1865, HIST 2331 African-American History since 1865, AFAN 3000x Research Methods, AFAN 4601 Senior Capstone – will be closed for majors only. All other courses will be open to all Stockton students, as we recognize the importance of campuswide access to Africana Studies content. Further, we do not want to negatively impact the history and popularity that many of these courses have enjoyed in the history of the minor. Additionally, our faculty will continue to contribute to course offerings, as indicated in the above chart; and contributing faculty (those not committed full time to Africana Studies) will

APPENDIX A