

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**

COLLEGE of LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

African American Studies



2009-2010
ANNUAL REPORT

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Year in Review (AY 2009-2010)

A commitment to strengthening institutional relationships, advancing new research, and providing original disciplinary and service opportunities for students remained salient priorities for African American Studies during the 2009-2010 academic year.

As part of our ongoing research initiatives, the Center for the Study of African American Culture (CSAAC) hosted a symposium and film festival on Black images in the media and art. The symposium brought together scholars, independent filmmakers, and artists from across the country to discuss issues surrounding the prevalence, problems, and preservation of Black images in film. CSAAC remains dedicated to its tradition of conducting research on Africana life and culture and looks forward to supporting the symposium on Black images in the media for a second year this coming spring, April 14-16, 2011. CSAAC also coordinated a guest lecture on Africana advances in space exploration featuring Dr. Edward Tunstel of John Hopkins University. Dr. Tunstel is the Space Robotics and Autonomous Control Lead in the Space Department of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland. Similarly, the Institute for African American Policy Research, a subdivision of CSAAC, held a public seminar on Black power in January. The lists of presenters included, Kathleen N. Cleaver, senior lecturer in law at Emory University.

Our program also made significant strides with respect to student advancement in research and service on both national and international fronts. With support and encouragement from this program, three African American Studies alumni entered graduate degree programs in Africana Studies. At the same time, four University of Houston students participated in the Model African Union conference at Howard University in Washington, D.C., under the direction and advisement of Mr. Paul Easterling, AAS program manager. Likewise, the strength and visibility of our study abroad and graduate certificate programs continue to provide students with advanced approaches to critical issues shaping the discipline. In the summer of 2010, seventeen University of Houston students received funding to study abroad in Ghana, West Africa, at the University of Ghana, University of Cape Coast, and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. On the other hand, the number of students actively pursuing the graduate certificate in African American Studies has nearly doubled in the past two years. Each of these facts bode well for AAS as the program seeks to both maintain and move in new directions in the near future.

As we advance into the 2010-2011 academic year, AAS would like to welcome Dr. John Roberts, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and Professor in the Department of English, to the University of Houston.

In closing, our primary job remains to educate and graduate students at U of H. By moving these ideas forward, we look to bring forth stewardship and good fellowship for our goals and objectives.

Sincerely,

Malachi D. Crawford

Malachi D. Crawford, ABD
Assistant Director
Adjunct Faculty
African American Studies

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES ADVISORY BOARD

Hon. Ada Edwards

Member, City Council, District D

Houston, Texas

Cleo Glenn-Johnson

President/CEO, National Black
United Fund for the State of Texas

Houston, Texas

Gene L. Locke

Partner, Andrews Kurth LLP

Houston, Texas

Reginald E. McKamie

Attorney, Reginald E. McKamie, Sr., P.C.

Houston, Texas

DeLloyd Parker

Founder/Executive Director,
S.H.A.P.E. Community Center

Houston, Texas

MISSION STATEMENT

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES is a distinct academic discipline that engages Africa-centered research and teaching through an interdisciplinary approach to scholarly inquiry. The term Africa-centered signifies that the epistemological starting point for scholarly analysis resides in the historical and cultural understanding that African people are people of the African continent regardless of the recency or geographical distance of their out migration from the African homeland.

Employing tools from the humanities and social sciences for academic study, research, and teaching, African American Studies explores the varied dimensions of the human experience -- that is, phenomena, ideas, events, peoples, and personalities -- from the perspective of the interests of African people in the United States and their relationship to themselves and to African and other peoples in the world.

Hence, the mission of African American Studies is to provide students with a comprehensive quality undergraduate and graduate education and the opportunity for a creative intellectual experience based on the critical and systematic study of the life, thought, and practice of African peoples in their current and historical unfolding.

Interdisciplinary in both conception and practice, African American Studies seeks to critically examine and understand the African experience from an African-centered perspective, that is, from a position internal to the culture, joined with an openness and receptivity to the rich variety and instructiveness of the total human experience. African American Studies stresses comparative analysis and holistic thinking as indispensable to the discipline and the general educational enterprise.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Goals of African American Studies

1. To expand our degree offerings by transitioning from a program to a tenure-granting department, and, thus, recruit a faculty that will enable the department to introduce a baccalaureate major degree in the discipline at the University of Houston;
2. To cultivate and increase the awareness of UH students to international and cultural pluralism and to stimulate their sensitivity to issues of culture, race, ethnicity, class, and gender;
3. To further internationalize the Africana Studies curriculum to include the study of African peoples in other parts of the world in addition to those on the Continent and in the United States, i.e., in the Caribbean, Central and South America, Asia, Europe, and the Pacific Rim;
4. To encourage expanded scholarly productivity and professional activity by the department's faculty to maintain currency with the latest developments in the discipline and insure the highest levels of instruction and intellectual exchange;
5. To increase the holding of conferences, seminars, colloquia, and other fora devoted to the expansion of the discipline;
6. To develop and maintain links with local high schools and community colleges;
7. To maintain and strengthen existing links with the community through expanding joint educational and practical projects and exchanges;
8. To increase the utility of academic service to Houston's African American community through research and publication on historical and public policy issues by means of The Black Houston History Project and the Institute for African American Policy Research;
9. To expand and further consolidate the intellectual space of the discipline as an integral and indispensable part of the university's mission to offer a culturally pluralistic quality undergraduate and graduate education to its students.

STUDENT, INSTRUCTION, AND COURSE DEVELOPMENTS

Minor in African American Studies

A minor in African American Studies requires a minimum of 18 semester hours, including AAS 2320: Introduction to African American Studies, and AAS 4370: Seminar in African American Studies; Six additional hours in AAS and the humanities, fine arts, or communication courses; and Six hours in AAS and social science fields of study. Twelve of the 18 hours must be in residence. Twelve of the 18 hours must be in AAS courses. Twelve hours must be advanced, at least six of which must be in residence. A minimum 2.00 grade point average for all courses applied to the minor is required.

Students may obtain a complete list of courses approved for this minor in the office of the African American Studies Program, 629 Agnes Arnold Hall. Briefly, students may fulfill the humanities, fine arts, and communication portion of this minor with approved courses in African American Studies, art history, English, history, journalism, music, and theatre (including appropriate selected special topics courses). Students may fulfill the social science portion of this minor with approved courses in African American Studies, economics, political science, psychology, and sociology.

Undergraduate Courses in African American Studies

AAS 2320: Intro to African American Studies

AAS 2322: Intro to African Religion and Philosophy

AAS 3301: Hip Hop Culture and History

AAS 3307: Africana Spiritual Transformation in the Social Sciences

AAS 3310: African American Exp through Theatre

AAS 3330: AAS Oral History Field Research

AAS 3340: African American Sociolinguistics

AAS 3348: African Americans & the Law

AAS 3350: Slavery and Race Relations

AAS 3354: African Nationalist Thought & Ethics in the U.S.

AAS 3356: African Thought & Philosophy

AAS 3379: Africana Oratory

AAS 3394: Selected Topics (maximum 3 hrs)

AAS 4300: African Philosophy

AAS 4330: Black Church in America

AAS 4370: Seminar in African American Studies

AAS 4373: Black Leaders of the 20th Century

AAS 4377: Seminar on W.E.B. Du Bois

AAS 4440: History and Politics of the African Union

STUDENT, INSTRUCTION, AND COURSE DEVELOPMENTS

AAS Graduate Certificate Program

The Graduate Certificate in African American Studies is a nine-hour disciplinary concentration open to students in all UH graduate and professional degree programs. It is also open to post baccalaureate professionals (including teachers, social service providers, policymakers, and others) interested in enhancing their knowledge and understanding of Africana phenomena.

The graduate concentration in African American Studies introduces students to advanced discussions, analyses, theoretical perspectives, and research methodologies in the discipline of Africana Studies. In addition, it provides intellectual breadth to a student's course of study, increasing the depth and coherence of the student's work within her/his primary field of study on critical issues concerning Africana phenomena.

(For more info, see Appendix B)

AAS Graduate Certificate

Courses:

AAS 6300: Africana Studies Theory and Method

The course explores critical issues in research theory and methods in Africana Studies, including issues in research designs and tools of analysis. (3 hours)

AAS 6307: Seminar on Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X

The course is a critical study and analysis of the major ideas and doctrines that formed the conceptual frameworks of these two men. It engages explorations of cultural pluralism, self-determination, Pan Africanism, satyagraha, nonviolence, civil disobedience, reform, and revolution. (3 hours)

AAS 6308: Africana Religion and Biography

The course examines Africana religion in the United States, interrogating Christian, Islamic, Hebrew, and traditional African forms by means that include auto/biographies of representative and influential figures. (3 hours)

STUDENT, PROGRAMS, AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Programs for Undergraduate Students



Summer International Study Program – Ghana, West Africa (Summer Session IV, annually):

UH students take three (3) or six (6) credit hours of African American Studies courses that integrate lectures by Ghanaian academics at the University of Ghana, University of Cape Coast, and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology with work at the University of Houston. Study includes educational travel. In 2010, seventeen University of Houston students were provided with funding to participate in this rich and fulfilling program: Oluwakemi Akeredolu, Fred Bryant, Jr., Quaniqua Carthan, Jahnin Davis, Brian Harris, Randryia Houston, Le Huang, Janae Ladet, Hannah McConn, Deidra Motton, Craig Nelson, John Nicklos II, Nwabundo Okongwu, Nwadiogo Okongwu, Angel Rhoden-Lewis, Whitney Welch, and Alexanderia Wilkerson . In all, since 2003 the African American Studies Program has sponsored over sixty students to travel to Ghana and continues to encourage students to be internationally minded in this increasingly global world.

STUDENT, PROGRAMS, AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

National Model African Union-Washington, DC (First Week in March, annually):

Every spring the African American Studies Program sends a team of University of Houston international scholars to Washington D.C. to participate in the annual Model African Union conference sponsored by Howard University. This conference hosts 30-40 different universities every year with each institution bringing anywhere from 4-10 students with them to engage in the mock sessions of the African Union. Given this, the Model African Union conference is an excellent way for student to network with other universities, network with other students from around the country and gain international experience which is vital for a growing global world.

Ankh Maat Wedjau Honor Society

The African American Studies Program at the University of Houston has reestablished its chapter of the Ankh Maat Wedjau National Honor Society of the National Council for Black Studies. The overall mission of the Songhai Chapter of the Ankh Maat Wedjau Honor Society is to establish a strong foundation of knowledge and wisdom in the field of Africana/Black Studies at the University of Houston. It is the hope that the knowledge and wisdom shared will help students to grow within themselves academically, mentally and spiritually. The goal in this would be to grasp conceptually the interconnectedness of African people world wide and to stimulate conversation and thought.

VCU Undergraduate Conference on Black Psychology

Since the spring of 2009, African American Studies at the University of Houston has supported undergraduate student travel to the Black Psychology Undergraduate Conference at the Student Commons, on VCU's Monroe Park Campus, Richmond, Virginia. The Departments of Psychology and African American Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) partnered with Virginia State University (VSU) and the Institute for African American Mental Health Research and Training to host the conference each year. The conference highlights the outstanding research of undergraduate students at partnering institutions and to promote leadership and community engagement among the participants.

National Council for Black Studies Conference (Third Week in March, annually):

The National Council for Black Studies is the leading organization of Black/Africana Studies professionals in the world. In addition to establishing standards of excellence within the discipline, NCBS serves as a major outlet for the scholarly dissemination of African-centered knowledge and modes of inquiry regarding the life and experiences of African people. UH students are encouraged to attend and present research-based papers at the annual conference. In the past, AAS minors have presented papers and achieved academic distinction such as placement in the NCBS Student Essay Competition.

VISITING SCHOLARS

In pursuit of our broad mandate to advance excellence in academic research, undergraduate and graduate education, and intellectual exchange and service within the University and Houston communities, the African American Studies Program at the University of Houston annually invites for a year-long visiting appointment two scholars whose demonstrated research and teaching are in the discipline of Africana Studies/Africalogy. Scholars whose research and teaching are, however, in other disciplinary areas will also be considered. Visiting Scholars add to the richness and diversity of our undergraduate curriculum in Africalogy by teaching one course of their own design. In addition, the program prioritizes applications from scholars who demonstrate a commitment to generating research and publication in the discipline of Africana Studies/Africalogy. Successful candidates are, therefore, afforded an opportunity to add to the ongoing scholarship in the discipline by working toward the completion of a research project. The Visiting Scholars Program is designed to encourage new scholars to contribute fresh and innovative teaching and research in the discipline of Africalogy.

2009-2010 AAS Visiting Scholars

Ayana R. Abdallah, Ph.D., was one of two African American Studies Visiting Scholars for the 2009-2010 academic year. Dr. Abdallah, a lecturer in English at Morgan State University, explores the intersections of gender, sex, and race configured in women's creativity, spirituality, culture, and criticism in the African Diaspora within her scholarship.

The 2009-2010 academic year proved to be highly rewarding for Dr. Abdallah, as she endeavored to build relationships with students, other departments, and potential publication outlets for her ongoing research. Her spring 2010 course, "Writing Black Women's Radical Future: Readings in Octavia Butler," was a huge success, and she is currently in the process of cross-listing the course with the English and Women Studies departments. Consistently, Dr. Abdallah continues to edit and revise her forthcoming manuscript on Octavia Butler.

African American Studies selected **Dr. Michael Tillotson** as one of two AAS Visiting Scholars for the 2009-2010 academic year. Professor Tillotson is a May 2008 graduate of the PhD program in African American Studies at Temple University.

For the fall 2009 semester, Dr. Tillotson taught a new course in African American Studies, **AAS 3307: Africana Spiritual Transformation in the Social Sciences**. Dr. Tillotson's research interests center on the impact of ideas such as color-blindness, race neutrality, post-modernism, and essentialism on the lives of African people.

VISITING SCHOLARS (CONT.)

Teaching, Publications, and Lectures of 2009-2010 AAS Visiting Scholars

Ayana R. Abdallah, Ph.D.,

AAS Course Offering, Spring 2010

AAS 3394: (Selected Topics) "Writing Black Women's Radical Future: Readings in Octavia Butler

Funding

2009-2010

AAS Faculty Development Award

AAS Faculty Travel Award

Michael T. Tillotson, Ph.D.

AAS Course Offering, Fall 2009:

AAS 3307: Africana Spiritual Transformation in the Social Sciences

Publications:

Tillotson, Michael T. "A Critical Location of the Contemporary Black Church: Finding a Place for the World Church Formation." *Journal of Black Studies* 40, no. 5 (May 2010): 1016-1030.

Accepted for publication: Journal of African American Studies

Book Review: Maulana Karenga: An Intellectual Portrait

Article in-process (w/ Dr. Serie McDougal, San Francisco State University): Journal of African American Studies

Article: Applied Africana Studies

VISITING SCHOLARS (CONT.)

Michael T. Tillotson, Ph.D. (Continued)

Presentations

State University of New York at Albany

Ablany, NY (September 24-26, 2009)

Paper Title: Contemporary Ideological Threats to the Internal Security of African Americans

African Identities in the Age of Obama Conference

George Mason University (October 8-10, 2009)

Paper Title: The Post-Racial Project: Implications and Impact on African Americans

San Francisco State University

Dept. of Africana Studies (April 15, 2010)

Paper Title: Contemporary Ideological Threats to the Internal Security of African Americans

Dillard University

Dept. of African World Studies (April 20, 2010)

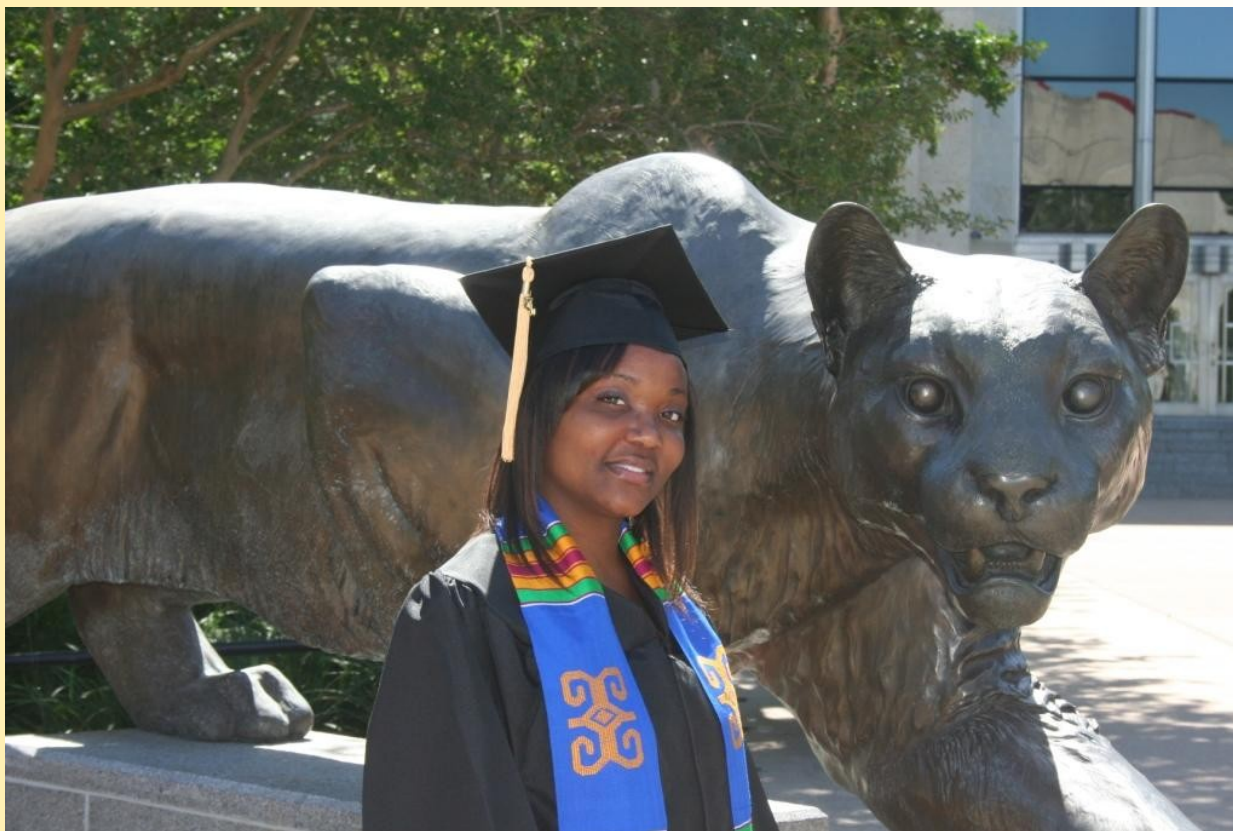
Paper Title: Contemporary Ideological Threats to the Internal Security of African Americans

VISITING SCHOLARS (CONT.)

Past AAS Visiting Scholars, 2000-2009

- 2008-2009: Dr. Carroll Parrot Blue, professor emeritus at San Diego State University, School of Theatre, Television, and Film
Dr. Michael Tillotson, visiting scholar, Temple University
- 2007-2008: Dr. Carroll Parrott Blue, professor emeritus at San Diego State University, School of Theatre, Television, and Film
Dr. Clyde Robertson, visiting scholar, University of Memphis
- 2006-2007: Dr. Marilyn Denise Lovett, assistant professor of psychology at Prairie View A&M University
Dr. Clyde Robertson, visiting scholar, University of Memphis
- 2005-2006: Dr. Marilyn Denise Lovett, assistant professor of psychology at Prairie View A&M University
Dr. Fred L. McGhee, independent scholar, Fred L. McGhee and Associates
- 2004-2005: Dr. Kimberly Ellis, assistant visiting professor of Africana Studies, Univ. of Pittsburgh
Dr. Andrew P. Smallwood, associate professor of Black Studies, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2003-2004: Dr. Reiland Rabaka, assistant professor of Black Studies and Africana philosophy, California State University at Long Beach
Dr. Andrew P. Smallwood, associate professor of Black Studies, University of Pittsburgh
- 2002-2003: Dr. Beretta E. Smith-Shomade, assistant professor of media arts, Univ. of Arizona
- 2001-2002: Dr. Scot Brown, assistant professor of history, Cornell University
- 2000-2001: Dr. Nikol Alexander, assistant professor of Women's Studies, Virginia Tech University
Dr. Rose Harris, assistant professor of Women's Studies, Virginia Tech University

FUNDING FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS



AAS Undergraduate Scholarships

John Rueben Sheeler Memorial Scholarship:

--Established in 1981 by the widow of Dr. John Rueben Sheeler, historian and chair of the Department of History and Geography at Texas Southern University, this scholarship provides funding to academically talented students who have declared minors in African American Studies and whose GPAs are at least 3.0. The amount of this award is \$1,000.

Mrs. Debbie Haley Academic Scholarship:

--Established by Mrs. Debbie Haley and African American Studies, this scholarship provides funding to students who have declared minors in African American Studies and whose GPAs are at least 2.5. The amount of this award is \$1,000.

Friends of African American Studies Scholarship:

--Established in 1999 by supporters of African American Studies throughout the Houston community, this scholarship provides funding to students who have declared minors in African American Studies and whose GPAs are at least 2.5. The amount of this award is \$1,000. Scholarships are awarded annually in the name of an important person of African world heritage.

FUNDING FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

Sylvester Turner Academic Distinction Scholarship:

--Established in 2006 to provide funding to students who have declared minors in African American Studies and whose GPAs are at least 3.5. The amount of this award is \$1,000.

John J. Moores, Sr. Academic Achievement Scholarship:

--Established in 2006 to provide funding to students who have declared minors in African American Studies and show GPAs are at least 3.0. The amount of this award is \$1,000.

Dr. Ira B. Bryant, Jr. Academic Scholarship:

--Established in 2005 in honor of the great Houstonian educator and civil rights leader, this scholarship provides funding to students who have declared minors in African American Studies.

Dr. Kwame Nkrumah International Study Scholarship:

--Available to UH-matriculated undergraduate students enrolled in six (6) credit hours of African American Studies Summer IV Session International Study courses to the University of Ghana, University of Cape Coast, and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, West Africa.

African American Studies Graduate Assistantship:

--This award, established in 1995, was initiated to recruit outstanding students for graduate study at the University of Houston pursuing M.A. or Ph.D. degrees in research related to or in the disciplinary field of African American Studies. Graduate assistants work 20 hours weekly on various assignments as required by the African American Studies Program.

Dr. Julius Thompson Memorial Book Scholarship in African American Studies

– Established by African American Studies in 2008, this scholarship assists students with their book fees.

(For more information, see Appendix A)

FUNDING FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, 2009-2010

Mrs. Debbie Haley Academic Scholarship:

--PARIS, FRANCES

John Rueben Sheeler Memorial Scholarship:

--HAMPTON, KAINÉ

Sylvester Turner Academic Distinction Scholarship

– ELLIS, JESANDA O.

Dr. Julius Thompson Memorial Book Scholarship in African American Studies

– ELLIS, JESANDA O.

– HAMPTON, KAINÉ

– PARIS, FRANCES

Dr. Kwame Nkrumah International Study Scholarship:

– AKEREDOLU, OLUWAKEMI

– BRYANT, FRED, JR.

– CARTHAN, QUANIQUA

– DAVIS, JAHNIN

– HARRIS, BRIAN O.

– HOUSTON, RANDRYIA

– HUANG, LE

– LADET, JANAÉ N.

– MCCONN, HANNAH

– MOTTON, DEIDRA

– NELSON, CRAIG

– NICKLOS, JOHN A., II

– OKONGWU, NWABUNDO

– OKONGWU, NWADIOGO

– RHODEN-LEWIS, ANGEL

– WELCH, WHITNEY

– WILKERSON, ALEXANDRIA

FUNDING FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

Graduate Assistantship In African American Studies

Established in 1995, African American Studies initiated the graduate assistantship program to recruit outstanding students at the University of Houston pursuing M.A. or Ph.D. degrees in research related to or in the disciplinary field of African American Studies. Graduate assistants work 20 hours weekly on various assignments as required by the African American Studies program.



Baruch Williams, 2009-2010 AAS Graduate Assistant

Graduate Assistantships Awarded for 2009-2010

Santhosh K. Arunuri, Cynthia A. Tate, and Baruch Williams received graduate assistantships in African American Studies for the 2009-2010 academic year. Santhosh is pursuing the MS degree in electrical and computer engineering; Cynthia completed the MA degree in communications; and, Baruch is completing her doctorate in clinical neuropsychology.

Past AAS Graduate Assistantship Awardees, 2005-2009

2008-2009: Radheshyam K. Bang, Computer Science (MS)
Cynthia A. Tate, Communications (MA)
Fedora Biney, Psychology (Ph.D.)

2007-2008: Radheshyam K. Bang, Computer Science (MS)
Fedora Biney, Psychology (Ph.D.)
Quiana Whitesell, Social Work (MSW)

2006-2007: Andre P. Ball, Sociology (MA)
Tawana Cummings, Social Work (MSW)
Brittany Paley, Social Work (MSW)

2005-2006: Megha Agrawal, Computer Science (MA)
Tawana Cummings, Social Work (MSW)
Phoebe Hawkins, Social Work (MSW)

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Journal in African American Studies

Africana Studies, A Review of Social Science Research: A new peer-reviewed academic annual serial published by Transaction Publishers in New Brunswick, New Jersey, the new journal offers an important contribution to research and scholarship in the discipline of Africana Studies. The annual serial's inaugural issue will be published in 2004.

Monograph Series

African American Studies monograph series, Transaction Publishers: The series features original studies and recovery works within the discipline of Africana Studies.

African Americans in the American West monograph series, University Press of Colorado: The series publishes original studies and recovery works on the Africana experience in the western United States from diverse disciplinary perspectives.

Public Policy Research Initiatives

The Black Houston History Project: An initiative committed to the research, study, and preservation of the history of African American people and institutions in the city of Houston, Texas, from the nineteenth through the twentieth centuries.

Center for the Study of African American Culture: Approved by the University's Division of Research, the Center for the Study of African American Culture is committed to interdisciplinary research revived in the multiple dimensions of African American life and culture.

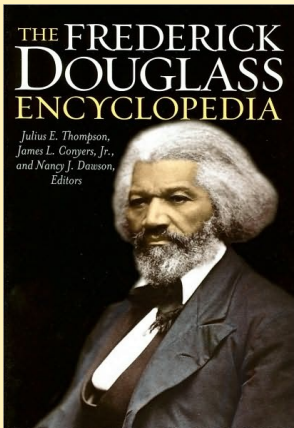
Visiting Scholars Program: Each year, at least two scholars from across the United States participate in a one-year visiting appointment in African American Studies. They teach one course of their own design while working toward the completion of a research project. The Visiting Scholars Program is designed to encourage new scholars to contribute new and innovative teaching and research in the discipline of Africana Studies.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

New Publications in African American Studies

AAS Faculty Publications

In the fall of 2009, James L. Conyers, Jr., University Professor and director of African American Studies, co-edited *The Frederick Douglass Encyclopedia* (Greenwood) with Julius E. Thompson and Nancy J. Dawson. The encyclopedia offers more than 100 alphabetically organized entries covering Douglass's extraordinary journey from childhood in bondage to forceful spokesperson for equality and freedom before, during, and after the Civil War. In addition to biographical details, the book looks at the full breadth of Douglass's writings and speeches, as well as the events that shaped his intellect and political views. Together, these entries create an enduring portrait of one of the nation's most iconic figures, a man who went



from slavery to invited guest in Abraham Lincoln's White House, whose commitment to freedom for all led to his participation in the first women's rights conference at Seneca Falls, and whose profound influence ranged well beyond the borders of the United States.

AAS Adjunct and Affiliate Faculty Publications

Demetrius Pearson, associate professor of health and human performance, published two book chapters, two abstracts, and received several grants. His publications include: **Pearson, D. W.** (2009). "Black in the saddle: The best bull rider you never saw." In J. L. Conyers Jr. (Series Ed.), *Africana studies: Vol. 3. Racial Structure & Radical Politics in the African Diaspora* (pp. 183-196). New Brunswick: Transaction.

Pearson, D. W. (2010). "Absence of Power: Sheroes in sport films post-Title IX." In L. K. Fuller (Ed.), *Sports, Rhetoric, and Gender: Global and universal contexts* (pp. 233-247). New York: Peter Lang.

Lam, E. T. C., & **Pearson, D. W.** (2010, March). "Preference of Promotional Strategies and Their Relationship with Game Attendance." *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*, 81 (1), A-100.

Pearson, D. W., & Lam, E. T. C. (2010, March). "Film Analysis as an Integrated Part of Sport Sociology Courses." *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*, 81 (1), A-65.

2009-2010 Funding

Grant, University of Houston, Provost Faculty Travel Fund, Award Amount: \$750.00, Dec. 3, 2009.

Grant, University of Houston, Small Grants Program (SGP), Award Amount: \$3,000.00, Dec. 2, 2009.

Janis F. Hutchinson, professor of anthropology, published Issa, A.M., Tufail, W., Hutchinson, J., Tenorio, J., and Poonam, M. "Assessing Patient Readiness for the Clinical Adoption of Personalized Medicine." *Public Health Genomics* 12 (2009): 163-69.

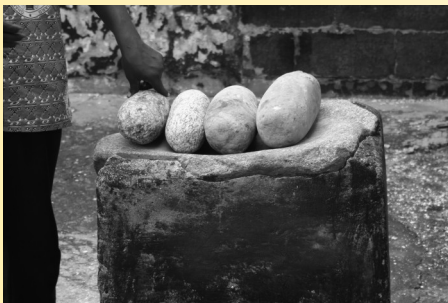
RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

The Adinkra Collection

As part of its ongoing commitment to advancing creative discussions, theoretical perspectives, and research methodologies in the discipline of Africana Studies, the African American Studies program initiated The Adinkra Collection, an archival collection of over 2,000 digitized photographs of Ghanaian life and culture taken by AAS Nkrumah Scholars. The collection provides a resource for developing a digital classroom on the history of the African Diaspora, as well as engaging faculty and students with communities in West Africa.

The Architecture of Enslavement

In the fall 2009 issue of *Ujima*, Nkrumah Study Abroad Scholars use digital photography to show how Europeans brought together space, spirit, and force to edify the enslavement of African people in Ghana. Center, the remains of Ft. Prizentein, a series of dungeons used as a port of departure for enslaved African peoples, sits in ruins adjacent Ghana's shoreline.



SPECIAL HOSTED OR CO-HOSTED PROGRAMS

2009-2010 EVENTS BRIEFS

On Monday, 12 October 2010, hosted lecture "The Possessive Investment in Consumption of the Black Women's Body," by **Dr. Kaila Story**, Assistant Professor, Audre Lorde Chair in Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Department of Pan-African Studies, Department of Women's & Gender Studies, University of Louisville



On Thursday, 29 October 2009, hosted lecture "African nationalism from Paul Cuffee to Minister Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam," by **Dr. Clifton Marsh**, Professor of Social and Public Services, Tidewater Community College

On Monday, 2 November 2009, hosted lecture "The Critique of Racial Normativity. The Assimilative Coercion of Post-Civil Rights Ideology on Race Theory," by **Dr. Tommy Curry**, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Texas A&M University

On Monday, 9 November 2009, hosted lecture "Cultural Trauma and the Psychological Well-Being of African Americans," by **Dr. Shwan Utsey**, Chair, Department of African American Studies, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Virginia Commonwealth University Producer

On Monday, 16 November 2009, co-hosted with the Department of Modern & Classical Languages and the Women's Studies Program "Territories of the Breast: A Documentary Screening & Discussion," co-directed by award winning artist and documentary filmmaker **Sonia Baez-Hernandez**.

On Friday, 5 February 2010, presented "500 Years Later," as part of our annual Africana Film Festival

On Tuesday, 9 February 2010, hosted lecture "Still Seeking 40 Acres & a Mule: African American Economic Empowerment in the 21st Century," by **Dr. James Stewart**, Professor Emeritus of Labor Studies & Employment Relations, Penn State University – Greater Allegheny

On Thursday, 11 February 2010, hosted lecture "Beginning Family History," by **Mrs. Debra Blacklock-Sloan**, Historian, Rutherford B.H. Yates Museum, chair, Harris County Historical Commission Marker Review Committee



On Thursday, 18 February 2010, hosted lecture "African Cosmology, Spirituality, and Knowledge," by **Dr. Denise Martin**, Associate Professor of Pan-African Studies, University of Louisville

On Monday, 22 February, 2010, hosted lecture "A Historical View of the Nation of Islam," by **Dr. Claude Andrew Clegg, III**, Professor and Chair, Department of History, Indiana University – Bloomington

On Tuesday, 23 February, 2010, hosted lecture "Cultural Considerations of Grounded Theory as a Research Method: A Case Study," by **Dr. Evelyn Curry**, Assistant Professor, School of Library & Information Studies, Texas Woman's University

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND SUPPORT

African American Studies Teaching Faculty

AAS Faculty for 2009-2010

James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D., Director
University Professor of African American Studies

AAS Adjunct Faculty for 2009-2010

Franklin Anderson, Challenger Program, University of Houston
Elias Bongmba, Ph.D., Rice University
Malachi Crawford, AAS, University of Houston
Paul Easterling, AAS, University of Houston
Carole Poindexter-Sylvers, AAS, University of Houston
Aswad Walker, AAS, University of Houston
Gretchen Wiggins, AAS, University of Houston

AAS Courtesy Affiliated Faculty for 2009-2010

James Anderson, Ed.D., UH Executive Associate to the Chancellor/President for Community Relations
Jenifer Bratter, Ph.D., Sociology Department, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Gerald Horne, J.D., Ph.D., History Department, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Janis Faye Hutchinson, Ph.D., Anthropology Department, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Kairn Klieman, Ph.D., History Department, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Demetrius Pearson, Ed.D., Health and Human Performance Department, College of Education
Tyrone Tillery, Ph.D., History Department, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Louis Williams, Ph.D., Pharmacological and Pharmaceutical Sciences Department, College of Pharmacy

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND SUPPORT

AAS Staff Team for 2009-2010

Director:	James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D University Professor of African American Studies
Assistant Director:	Malachi D. Crawford
Program Manager:	Paul H. L. Easterling
Financial Coordinator:	Angela Williams-Phillips
Secretary II:	Irene Ray
Secretary II:	Linda Harris



Mrs. Irene Ray, AAS, Secretary II

AAS Student Support Staff for 2009-2010

Graduate Assistant:	Santhosh Arunuri
Graduate Assistant:	Cynthia Tate
Graduate Assistant:	Baruch Williams
Student Worker:	Alexis Guidry
Student Worker:	Tunisha Miller
Student Worker:	Kayela Shannon
Student Worker:	Jasmine Umenyi
Work Study:	Caleb Alexander
Work Study:	Dennis Campbell
Tutor:	Mariama Conteh



Ms. Cynthia A. Tate
2009-2010 AAS Graduate Assistant

AAS FACULTY AND STAFF ACTIVITY FOR AY 2009-2010

James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D.
African American Studies, Director
University Professor of African American Studies

Teaching:

AAS 3330: *AAS Oral History and Field History*, Fall 2009

AAS 6308: *Africana Religion and Biography*, Fall 2009, Grad Cert.

AAS 4370: *Seminar in African American Studies*, Spring 2010

AAS 6300: *Africana Studies Theory and Method*, Spring 2010, Grad Cert.

AAS 4377: *Seminar on W.E.B. Du Bois*, Summer Session IV

AAS 6308: *Africana Religion and Biography*, Summer Session IV, Grad Cert.

Publications:

Julius E. Thompson, James L. Conyers, Jr., and Nancy J. Dawson, Editors. *The Frederick Douglass Encyclopedia*. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood Press, 2010.

Guest Lectures:

Campus and Community Service

Served on the AAS undergraduate scholarship committee

Served on the AAS faculty travel award committee

Served on the AAS faculty development award committee

Served on the AAS graduate assistant award review committee

Served on the AAS visiting scholars review committee

Served on the Achieving the Dream committee

Served on the CLASS dean's search committee

Attended CLASS Chairs and Directors meetings regularly throughout the academic year

Attended and participated in University of Houston Commencement Ceremony for Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 semesters

AAS FACULTY AND STAFF ACTIVITY FOR AY 2009-2010

Malachi D. Crawford
Assistant Director
African American Studies

Teaching:

AAS 2320: Introduction to African American Studies, Fall 2009

AAS 3350: Slavery and Race Relations, Spring 2010

AAS 4373: Black Leaders of the 20th Century, Summer (Session IV) 2010

Publications:

Crawford, Malachi. *The Frederick Douglass Encyclopedia*, s.v. "Ralph Waldo Emerson." Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, December 2009.

_____. *The Frederick Douglass Encyclopedia*, s.v. "Richard T. Greener." Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, December 2009.

Guest Lectures:

November 2009: Guest Speaker at ABPsi Student Circle Chapter (UH) monthly meeting

February 2010: Guest Panelist at "Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr." event

Campus and Community Service:

Coordinated student travel to the Black Psychology Student Research Conference, Virginia Commonwealth University, March 2010

Served on the AAS undergraduate scholarship committee

Served on the graduate assistant award review committee

Served on the visiting scholars review committee

Served on the AAS faculty travel award committee

Served on the AAS faculty development award committee

Attended CLASS advisor meetings regularly throughout the academic year

AAS FACULTY AND STAFF ACTIVITY FOR AY 2009-2010

Paul Easterling
Program Manager
African American Studies

Teaching:

AAS 2320: *Introduction to African American Studies*, Fall 2009
AAS 3394: *History and Politics of the African Union*, Fall 2009
AAS 2320: *Introduction to African American Studies*, Spring 2010
AAS 3356: *African Thought and Philosophy*, (Summer Session IV) 2010

Publications:

- Easterling, Paul. *The Frederick Douglass Encyclopedia*, s.v. "American Colonization Society." Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, December 2009.
- _____. *The Frederick Douglass Encyclopedia*, s.v. "African Methodist Episcopal Church." Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, December 2009.
- _____. *The Frederick Douglass Encyclopedia*, s.v. "Richard Allen." Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, December 2009.
- _____. *The Frederick Douglass Encyclopedia*, s.v. "Grover Cleveland." Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, December 2009.
- Pinn, Anthony ed., *Encyclopedia of African American Religious Cultures*, 2 Volumes (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2010).
-Assistant Editor on Project
- Easterling, Paul. *Encyclopedia of African American Religious Cultures*, 2 Volumes, s.v. "Moorish Science Temple of America." Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2010
- _____. *Encyclopedia of African American Religious Cultures*, 2 Volumes, s.v. "Black Hebrew Israelites." Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2010.
- _____. *Encyclopedia of African American Religious Cultures*, 2 Volumes, s.v. "African Orthodox Church." Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2010.

AAS FACULTY AND STAFF ACTIVITY FOR AY 2009-2010

Paul Easterling
Program Manager
African American Studies

(Continued)

Guest Lectures/Presentations:

February 2010: Guest Panelist at “Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.” event

February 2010: Guest Speaker for Blog Talk Radio on “Let’s Be Frank” Radio Show; gave interview on “The Impact of Hip Hop on Black Culture.”

Campus and Community Service:

Involved in M.D. Anderson Library at the University of Houston – Houston Hip Hop Archival Project.

Appointed to Board of Directors for Black Town Movement Project – Rice University, Houston, TX.

Served on the AAS visiting scholars search committee, Spring 2010

Served on the AAS faculty travel award committee, Spring 2010

Served on the AAS faculty development award committee, Spring 2010

Coordinated Model African Union program in Washington, D.C., March 2010

Coordinated Study Abroad to Ghana Program, July 2010

Served as advisor to Songhai Chapter (UH) of the Ankh Maat Wedjau National Honor Society

Coordinated AAS Black History Month Activities

Coordinated all AAS programming (e.g., speakers, lecture series, literary circles, etc.) for the 2009-2010 academic year

FACULTY AWARDS AND COMMITTEES IN AAS

AAS Undergraduate Scholarship Award

AAS Undergraduate Scholarship Committee for 2009-2010

James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D., Director, University Professor of African American Studies

Malachi D. Crawford, Assistant Director, African American Studies

Gretchen Wiggins, J.D., African American Studies

AAS Ghana Summer International Study Abroad Program Award

Ghana Summer International Study Abroad Program Review Committee for 2009-2010

James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D., Director, University Professor of African American Studies

Malachi D. Crawford, Assistant Director, African American Studies

Gretchen Wiggins, J.D., African American Studies

AAS Graduate Assistantship Award

AAS Graduate Assistantship Award Review Committee for 2009-2010

James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D., Director, University Professor of African American Studies

Malachi D. Crawford, Assistant Director, African American Studies

Franklin Anderson, Adjunct Faculty, African American Studies

AAS Visiting Scholars Award

AAS Visiting Scholars Review Committee for 2009-2010

James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D., Director, University Professor of African American Studies

Malachi D. Crawford, Assistant Director, African American Studies

Paul Easterling, Program Manager, African American Studies

Demetrius Pearson, Ed.D., Health and Human Performance, College of Education

FACULTY AWARDS AND COMMITTEES IN AAS

AAS Faculty Development Award

AAS Faculty Development Review Committee for 2009-2010

James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D., Director, University Professor of African American Studies

Malachi D. Crawford, Assistant Director, African American Studies

Paul Easterling, Program Manager, African American Studies

AAS Faculty Travel Award

AAS Faculty Travel Award Review Committee for 2009-2010

James L. Conyers, Jr., Ph.D., Director, University Professor of African American Studies

Malachi D. Crawford, Assistant Director, African American Studies

Paul Easterling, Program Manager, African American Studies

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: AAS MINOR, COURSE, & SCHOLARSHIP DATA FOR AY 2009-2010

Student Progress/Achievement/Advancement		
	Term Spring 2010	Cumulative Spring 2010
Median grade point average of AAS Minors	2.743	2.548
Median “minor” grade point average of AAS Minors	—	3.251
	Fall 2009	Spring 2010
Minors admitted into national honor society (Ankh Maat Wedjau)	—	—
Minors participating in national policy/decision making institutions	7	1
Minors participating in international policy/decision making institutions	—	4
Minor presentations at national academic conferences related to the discipline	—	1

Alumni Advancement	2009-2010	Since 2007
Alumni who went on to enroll in graduate degree programs within the discipline	3	8
Amount awarded in assistantships or fellowships to those pursuing advanced degrees within the discipline	95,796	525,572*
Alumni admitted into the AAS Graduate Certificate Program	2	7
* = Two student estimates based on online tuition/stipend information for AY 2009-2010 in absence of contemporary tuition data		

Course Evaluation—Section II (For all courses taught in AAS)	Fall 2009 Mean *	Spring 2010 Mean*	CLASS ** Mean*
The overall quality of this course is	4.21	4.13	4.18
The instructor’s availability for individual assistance is	4.35	4.12	4.22
The instructor’s demonstration of respect for students is	4.54	4.26	4.45
Mean* = 5 point scale, higher scores desirable CLASS** = Corresponding numbers for the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (Spring 2010)			

APPENDIX A: AAS MINOR, COURSE, & SCHOLARSHIP DATA FOR AY 2009-2010

Table 1: AAS Minor Graduation Rates by Academic Year, 2005-2010 Showing Discontinued and Suspended Students			
Year	Graduates	Disc./Susp.	Rate
2005-2006	23	03	88.5%
2006-2007	28	03	90.3%
2007-2008	22	12	64.7%
2008-2009	16	06	76.2%
2009-2010	25	04	86.2%

Note: These calculations use a modified version of the Leaver Rate, which is used by the National Center for Education Statistics. The method calculates graduation rates by dividing the total number of African American Studies (AAS) minors graduating during a given year by the total number of AAS minors that have graduated, been discontinued and suspended during that same year.

Table 2: AAS Minor Graduation Rates by Academic Year, 2005-2010 Showing Only Discontinued Students			
Year	Graduates	Discontinued	Rate
2005-2006	23	02	92%
2006-2007	28	00	100%
2007-2008	22	12	64.7%
2008-2009	15	05	75%
2009-2010	25	03	89.3%

Note: These calculations use a modified version of the Leaver Rate, which is used by the National Center for Education Statistics. The method calculates graduation rates by dividing the total number of African American Studies (AAS) minors graduating during a given year by the total number of AAS minors that have graduated and have been discontinued during that same year. Because suspended students (i.e., those students whose records are still “active” in the UH system, but who cannot enroll in courses for a semester or year) still have the ability to continue their education at UH, removing them from the calculation here provides a more accurate assessment of AAS minor graduation rates.

It should also be noted that many factors impact the graduation rates of AAS minors at the University of Houston. The University of Houston is essentially a commuter campus, hosting primarily non-traditional students in a major metropolitan city. As such, the current global economic downturn that began in 2007 and present domestic recession might explain the increased number of discontinued students during the 2007-2008 academic year.

APPENDIX A:
AAS MINOR, COURSE, & SCHOLARSHIP DATA FOR AY 2009-2010

AAS 2009-2010 Course Enrollment Per Semester

Fall 2009

AAS 2320-(16768):	Intro to African American Studies	44
AAS 2320-(16770):	Intro to African American Studies	50
AAS 2320-(16772):	Intro to African American Studies	45
AAS 2322-(16774):	Intro to African Religion & Philosophy	14
AAS 3307-(34310):	Africana Spirit Trans in Soc. Sci.	6
AAS 3310-(16776):	Afr Amer Experience Through Theater	23
AAS 3330-(20896):	African American Oral History	9
AAS 3348-(16778):	African Americans and the Law	24
AAS 4330-(20898):	The Black Church in America	5
AAS 4440-(34311):	Model African Union Seminar	4
AAS 4440-(35172):	Model AU-Seminar Lab	4
AAS 6308-(16782):	Africana Religion and Biography	3

Term Enrollment = 231 Students

Spring 2010

AAS 2320-(10677):	Intro to African American Studies	51
AAS 2320-(10679):	Intro to African American Studies	38
AAS 2320-(10681):	Intro to African American Studies	50
AAS 3348-(33210):	African Americans and the Law	35
AAS 3350-(33211):	Slavery and Race Relations	18
AAS 3394-(33213):	Special Topics in AAS	5
AAS 3394-(34751):	Special Topics in AAS	10
AAS 4300-(10683):	African Philosophy	3
AAS 4370-(10687):	Seminar in African American Studies	24
AAS 6300-(23849):	Africana Theory and Method	4

Term Enrollment = 238 Students

APPENDIX A:
AAS MINOR, COURSE, & SCHOLARSHIP DATA FOR AY 2009-2010

AAS 2009-2010 Course Enrollment Per Semester (Cont.)

Summer 2010

AAS 2320-(18330): Intro to African American Studies	45
AAS 2320-(25539): Intro to African American Studies	38
AAS 3356-(18348): Africana Thought and Philosophy	15
AAS 4330-(25498): Black Church in America	5
AAS 4373-(25544): Black Leaders of the 20 th Century	5
AAS 4377-(25976): Seminar on W.E.B. Du Bois	16
AAS 6308-(25982): Africana Religion and Biography	3

Term Enrollment =

127 Students

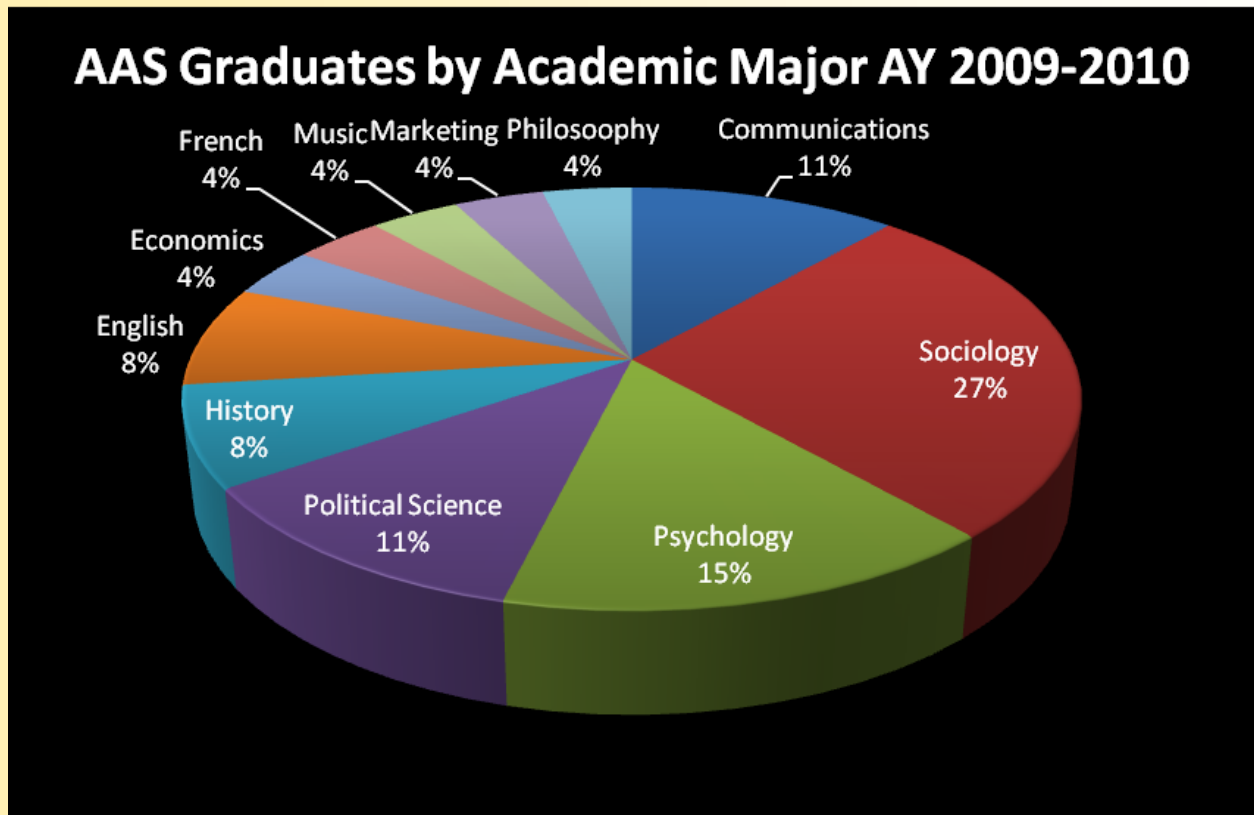
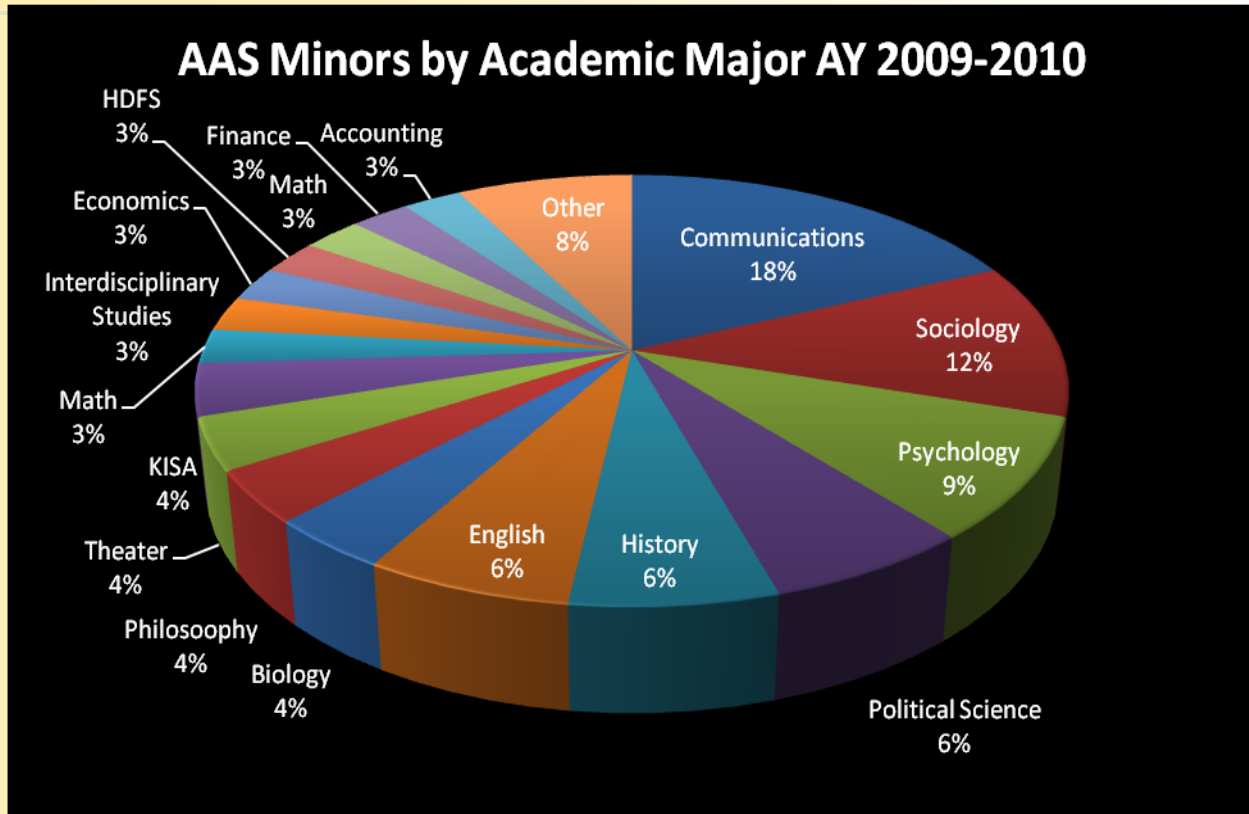
AAS Course Enrollment (AY 2009-2010) =

596 Students

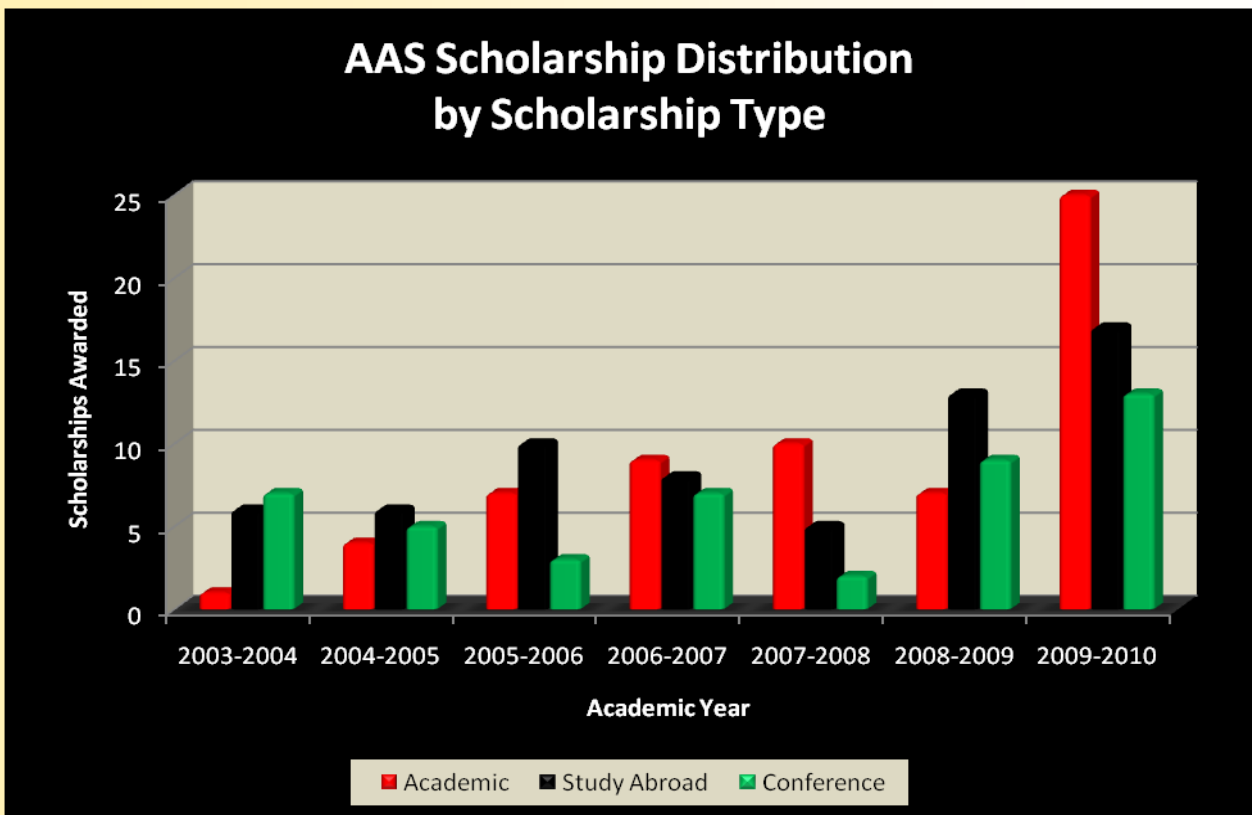
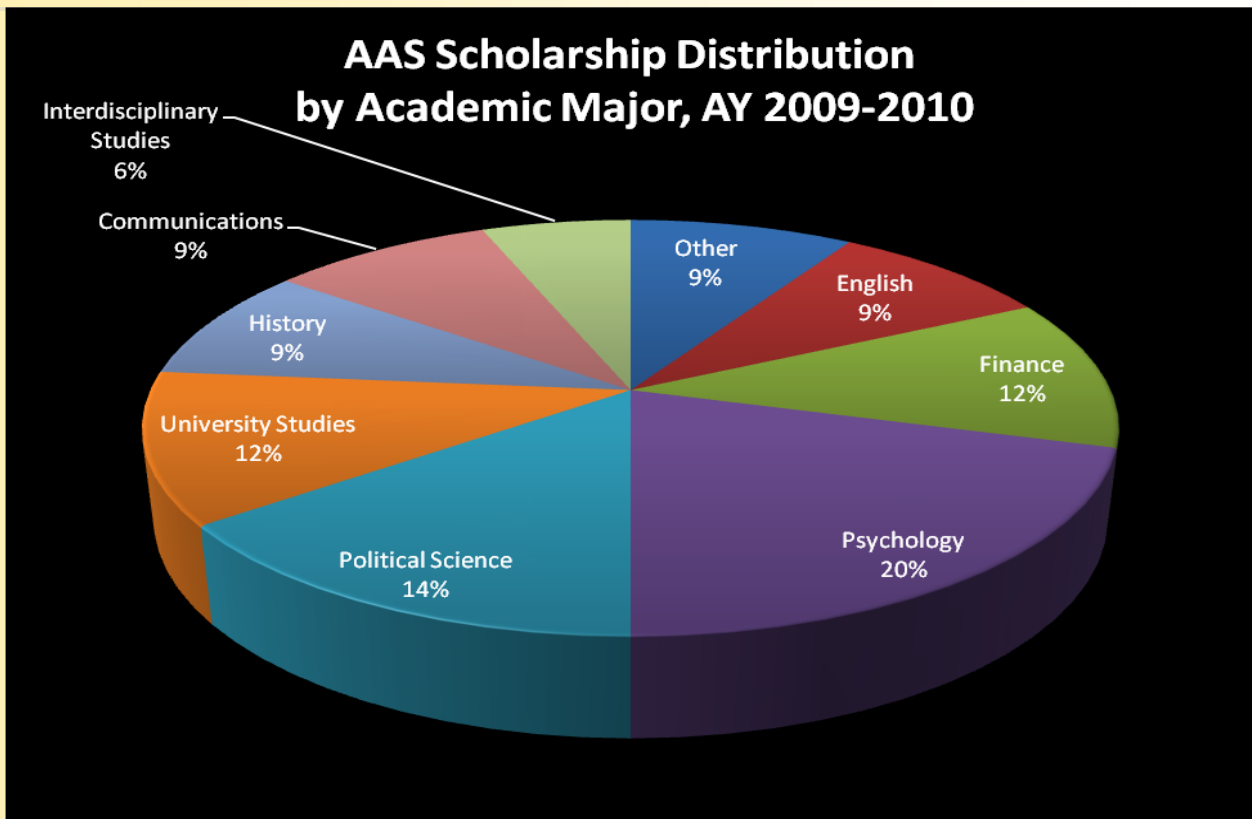
*AAS ranks 10th in the total number of College of Liberal Arts and Social Science (CLASS) students actively pursuing one of the 50 academic minors offered in the college.

Source: *Active CLASS Minors Report—Fall 2009*, s.v., “Academic Organizations—Analysis”.

APPENDIX A:
 AAS MINOR, COURSE, & SCHOLARSHIP DATA FOR AY 2009-2010



APPENDIX A:
 AAS MINOR, COURSE, & SCHOLARSHIP DATA FOR AY 2009-2010



APPENDIX B:
AAS GRADUATE CERTIFICATE DATA FOR AY 2009-2010

