African Studies is a broad-ranging field that is committed to an interdisciplinary approach to the study of African peoples and their complex histories, cultures, and languages. Drawn from the Schools of Social Science and Humanities, African Studies at Rice University has strengths in archaeological and anthropological research, historical studies, African religions and theology, African arts, and global health technologies. These foci provide a unique opportunity for students broadly interested in historical, cultural, African diaspora studies, and contemporary issues and will attract students preparing for career fields related to their interest in Africa, including academia (potential applicants to graduate school, Fulbright, or other competitive scholarships), development, diplomacy, business and finance, governance, global health, law, and others.

The African Studies minor at Rice benefits undergraduate students by providing a course of study to explore the richness and complexity of the continent and its place in issues of wider global concern and import. The required interdisciplinary course(s) allow students to traverse departments and schools, creating links between diverse intellectual trajectories. Through study in the African Studies minor, students have the opportunity to appreciate the relationship contemporary Africa has with the large African Diaspora, and to understand not only the place of Africa in global histories and networks, but the crucial role that it has played in them.

Minor

- Minor in African Studies

African Studies does not currently offer an academic program at the graduate level.

Co-Directors

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Kerry R. Ward

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For Rice University degree-granting programs:
To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice’s Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata/)
To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat)

Description and Code Legend

Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule
- Course offerings/subject codes: Courses from various subjects may apply towards this program

Program Description and Code
- African Studies: AFST

Undergraduate Minor Description and Code
- Minor in African Studies: AFST

CIP Code and Description

- AFST Minor CIP Code/Title: 05.0101 - African Studies

Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2010 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/