Assessing the Sustainability of the Africana Studies Minor

The following pages present information that has been used to assess the status of the Africana Studies minor, to determine how sustainable it currently is, and to determine the resources needed to ensure the sustainability of the minor now and in the future.

The following sets of information are included:

- A listing by department of all of the Africana Studies courses offered from the Fall of 2004 through the spring of 2008. This four year period is chosen in order to assess the ease or difficulty of completing an Africana Studies minor during the Loyola career of a first year student entering in 2004 and graduating next spring.

- A listing by department of courses that could have been taught 2004-2008 if limited to the faculty we currently have at Loyola. This is important because some key Africana Studies faculty have left in the past two years and have not been replaced. (These faculty are Jackie Woodfork in History and Paulette Richards in English). This breakdown provides a projection of how sustainable the minor will be over the next few years if no additional faculty are hired whose courses contribute to the minor.

- A listing of courses organized by semester, 2004-2008 based on the faculty that are now available at Loyola. This listing makes it possible to see, from the perspective of a student pursuing the minor, how feasible it is to complete the minor.
Africana Studies Courses Offered Fall 2004 through Spring 2008:
Organized by Department

History:
- HIST-A440-001: Africa and Black Diaspora (J. Hunt Sp08)
- HIST-A394-001: History of Racism in America (K. Williams, Sp08)
- HIST-A440-001: Africa and Black Diaspora (J. Hunt Sp07)
- HIST-X180-001: African American Culture and History (G. Van Cott, F06)
- HIST-A349-001: Africa to 1880 (J. Woodfork, SpI 06)
- HIST-A352-001: Women in African History (J. Woodfork, Sp05)
- HIST-W186-001: Discovering Africa (J. Woodfork, F04)

Sociology:
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp08)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, F07)
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd F07)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp07)
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd F06)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (S. Mennino, F06)
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd SpI 06)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (S. Mennino, SpI 06)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp05)

Political Science
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, Sp07)
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, SpI 06)
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, Sp05)

English:
- ENGL-V175-001: Black Women Novelists (P. Egejuru, Sp08)
- ENGL-A450-001: Black Aesthetics (P. Egejuru, F07)
- ENGL-V175-001: Black Women Novelists (P. Egejuru, Sp07)
- ENGL-V173-002: The African Novel (P. Egejuru Sp05)
- ENGL-A251-001 African American Literature Since 1900 (P. Richards, Sp05)
- ENGL-A250-001 Introduction to African American Literature (P. Richards, F04)

Music:
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp08)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F07)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp07)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F06)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, SpI 06)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp05)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F04)

Drama:
- DRAM-V143-001: Black Theater: 1940-present (L. Hope, F07)
Africana Studies Courses that Could have been Offered 2004-2008
with the Faculty Currently Available at Loyola:
Organized by Department

History:
- HIST-A440-001: Africa and Black Diaspora (J. Hunt Sp08)
- HIST-A394-001: History of Racism in America (K. Williams, Sp08)
- HIST-A440-001: Africa and Black Diaspora (J. Hunt Sp07)

Sociology:
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp08)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, F07)
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd F07)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp07)
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd F06)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (S. Mennino, F06)
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd SpI 06)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (S. Mennino, SpI 06)
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp05)

Political Science
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, Sp07)
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, SpI 06)
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, Sp05)

English:
- ENGL-V175-001: Black Women Novelists (P. Egejuru, Sp08)
- ENGL-A450-001: Black Aesthetics (P. Egejuru, F07)
- ENGL-V175-001: Black Women Novelists (P. Egejuru, Sp07)
- ENGL-V173-002: The African Novel (P. Egejuru Sp05)

Music:
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp08)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F07)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp07)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F06)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, SpI 06)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp05)
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F04)

Drama:
- DRAM-V143-001: Black Theater: 1940-present (L. Hope, F07)
Africana Studies Courses that Could have been Offered 2004-2008  
with the Faculty Currently Available at Loyola:  
Organized by Semester

Fall 2004  
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F04)

Spring 2005  
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp05)  
- ENGL-V173-002: The African Novel (P. Egejuru Sp05)  
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, Sp05)  
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp05)

Spring I 2006  
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, SpI 06)  
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, SpI 06)  
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd SpI 06)  
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (S. Mennino, SpI 06)

Spring II 2006  
No Africana Studies courses offered.

Fall 2006  
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F06)  
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd F06)  
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (S. Mennino, F06)

Spring 2007  
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp07)  
- ENGL-V175-001: Black Women Novelists (P. Egejuru, Sp07)  
- POLS-A216-001: Politics of Race and Ethnicity (P. Burns, Sp07)  
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp07)  
- HIST-A440-001: Africa and Black Diaspora (J. Hunt Sp07)

Fall 2007  
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, F07)  
- ENGL-A450-001: Black Aesthetics (P. Egejuru, F07)  
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, F07)  
- SOCI-A220-001: Social Protest movements (T. Ladd F07)  
- DRAM-V143-001: Black Theater: 1940-present (L. Hope, F07)

Spring 2008  
- MUGN-V172-001 Jazz in American Culture (F. Mayes, Sp08)  
- ENGL-V175-001: Black Women Novelists (P. Egejuru, Sp08)  
- SOCI-X155-051: Race and Ethnic Conflict (L. Newman, Sp08)  
- HIST-A440-001: Africa and Black Diaspora (J. Hunt Sp08)  
- HIST-A394-001: History of Racism in America (K. Williams, Sp08)
Current Sustainability of the Minor

There were 10 distinct Africana Studies courses offered 2004-2008 by faculty who are currently available at Loyola. This would make it possible for a student to complete the minor if it were initiated the first year or at the beginning of the sophomore year. If initiated at the beginning of the sophomore year, however, completing the minor would still be difficult since it would be necessary to take 7 of the 8 courses offered from 2006 to 2008. While it is technically possible for a student to do this, in reality, most students would struggle to do so because they need to take other required courses that might conflict with minor courses during one semester or another.

The other concern is that students may not decide to take on the minor until as late as the junior year. Even if a student initiates the minor at the beginning of the junior year, it should be possible for him/her to complete the minor by graduation. Allowing for a later start acknowledges the fact that student interests change over time and that it may take several semesters for a student to discover an intellectual interest. For these reasons, it should be feasible for a student to initiate the minor as late as the junior year.

As things currently stand, it would not be possible for a first semester junior to complete the minor, and it would be difficult even for a first semester sophomore to complete the minor. The sections below describe resources that are needed to address these difficulties.

Resource Needs

Instructors

Commitment to Sufficient Courses in the Rotation

In order to sustain the minor we need to consistently offer at least 7 distinct courses per year and at least 5 courses per semester that satisfy the minor. These numbers are based on a review of the number and diversity of courses taught 2004-2008. On average, we are offering 4-5 courses a semester and 5 distinct courses per year. As discussed above, this is not enough to ensure that the average student who is balancing other course requirements is able to complete the minor.

In addition, we should increase the number of distinct Africana studies courses that are actually taught from 10 to at least 15. Africana studies minors have expressed their dissatisfaction with the limited number of courses available to complete the minor. Students should be able to choose from a wide range of courses that count for the minor.
Increasing the number and diversity of courses offered for the minor will require the commitment and cooperation of different units across the university. It will require cooperation from departments to allow faculty to teach Africana studies courses and commitment from the deans and the provost to provide funding for adjuncts to offer Africana studies courses as these are needed.

**Support for the Creation of New Courses**

The creation of new courses will require commitment from departments and deans in the following areas:

- Leave time to create new courses that would contribute to the Africana studies minor. These courses would also increase the diversity of courses offered in the discipline, and enrich the courses available to all Loyola students whether or not they are Africana studies minors.

**Literature Update**

The current Africana Studies brochure is out of date and in serious need of revision. This will require funding, and we request $500 for this purpose.

**Administrative Funding**

In order for the minor to function, it is necessary to have at least some moderate sum for photocopying in order to publicize events and courses of interest to minors. It is also important to hold small social functions to introduce the minor to students and to build community among existing minors. For this reason, we also request some funding to be used for refreshments for information sessions or socials. We request at least $300 per year for these expenses related to the minor.

**Other Ways to Expand Course Options for the Minor**

In addition to requesting additional support from the provost, deans, and departments across the university, Africana studies committee members can help to expand course offerings in the following ways:

- Direct Independent Studies for Africana Studies minors that count for minor credit. (The chair of the minor is now in the process of developing an independent study for a minor who has expressed interest in this.)

- Create special sections of core courses that can count for Africana Studies credit (e.g., Reading material in the following courses might be chosen so that Africana studies credit would be appropriate: ENGL T-125 The Emerging Self; ENGL T-122 Critical Reading and Writing)