

African & African American Studies

The Department of African & African American Studies (AFAS) at Washington University serves as the intellectual hub for faculty, students, and community members dedicated to the critical study of race and Black life, history, culture, epistemologies, politics, literatures, languages, and the arts on a global scale. Home to leading scholars, the department fosters a vibrant interdisciplinary community, with faculty expertise spanning English, sociology, anthropology, education, literature, history, archaeology, film and media studies, and women, gender, and sexuality studies. AFAS faculty have received prestigious funding and honors from institutions such as the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Fulbright, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and the Department of Defense (DoD).

The **Graduate Certificate in Global Black Studies** offered by AFAS provides doctoral students at Washington University with rigorous interdisciplinary training in the humanities and the social sciences beyond their primary department. The program equips students with the analytic, theoretical, and methodological tools needed to integrate critical analyses of race, Blackness, and racialization into their research. Collaborating with renowned scholars, participants in the graduate certificate join a dynamic cohort designed to help sharpen their analyses and prepare them for leadership in global Black Studies and critical race scholarship.

A complex understanding of race and the diverse experiences of Black communities globally is essential to addressing many of today's most pressing social, political, and cultural challenges. The expertise and professional training gained through the certificate program offer graduate students a competitive edge in academia as well as in fields such as education, government, arts and cultural institutions, museums, social advocacy, and the nonprofit sector.

How to Apply

Graduate students interested in the Global Black Studies Graduate Certificate should first apply for admission to the Washington University department in which they wish to obtain a PhD degree. Once admitted, each student should notify their home department advisor and the AFAS Graduate Certificate Program director of plans to apply for the certificate. Students should submit an Application for Admission to Graduate Certificate Program form to the Office of Graduate Studies, Arts & Sciences, with a copy sent to the AFAS department.

The application form and any questions can be sent to Gabrielle Weeden (weeden@wustl.edu).

Website: <https://afas.wustl.edu/>