

# What you can do with your **AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES MAJOR**



## Major Skills:



### Multicultural Humility

You learn to value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, and religions; you demonstrate openness, practice inclusivity, and recognize intersectionality; you interact respectfully with all people.



### Research and Research Design

You understand how to design social research (taking professional and ethical responsibility into account), identify strengths and weaknesses of methods and approaches, report findings, and make recommendations.



### Critical Thinking and Analysis

You learn how to define and analyze societal and cultural currents, identify factors that contribute to social, political, and historical outcomes, and analyze connections between different disciplinary approaches to the study of race and society.



### Written and Oral Communication

You articulate ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral communications.



### Cultural Literacy

You recognize the value and importance of African-American creative culture, and its historic mobilization in the struggle for civil and political rights.



### Professionalism and Work Ethic

You apply principles of ethical and professional conduct, demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits, and act responsibly with the interests of the larger community in mind.

## Supplement Your Skills With:



**Study or Internship  
Abroad**



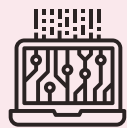
**Leadership, Volunteering,  
or Service-Learning**



**Experience Fostering  
Professional Equity & Inclusion**



**Career & Self  
Development**



**Fluency Working with  
Data and Technology**



**Practice Art, Music, or  
Other Cultural Expression**

## Chart Your Path Forward

### Activate Your Handshake Account

for connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking.

### Explore Career Communities

to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your African American Studies major into success.

### Get Career & Internship Advising

from SuccessWorks to make a plan, whether you're a first-year student or about to graduate.

**Get Started: [successworks.wisc.edu](https://successworks.wisc.edu)**

# Put your African American Studies major to WORK

## Common Alumni Job Titles:

- Director/Executive Director
- Professor
- Attorney
- Teacher
- Founder/Owner
- Principal
- Account Manager
- CEO
- Data Processing Manager
- Partner
- Communications Manager/Coordinator
- Research Assistant
- Administrative Assistant
- Public Defender
- Student Services Director

## Common Employers of Alumni:

1. Madison Metropolitan School District
2. University of Wisconsin
3. American Family Insurance
4. Blue Cross and Blue Shield
5. Chicago Public Schools
6. Madison Area Technical College
7. Milwaukee County
8. Milwaukee Public Schools
9. Minnesota Department of Human Services
10. U.S Army Reserve Training
11. Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association
12. Wisconsin Historical Society
13. Epic
14. LA Weekly
15. Morgan Stanley
16. Habush Habush & Rottier S.C.
17. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
18. FTI Consulting
19. Lewis Search Group, LLC
20. The Apollo Theater



## Recent Grads' Career Plans:

- 62%** Employment
- 38%** Continuing Education or Grad School

## Recent Grads' Employment Sectors:

1. Education
2. Government & Public Service
3. Information Technology
4. Finance
5. Healthcare
6. Marketing
7. Media
8. Non-Profit
9. Manufacturing
10. Arts & Entertainment

## Where Alumni Live & Work:

- 31%** Wisconsin →
- 12%** Illinois →
- 12%** California →
- 9%** New York →
- 8%** Minnesota →
- 28%** Other →



"The most important skill I learned (in the major) was the power of advocacy and using my voice to speak truth to power about my experience as an African American woman. My professors shared countless examples of those who came before me and how they stood up to oppressive systems to make change and support the next generation."

**Jessica Pharm, 2016**  
Learning Delivery Program Manager, Alaska Airlines  
Seattle, WA



"So much of what I learned at UW-Madison was about social and political movements and community organizing, which have been at the center of my work...I've been fortunate to have a foundation in Black history and an understanding of the inequities and injustices this country was built on, including the role of our own organizations in continuing those injustices."

**Kerry Schumann, 1994**  
Executive Director, Wisconsin Conservation Voters  
Madison, WI

## Career Communities for African American Studies Majors

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where African American Studies majors can start.

- **Communications, Media & the Arts**
- **Nonprofit & Education**
- **Consulting, Finance & Other Business Roles**
- **Government, Policy, International Affairs & Law**

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.