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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Written and Oral Communication**
You articulate ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral communications.

**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
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

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

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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.

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

successworks.wisc.edu