

**Common Course Outline**  
**AASD 101**  
**Introduction to Africana Studies**  
**3 Credits**

**Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**AASD 101 – 3 Credits - Introduction to Africana Studies** provides an interdisciplinary approach to familiarize students with the basic concepts and literature of the Africana Studies field. Major approaches to the study of the African Diaspora across several academic disciplines including history, psychology, literature, education, political science, sociology, philosophy, visual arts, the performing arts, economics, gender studies are examined. The course analyzes past and current theories of race and ethnicity, power, institutional structures, key themes relevant to the Black Experience, and the history and status of individuals and collectives throughout the African Diaspora.

**3 Credits**

**Prerequisite:** ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. identify the uses of Africentrism as an analytic tool in a number of social science and humanities disciplines;
2. evaluate the thoughts, values and traditions of peoples of the African Diaspora in the past and present;
3. identify social, political, economic, and cultural forces that shape the racial and ethnic division throughout the African Diaspora;
4. discuss some of the key events in the history of peoples of African descent;
5. examine their own viewpoints and assumptions concerning race and ethnic relations in cultures throughout the African Diaspora;
6. recognize connections between the Black culture and experience in the United States and the rest of the world;
7. analyze the impact that gender and class have upon social, cultural, political, and economic issues relevant to the experiences of people of African descent;
8. identify the connection between the academic discipline of Africana Studies and the social struggles of the Black Power movement in an effort to recognize solutions for problems in the African Diaspora;

9. utilize the readings to explore the major intracultural values and traditions within the life experiences of peoples of the African Diaspora, and
10. identify the impact of media (print, electronic, etc.) in shaping race/ethnic relations.
11. find, evaluate, use and cite both primary and secondary academic resources related to Africana Studies.

### **Major Topics**

- I. Foundations of the discipline of Africana Studies
- II. Developmental initiatives of the discipline of Africana Studies
- III. The social construction of race and the relationship to ethnicity
- IV. Pre-colonial African history and culture
- V. African diasporic history and culture
- VI. African American history and culture
- VII. Black religion and spirituality
- VIII. Black sociology and psychology
- IX. Black labor, politics and economics
- X. The intersection of gender, race, and class

### **Course Requirements**

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member, but will include the following:

1. Multiple assignments will infuse CCBC's General Education Program and Diversity objectives; at least one assignment (5 pages, in length, to include original research and analysis) worth a minimum of 10% of the total course grade will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education Program outcomes.
2. A minimum of five one-page reaction papers
3. At least one 15 minute oral presentation
4. At least one exam (mid-term or final) with an essay component
5. A minimum of one group project

Class participation and group discussion is a vital component of the instruction of the course.

Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.

### **Other Course Information**

This course is an approved General Education course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences. This course is also an approved General Education Diversity course.

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