

## **Collection Metrics Report: African American Studies**

### **I. Program Overview**

African American Studies (AAS) is the oldest interdisciplinary program at Emory and has served as a model for other programs in the college. Established as a program in 1971 African American Studies has evolved over the years and gained departmental status in 2003. As a newly established department AAS has a set of core faculty with appointments solely in African American Studies or dual appointments with African American Studies and another department along with associate faculty with appointments in other departments. The core and associate faculty represent the following disciplines: anthropology, art, English, film studies, history, journalism, music, nursing, political science, religion, sociology, and theater. The department is especially strong in English with Frances Smith Foster, Mark Sanders, Larry Jackson, and Rudolph Byrd, to name a few. Delores Aldridge, the Grace Towns Hamilton Professor of Sociology and African American Studies, was the founder and first director of the program. Leslie Harris, a historian, is the current chair for the department. To date the department consists of 10 core faculty and 18 associate faculty, and 12 undergraduate minors. In 2007, the African American Studies Department will soon offer a graduate program.

### **Classes in African American Studies taught at Emory University**

#### Anthropology

AAS 190: Urban Ethnography in the U.S.

#### Art

AAS 270: African American Artists of the Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century

AAS 270: Arts of the Black Atlantic World

#### English

AAS 190: Becoming a Woman: First Person Accounts

AAS 270WR: Major Figures: The Fictions of Jean Toomer, Ernest Gaines, and Alice Walker

AAS 270: Caribbean Women Writers

AAS 270: Reading Alice Walker

AAS 271 WR: African American Literature to 1900

AAS 385 African American Literature Since 1900

#### History

AAS 100: Introduction to African American Studies

AAS 190: African-American Experience in Hollywood Film

AAS 270: Slavery in History and Culture

AAS 270SWR: Garvey and Garveyism

AAS 270S: Global African Experience

AAS 338: History of African Americans to 1865

AAS 339: History of African Americans Since 1865

### Journalism

AAS 270: African Americans in the Media  
AAS 385 African American Images in the Media

### Music

AAS 115: Jazz: It's Evolution and Essence  
AAS 270: Black Music: Culture, Commerce, and the Racial Imagination  
AAS 270: Black Music, Race, and Culture

### Nursing

AAS 260: Afro-centric Cultures and Human Delivery Systems

### Political Science

AAS 270: Race and Political Development  
AAS 270S: African Americans in Urban Policy  
AAS 346: African American Politics

### Religion

AAS 270SWR: Black Love  
AAS 270S: Religion and African American Political Life  
AAS 270: Religion and Black Culture  
AAS 320: African-American Religion  
AAS 326: Spiritual Dynamics of Afro-America

### Sociology

AAS 190: Dynamics of the Black Community  
AAS 247: Racial and Ethnic Relations  
AAS 270: Perspectives of African American Experience

## **II. Description of Material Collected**

In 1971, librarians at Woodruff Library published *Black Studies: a Selected Bibliography of Books in the Robert W. Woodruff Library for Advanced Studies*, this was the first bibliography published to assess if Woodruff Library was acquiring resources that could support a Black Studies program. A second bibliography followed in 1974, demonstrating the library's continued efforts to support Black Studies. After reviewing both bibliographies, and comparing it with the holdings available in EUCLID, there's no doubt that the collection continues to grow. Since 1971, the collection includes a wide variety of formats which include microfilm collections, newspapers, electronic databases, government documents and core journals for African American Studies. The Library of Congress subject classification listed below lists the areas currently covered in the collection but this is not a comprehensive list.

## Library of Congress Classification

### Religion

BR 563 .N4 Christianity (African Americans)

### History

D 639 .N4 African Americans in WW I  
D 810. 4 African Americans in WW II  
DS 557 African-Americans in the Vietnam Conflict  
DS 919 .N4 African Americans in the Korean War

### History of Americas

E 184.5- 185.98 African Americans  
E 441- 453 Slavery  
F 1392- 2349 Blacks in Latin and Spanish Area  
F 1601-2191 West Indies

### Folklore

GR 103 African-American Folklore

### Recreation & Leisure

GV 583 African-American Athletes

### Social Sciences

HT 1048-1152 Social Classes  
HT 1501-1595 Races

### Political Science

JK 169 Constitutional Amendments 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>  
JK 1923-1936 African American Suffrage  
JL 599.5 -839 British (Caribbean, West Indies)

### Education

LB 3062 Racial Segregation in Schools  
LC 2699-2913 Education of African Americans

### Music

M 1627 African-American Music, General  
ML 3531 Rap (Music)--History and criticism. (Popular Music)  
ML 3556 African-American Music, Musicians

### Fine Arts

N 6538 .N5 African American Art

### Language & Literature

PN 56 .B55 History of African Americans in Literature  
PN 841  
PS 153 .N4 History of African American Literature

### Bibliography

Z 1249 S6 Slavery---Bibliography  
Z 1361 .N39 African American Bibliography

## **Types of Material**

The African American Studies collection consist of multiple formats, this includes and not limited to monographs, serials (newspapers and periodicals), microfilm, audiovisual materials, government documents, electronic databases, theses and dissertations. All resources that are considered must support the curricula set forth by the African American Studies Department.

### **Monographs**

Monographs and serials are available in both print and electronic format which represents the largest part of the collection. Monographs are acquired based on an approval plan with Yankee Book Peddler which is monitored and maintained by an assigned the librarian. Monographs are also purchased based on recommendations from faculty, students and the librarian for African American Studies.

### **Serials & Audiovisual**

New serials are purchased after careful review primarily by the librarian and recommendations from African American Studies faculty with first priority given to the acquisition of core scholarly journals in the field of African American Studies. We currently have subscriptions to African American antebellum newspapers as well as current newspapers. Audiovisual materials which include DVD and some VHS are used heavily by African American Studies faculty for instruction.

### **Microfilm**

Although some collections of significant value to African American Studies are digitized or have an electronic counterpart, there is still a need to invest in microfilm collections if in fact no digital version of the collection is available for purchase. Microfilms are acquired based on research and teaching needs of faculty, students and recommendations from the librarian.

### **Government Publications & Electronic Databases**

Government publications are primarily purchased by the Government Documents librarian with some recommendation from the African American Studies librarian. Electronic databases that provide access to peer reviewed and general interest publications are reviewed by the African American Studies librarian. The librarian then sets up trial access so faculty and students can evaluate. A recommendation is made by the librarian and forwarded to the CMTAG (this group makes the final decision regarding databases).

## **Language**

English language resources are primarily acquired.

### **Chronological Limits**

The collection spans from twentieth century to present with some materials dating back to the eighteenth century. This does not include archival materials available in MARBL. Texts or resources of significant historical relevance are purchased to provide comprehensive coverage of various research areas related to African American Studies.

### **Geographical Limits**

Geographical coverage includes United States, Caribbean with some materials from North & Latin America.

### **Exclusions**

The Woodruff Library African American Studies circulating collection does not include manuscripts, rare books, or personal papers, these resources are part of Manuscript Archive & Rare Book Library. These materials are selected by the African American Studies Bibliographer, Randall Burkett. Textbooks, unpublished theses and dissertations and previously published materials are excluded with exceptions to be determined by the African American librarian.