

AFRICAN STUDIES JOINT HONOURS COMPONENT (B.A.) (36 CREDITS)

Offered by: Islamic Studies (Faculty of Arts)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Arts and Science

Program credit weight: 36

Program Description

The Joint Honours program in African Studies provides students with an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the African continent.

Students wishing to study at the Honours level in two disciplines can combine Joint Honours program components in any two Arts disciplines. For a list of available Joint Honours programs, see "Overview of Programs Offered" and "Joint Honours Programs". Joint Honours students should consult an adviser in each department to discuss their course selection and their interdisciplinary Honours thesis (if applicable). Joint Honours students are expected to maintain a program GPA of 3.30 and, according to Faculty regulations a minimum CGPA of 3.00 in general.

At least 9 of the 36 credits must be at the 400 level or above.

Degree Requirements — B.A. students

To be eligible for a B.A. degree, a student must fulfil all Faculty and program requirements as indicated in Degree Requirements for the Faculty of Arts.

We recommend that students consult an Arts OASIS advisor for degree planning.

Degree Requirements — B.A. & Sc. students

This program is offered as part of a Bachelor of Arts & Science (B.A. & Sc.) degree.

To graduate, students must satisfy both their program requirements and their degree requirements.

- The program requirements (i.e., the specific courses that make up this program) are listed under the Course Tab (above).
- The degree requirements—including the mandatory Foundation program, appropriate degree structure, and any additional components—are outlined on the Degree Requirements page.

Students are responsible for ensuring that this program fits within the overall structure of their degree and that all degree requirements are met. Consult the Degree Planning Guide on the SOUSA website for additional guidance.

Note: For information about Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 course offerings, please check back on May 8, 2025. Until then, the "Terms offered" field will appear blank for most courses while the class schedule is being finalized.

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Required Courses (9 credits)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
AFRI 200	Introduction to African Studies.	3
AFRI 480	Honours Thesis. ¹	3
AFRI 598	Research Seminar in African Studies.	3

¹ Honours Thesis course must be taken for the AFRI Joint Honours component. Students must meet the specific requirements regarding Thesis credits of their second program in addition to the AFRI 480 Honours Thesis. Honours Thesis.

Complementary Courses (27 credits)

Group A

9 credits from:

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
ANTH 322	Social Change in Modern Africa.	3
HIST 200	Introduction to African History.	3
HIST 201	Modern African History.	3
POLI 324	Comparative Politics of Africa.	3

Group B

18 credits from the Group B course lists below drawn from at least 3 disciplines with no more than 9 credits from any one discipline.

African Studies

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
AFRI 401	Swahili Language and Culture.	3
AFRI 481	Special Topics 1.	3
AFRI 499	Arts Internships: African Studies.	3

Anthropology

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
ANTH 212	Anthropology of Development.	3
ANTH 222	Legal Anthropology.	3
ANTH 322	Social Change in Modern Africa.	3
ANTH 355	Theories of Culture and Society.	3
ANTH 411	Primate Studies and Conservation.	3
ANTH 416	Environment/Development: Africa.	3
ANTH 451	Research in Society and Development in Africa.	3

Economics

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
ECON 208	Microeconomic Analysis and Applications.	3
ECON 313	Economic Development 1.	3
ECON 314	Economic Development 2.	3

English

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 320	Postcolonial Literature. ¹	3
ENGL 352	Theories of Difference. ¹	3
ENGL 421	African Literature.	3

¹ Note: Course is counted only when African materials are taught.

Geography

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
GEOG 216	Geography of the World Economy.	3
GEOG 302	Environmental Management 1.	3
GEOG 403	Global Health and Environmental Change.	3
GEOG 404	Environmental Management 2. ¹	3
GEOG 408	Geography of Development.	3
GEOG 410	Geography of Underdevelopment: Current Problems.	3
GEOG 416	Africa South of the Sahara. ¹	3
GEOG 423	Dilemmas of Development. ¹	3
GEOG 451	Research in Society and Development in Africa. ¹	3
GEOG 493	Health and Environment in Africa. ¹	3

¹ Note: Normally offered as field courses (in African Studies Field Semester)

History

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
HIST 200	Introduction to African History.	3
HIST 201	Modern African History.	3
HIST 382	History of South Africa.	3
HIST 498	Independent Research.	3
HIST 528	Indian Ocean World Slave Trade.	3

Islamic Studies

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Course	Title	Credits
ISLA 221D1	Introductory Arabic.	4.5
ISLA 221D2	Introductory Arabic.	4.5
ISLA 360	Islam and Politics in Africa	3
ISLA 410	History: Middle-East 1798-1918.	3

Political Science

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
POLI 227	Introduction to Comparative Politics - Global South.	3
POLI 324	Comparative Politics of Africa. ¹	3
POLI 522	Seminar: Comparative Politics 1.	3

¹ Note: Course is counted only when African materials are taught. Admission to this course will be subject to the Political Science departmental requirements and approval of the Departmental Honours Adviser. Priority will be given to Political Science students.

Sociology

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
SOCI 365	Health and Development.	3
SOCI 370	Sociology: Gender and Development.	3
SOCI 446	Colonialism and Society.	3
SOCI 484	Emerging Democratic States.	3
SOCI 513	Social Aspects HIV/AIDS in Africa.	3
SOCI 550	Developing Societies.	3