Black Studies (BL_STU)

**BL_STU 1335: Introduction to Soul and Country**  
(same as MUSIC_NM 1335). Examination of musical cultures signified by "soul" and "country". Study of the evolution and aesthetics of these genres and how they deal with concepts like identity, class, race, and ethnicity; gender and sexuality; politics and patriotism.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 1410: African American History**  
(same as HIST 1410). Survey of social, political and economic development to the African American people in American life from 1619 to the present.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 1705: Introduction to Black Studies in Culture**  
Introduction to the concepts, terms, themes, and practices in the study of the African diaspora cultures, through readings in literature, music, and the arts that demonstrate concepts, terms, themes, and practices. Recommended for prospective Black Studies Majors. Program consent for repetition.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 1720: African-American Theatre History**  
(same as THEATR 1720). A historical and critical analysis of the evolution of African American cultural performance in the American theatre and entertainment industry.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 1790: History of Early Africa**  
(same as HIST 1790). This course introduces students to the early history of Africa. It focuses on political, social, economic and cultural developments based on primary and secondary sources available in print and online.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 1800: History of Modern Africa**  
(same as HIST 1800). This course introduces students to the recent history of Africa. It provides them with an opportunity to understand the main challenges Africans faced since colonial times based on primary and secondary sources.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 2000: Black Studies**  
An interdisciplinary introduction to the basic concepts and literature in the disciplines covered by African-American studies. The role of historical, political, social, and economic forces in shaping cultural expression will be stressed.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 2003: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies-Behavioral Science**  
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with program consent.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 2003W: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies-Behavioral Science - Writing Intensive**  
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with program consent.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 2004: Topics in Black Studies-Social Science**  
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with departmental consent.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 2005: Topics in Black Studies - Humanities**  
Organized study of selected topics focusing on Black history and culture. Specific content may vary from semester to semester and will be announced in advance.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 2200: Social Inequalities**  
(same as SOCIOL 2200). Survey of inequalities based upon criteria such as race, ethnicity, sex, age, religion and social class in contemporary societies. Focus on dynamics by which privilege and inequality are structured.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 2210: The Black Americans**  
(same as SOCIOL 2210.) Analysis of history of blacks in the United States. Assessment of contemporary black community in terms of its institutions, style of life, patterns of work and intergroup relations.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** SOCIOL 1000 or equivalent or instructor's consent

**BL_STU 2303: Studies in Black Relationships**  
This course examines constructions of Black American coupling and therefore, gender, race, sexuality, and class in the 20th and 21st centuries. Blackness has been and continues to be reconstructed via marriage, dating, and other forms of coupling. Emphasis will be placed on the role of socialization, institutions, mass media, myth, and individual and group practices. Students will have the opportunity to explore their own socialization and personal construction through assigned readings, self-reflection, experiential activities, and small group presentations.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 2400: Introduction to African Diaspora Literature**  
(same as ENGLSH 2400). Introduces students to African Diaspora literature with an emphasis on literature written originally in English. No
more than six hours may be taken in the Introduction to African Diaspora Literature series.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Recommended:** ENGLSH 1000

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**BL_STU 2409: Introduction to African Diaspora Literature, 1890-Present**  
(same as ENGLISH 2409). See BL_STU 2400 for course description.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

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**BL_STU 2410: African American Women in History**  
(same as HIST 2410 and WGST 2410). African American Women in history is a topics course covering major issues affecting black women since their introduction into English-speaking North America to the present.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

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**BL_STU 2425: Race and the American Story**  
(same as POL_SC 2425, CNST_DEM 2425). This course represents a collaboration between the University of Missouri’s Department of Black Studies and the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy. Building upon the existing Citizenship@Mizzou program, the course aims to carry forward the goals of the Citizenship program and to further solidify and magnify its impact on campus. In so doing, the course will also serve as a model for improving diversity education on campuses across the country and contribute to a more informed and unified national culture. The core syllabus will consist in readings that tell the story of the confrontation between American political principles and the practice of racial injustice throughout our history. Students will read and discuss the Declaration of Independence, the slavery clauses in the Constitution, the poetry of Phillis Wheatley, and the speeches of Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King, Jr., among others. They will achieve a greater understanding of how diversity relates to humanity, and will learn to dialogue productively and civilly with others who may not share their background or opinions.  
**Credit Hour:** 1

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**BL_STU 2409: Introduction to African Diaspora Literature, 1890-Present**

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**BL_STU 2904: Black Studies in Slavery and Freedom**  
(same as HIST 2904). This course provides study of historical background, economic, political and social implications of slavery and freedom in the African Diaspora (Americas, Africa, Europe, Asia) as well as the legal and extralegal struggles for and meaning of (global, local, and national) freedom.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

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**BL_STU 2940: African Religions**  
(same as REL_ST 2940). This course will serve as an introduction to various forms of religiosity in sub-Saharan Africa. Greater emphasis will be devoted to the indigenous religious traditions of the continent, but we will also examine Christianity and Islam as they are practiced on the continent. The aim of this class is to help students to better understand various aspects of African cultures by dismantling stereotypes and assumptions that have long characterized the study of religions in Africa. The readings and lectures will be drawn from historical, anthropological, sociological, and literary sources. Graded on A-F basis only.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

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**BL_STU 2975: Theoretical Traditions in Blacks Studies - Culture**  
This course provides a broad understanding of the diverse theoretical traditions within the field of Black Studies, through a comparative examination of concepts, developments, and debates in humanities, including literature, languages, and music. Course graded on A-F basis only.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

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**BL_STU 3001: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies - General**  
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with program consent.  
**Credit Hours:** 3

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**BL_STU 3003: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies - Behavioral Sciences**  
Organized study of selected topics focusing on Black history, culture, or other relevant disciplines. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with program consent.  
**Credit Hour:** 1-3

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**BL_STU 3004: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies - Social Science**  
Organized study of selected topics focusing on Black history, culture, or other relevant disciplines. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with program consent.
BL_STU 3004W: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies - Social Science - Writing Intensive
Organized study of selected topics focusing on Black history, culture, or other relevant disciplines. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with program consent.
Credit Hours: 1-3

BL_STU 3005: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies - Humanities
Organized study of selected topics focusing on Black history, culture, or other relevant disciplines. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to six credit hours with program consent.
Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3100: African American Psychology
(same as ESC_PS 3100 and PSYCH 3880). The research, theories, and paradigms developed to understand the attitudes, behaviors, and psychosocial realities of African-Americans are discussed.
Credit Hours: 3
Recommended: PSYCH 1000

(same as HIST 3200). Examines the dismantling of American apartheid and its transformation into a new racial control system. It also explores how and why the Civil Rights Movement was converted into a struggle for Black Power.
Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3230: Studies in Black Sexual Politics
Course explores Black transnational politics of sex/sexuality and examines the theoretical, historical, and socio-cultural context that race, gender, and sexuality are used as analytical concepts. Students learn a transdisciplinary approach and apply this newly acquired information to analyze shifts in the field of Black sexuality studies. May be repeated for credit.
Credit Hours: 3
Recommended: sophomore standing required

BL_STU 3303: Black Athletes
This course examines Black Athletes in the 20th and 21st centuries. Emphasis will be placed on how Blacks entered competitive athletics and the role of racism and power, socialization, institutions, mass media, myth, and individual and group practices. Students will have the opportunity to explore their own socialization and personal construction through assigned readings, self-reflection, experiential activities, and small group presentations.
Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3400: Survey of African American Literature, Beginnings to 1900
(same as ENGLSH 3400). A survey of major authors and movements in African American literature from its beginnings to 1900.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: ENGLSH 1000

BL_STU 3400W: Survey of African American Literature, Beginnings to 1900 - Writing Intensive
(same as ENGLSH 3400). A survey of major authors and movements in African American literature from its beginnings to 1900.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: ENGLSH 1000

BL_STU 3410: Survey of African American Literature, 1900-Present
(same as ENGLSH 3410). A survey of major authors and movements in African American literature from 1900 to the present.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: ENGLSH 1000

BL_STU 3605: The History of Blacks in Germany
(same as GERMAN 3605). This course investigates the history of Africans and African Americans in Germany and Central Europe, from Antiquity to today. Special focus on Medieval Africans in Europe, travelling African American intellectuals around 1900, and African American GIs in occupied Germany. This course will challenge your understanding of race and racism.
Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3624: Comparative Approaches to Black Studies in History
(same as HIST 3624). Comparative approach to the study of Black Diaspora history that focuses on the theory, method, structure, and application of modes of cultural production within the history of Black Diaspora cultures. Recommended for students with an interest in Black Studies or majors in the Humanities field. Program consent for repetition.
Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3624W: Comparative Approaches to Black Studies in History - Writing Intensive
(same as HIST 3624). Comparative approach to the study of Black Diaspora history that focuses on the theory, method, structure, and application of modes of cultural production within the history of Black Diaspora cultures. Recommended for students with an interest in Black Studies or majors in the Humanities field. Program consent for repetition.
Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3703: Themes in Black Society
Examines various themes, issues, and perspectives in political science, psychology, sociology, and other related disciplines related to social and historical institutions in the U.S., Africa, and the African Diaspora. Recommended for Black Studies or Behavioral Science Majors. Program consent for repetition.
Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3705: Themes in Black Culture
Examines various themes, issues and perspective in literature, music, the arts, and other related disciplines related to social and historical institutions

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3804: Resistance in the Black Atlantic
Enslaved black people resisted slavery in the Americas in a variety of ways. From everyday forms of resistance to the planning of revolts, enslaved people displayed an unwillingness to yield to slavery, assertions of their freedom built on political, philosophical, and economic concepts about society and the rights of human beings. Resistance in what is known as the black Atlantic can be divided into nonviolent and violent forms, but within each of these categories were scores of activities validating the claim that the enslaved never accepted slavery or lost their sense of freedom as human beings. By focusing on nonviolent, violent, everyday and periodic forms of resistance, this course examines how the agency of the enslaved served as a foundation for the culture of freedom in the Americas. Resistance is used to explore the influence of blacks on the historical evolution of the Americas, and the overall aim of this course is to give students an understanding of black resistance as one of the most important sources of the progress of the Atlantic world.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3805: Hip-Hop: Global Music and Culture
Hip-Hop has captured the minds of youth worldwide, spawning themes, trends, attitudes, and behaviors that are similar to but distinct from the manifestation of hip-hop in the US. This course is designed as an intellectual excursion to explore the US and global creation and consumption of hip-hop through the lens of cultural studies. The class will study processes of imitation, appropriation, translation, and customization and their impact on themes of gender, hegemony, commercialism, sexuality, race, and identity.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 3977: Black Studies Methodologies
Advanced research, writing, and application of knowledge and critical paradigms in Black Studies, through study of such topics as slavery, colonialism, urbanization and migration, environment, gender, race, identity, intellectual movements, cultural studies and popular culture. Graded on A-F basis only.

Credit Hours: 3
Recommended: BL_STU 2975

BL_STU 4001: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies-General
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects and credit may vary from semester to semester. Program consent required for repetition.

Credit Hour: 1-3
Prerequisites: junior standing

BL_STU 4001W: Undergraduate Topics in Black Studies-General - Writing Intensive
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects and credit may vary from semester to semester. Program consent required for repetition.

Credit Hour: 1-3
Prerequisites: junior standing

BL_STU 4003: Topics in Black Studies-Behavioral Science
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with departmental consent.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4004: Topics in Black Studies-Social Science
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with departmental consent.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4005: Topics in Black Studies-Humanities
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects, specific content, and credits may vary from semester to semester. Repeatable up to 6 hours with departmental consent.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4020: Studies in Black Feminist Thought
(same as WGST 4020; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7020, WGST 7020). Examines recent problems and critical debates within black feminist theory.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: WGST 2020

BL_STU 4040: Slavery and the Crisis of the Union: The American Civil War Era
(same as HIST 4040). This class explores the history of the Civil War era, a transformative moment in both U.S. and world history. Our goal is to explore and answer a number of questions of great historical significance: How and why did slavery persist in an age of liberal democracy? Why did the pre-war Union prove unable to tolerate the plural visions and diverse institutions of its people? Was the descent into war more a measure of institutional weakness than of the intensity of moral conflict? What were the constituent elements of the competing wartime ‘nationalisms’ that evolved in both north and south? How and why did a war that began to restore the Union become one for emancipation? How was it the forerunner of modern, ‘total’ warfare? Did the governmental, socio-economic and racial changes wrought by war constitute a ‘second American revolution’? Were the limits or the achievements of post-war Reconstruction more notable? And, last but certainly not least, how did the triumph of the Union condition the political and economic development of a rapidly globalizing world?

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4130: African-American Politics
(same as POL_SC 4130). Surveys political participation of African-Americans in American politics. Analyzes their public lives in the context of elections, behavior of political organizations, social movements, parties, and level of government.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4210: African-American Religion
(same as REL_ST 4210). Examines the organization of major African American Christian denominations, Islam and religious movements.
Twentieth century issues will be discussed, including sexism, classism and homophobia in church communities.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** junior standing

**BL_STU 4230: Women, Development, and Globalization**  
(same as SOCIOL 4230, WGST 4230, PEA_ST 4230; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7230, SOCIOL 7230, WGST 7230). Examines the history and structure of "development" discourse and practices. Stresses the interconnections and impact on women globally. Reviews women's strategies in defining and instituting programs to improve quality of life in communities.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** BL_STU 1332, BL_STU 2200; SOCIOL 2200, WGST 1332 or WGST 2010

**BL_STU 4270: African-Americans in the Twentieth Century**  
(same as HIST 4270; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7270, HIST 7270). Surveys the African-American experience from 1900 to the present. Attention is given to economic, political, social, and cultural trends.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 4300: The Black Family: Past, Present & Future**  
(same as H_D_FS 4300; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7300, H_D_FS 7300). Emphasis is on the unique social, economic, religious, educational and political environments that have affected the structure and function of the black family.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** junior standing

**BL_STU 4303: Race, Class, Gender and U.S. Social Policy**  
Examines the causes and effects of the vast social and economic inequalities that exist between blacks and whites in US society, including the role federal, state and local government plays in creating and addressing these inequalities.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 4335: The Wire: Race, Urban Inequality, and the "Crisis" of the American City**  
(same as HIST 4335; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7335, HIST 7235). The HBO series "The Wire", a crime drama based on the border city of Baltimore, exposed the interlocking, structural realities giving shape to the landscapes, neighborhoods, and lived experiences of urban America during the early twenty-first century. Through vivid storytelling, "The Wire" complicates understandings of the "urban crisis" through a focus on the inner workings of major institutions such as the media, public schools, politics, underground economies, public housing, and the criminal justice system and on the ways in which poor and working-class black residents negotiate power and survival. Using the cable series as a lens, this class offers students the opportunity to critically examine the historical, economic, social, and political dimensions of urban inequality.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 4352: Historical Studies in African Music**  
(same as MUS_H_LI 4352). Ethnomusicological introduction to the music and culture of countries and ethnic groups in Africa. Traditional and contemporary popular styles are explored, and influences of Islamic invasions, missionary arrivals, colonial conquests, neo-colonial trends, and globalization.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** Open to upper-level undergraduate students with instructor's consent

**BL_STU 4400: Studies in African Diaspora Literature**  
(same as ENGLISH 4400; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7400, ENGLISH 7400). Topics (e.g., African American Poetry, African Diaspora Drama) announced at time of registration. No more than six hours may be taken in the Studies in African Diaspora Literature series.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Recommended:** junior standing

**BL_STU 4415: African Americans and American Justice**  
(same as HIST 4415; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7415, HIST 7415). This course provides opportunities to review and discuss selected court cases and legislation in which black men, women, or children were plaintiffs and defendants or affected by the laws.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** senior standing required

**BL_STU 4415W: African Americans and American Justice - Writing Intensive**  
(same as HIST 4415; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7415, HIST 7415). This course provides opportunities to review and discuss selected court cases and legislation in which black men, women, or children were plaintiffs and defendants or affected by the laws.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** senior standing required

**BL_STU 4420: Africana Womanism**  
(same as ENGLISH 4420; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7420, ENGLISH 7420). An intensive study of Africana Womanism, focusing on selected Africana women writers. May be repeated to six hours with departmental consent.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Recommended:** junior standing

**BL_STU 4488: Major African Diaspora Women Writers, 1789 to 1890**  
(same as WGST 4488, ENGLISH 4488; cross-leveled with BL_STU 7488, WGST 7488, ENGLISH 7488). See BL_STU 4480 for course description.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**BL_STU 4500: Special Problems in Black Studies**  
Independent project or paper, not leading to dissertation.

**Credit Hour:** 1-99  
**Prerequisites:** instructor's consent
BL_STU 4640: African Politics
(same as POL_SC 4640). A general comparative course focusing on post-independent Africa. Theories and concepts related to decolonization, nationalism, democratization, and ethnicity; also institutional forms and organizations: political parties, parliaments, and executives.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4710: Themes in African Diaspora Folklore
(same as ANTHRO 4160 and ENGLSH 4710.) Intensive study in a selected area of African Diaspora Folklore: folk narrative, folk song, myth, proverb, etc., folklore and literature, or the folklore of a particular group. 4710 may be repeated for a maximum of six hours with instructor's consent.

Credit Hours: 3
Recommended: junior standing

BL_STU 4804: Historical Studies of Black Women
This course offers a comprehensive examination of the origins, developments, and productions of the specified time period with emphases on black women as creative artists, activists, performers, musicians, and writers.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4877: Black Studies: Study Abroad-Social Science
This interdisciplinary study abroad course provides students with global experience within the African Diaspora, the opportunity to study in a foreign culture and augment their “global competencies” and support their study and/or career development. Graded A-F basis only.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4904: Historical and Contemporary Slavery
(same as HIST 4904). An exploration of slavery in both its historical and contemporary context, focusing on the origins, characteristics, and struggles to abolish the practice. Historical slavery examined using African enslavement in the Americas, and contemporary slavery using human trafficking and forced labor in the developed and developing world.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 4977: Black Studies Capstone
This course is designed to permit students to integrate general and specialized knowledge within the three Black Studies tracks (History, Society, Culture) using an interdisciplinary approach. Topics vary according to instructor and core discipline. Graded on A-F basis only.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Junior standing

BL_STU 7020: Studies in Black Feminist Thought
(same as WGST 7020; cross-leveled with BL_STU 4020 and WGST 4020). Examines recent problems and critical debates within black feminist theory.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 7300: The Black Family: Past, Present & Future
(same as H_D_FS 7300). Emphasis is on the unique social, economic, religious, educational and political environments that have affected the structure and function of the black family.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 7335: The Wire: Race, Urban Inequality, and the "Crisis" of the American City
(same as HIST 7235; cross-leveled with HIST 4235, BL_STU 4335). The HBO series "The Wire", a crime drama based on the border city of Baltimore, exposed the interlocking, structural realities giving shape to the landscapes, neighborhoods, and lived experiences of urban America during the early twenty-first century. Through vivid storytelling, "The Wire" complicates understandings of the "urban crisis" through a focus on the inner workings of major institutions such as the media, public schools, politics, underground economies, public housing, and the criminal justice system and on the ways in which poor and working-class black residents negotiate power and survival. Using the cable series as a lens, this class offers students the opportunity to critically examine the historical, economic, social, and political dimensions of urban inequality.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 7420: Africana Womanism
(same as ENGLSH 7420). An intensive study of Africana Womanism, focusing on selected Africana women writers. May be repeated to six hours with departmental consent.

Credit Hours: 3

BL_STU 8000: Independent Readings in Black Studies
Readings on selected topics in Black Studies, with emphasis on the implications of the interdisciplinary and intersecting areas of History, Society, and Culture. May be repeated to a maximum of six hours.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Department Consent Required

BL_STU 8510: Ecology, Conservation, and Environmental Justice
(same as F_W 8510). The goal of this course is to introduce graduate students in natural resource management and conservation biology to the ecological and management concepts that underlie environmental justice issues, and to explain how broader environmental justice concepts are relevant to natural resource and conservation fields. Graded on A-F basis only. Prerequisites: One undergraduate course from the following list of disciplines: ecology, natural resource management, conservation biology, sociology or equivalent.

Credit Hours: 2

BL_STU 8901: Graduate Topics in Black Studies
Graduate seminar arranged by topics or themes related to Black Studies. Graded on A-F basis only.

Credit Hours: 3