

The Mission

Our program is committed to promoting and encouraging scholarship that challenges multiple forms of oppression within the U.S. and globally. The program engages in activities that encourage students to critically think of knowledge production and to arm them with the necessary tools to critique such production.

Our program offers a strong grounding in the African-American community's past and present. We study the unique cultures, collective experiences, and connections within the African Diaspora so that students gain a better understanding of American society and the world we live in. In addition to the academic benefits of obtaining the minor, students enjoy the extra-curricular experiences, such as movie series, guest speakers, and an array of community activities.

Upon graduation, students receive Kente stoles to mark their achievement.

CONTACT

Phone: 401.865.1082

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Location: Howley Hall 119

Dr. Zophia Edwards, Program

Director: zedwards@providence.edu

CONNECT

black-studies.providence.edu

Instagram: [@blackstudies_pc](https://www.instagram.com/blackstudies_pc)

Facebook: [/PCBlackStudies](https://www.facebook.com/PCBlackStudies)

Twitter: [@BlackStudies_PC](https://twitter.com/BlackStudies_PC)

Community Space: Howley Hall 314



The Black Studies Program

Joint-Appointed Faculty

Zophia Edwards, Ph.D.
(Sociology/Black Studies), Program
Director

Rahsaan Mahadeo, Ph.D.
(Sociology/Black Studies)

Aishah Scott, Ph.D.
(Health Policy and Management/Black
Studies)

Ashley Smith-Purviance, Ph.D. (Public
and Community Service Studies/Black
Studies)

Eva Michelle Wheeler, Ph.D.
(Foreign Language Studies/Black
Studies)

Affiliated Faculty

Anthony Affigne, Ph.D.

Comfort Ateh, Ph.D.

Patrick Breen, Ph.D.

Christopher Chambers, Ph.D.

Matthew Dowling, Ph.D.

Michael Hayes, Ph.D.

Eric Hirsch, Ph.D.

Alyssa Lopez, Ph.D.

Eric Melley, D.M.A.

Carmen Rolón, Ed.D.

Tuire Valkeakari, Ph.D.

Eve Veliz-Moran, Ph.D.

Trina Vithayathil, Ph.D.

Special Lectures

Danny Kyei-Poakwa, Ph.D.

Justin Lester, D.Min.

Akeem Loyd, M.Ed.

Tryon Woods, Ph.D.

Required Course

BLS 101 – Intro to Black Studies

**Elective Courses*: Students must take 5
electives, of which, 3 must be from each
thematic area.**

->Thematic Area: Culture, Language,
Literature and the Arts

BLS 122 – Black Cinema

BLS 213 –The African-American Artist

BLS 225 – The African World View

BLS 227 – History of Jazz

BLS 265 – 20th Century African-
American Literature

BLS 371 – Global and Postcolonial
Literature

BLS 376 – Toni Morrison

BLS 470 – T.H.U.G.L.I.F.E.

BLS 470 – Afro-Latinidad

BLS 470 – Black Girl Magic

-> Thematic Area: Social & Structural
Analysis

BLS 211 – Urban Education

BLS 230 – Faith and Spirit in the Black
Family and Community

BLS 280 – Violence Against Women

BLS 303 – Urban Politics in the U.S.

BLS 304 – Social Movements

BLS 305 – Race and Racism

BLS 307 – Urban Sociology

BLS 311 – Equity Issues in Education

BLS 348 – American Political Theory

BLS 355 – Comparative Race and
Inequality

BLS 401 – Political Economy of Race

BLS 413 – The Power of Whiteness

BLS 416 – Race & Politics in the Americas

BLS 425 – African-American Women

BLS 444 – The Global Food System

BLS 470 – AIDS, Race & Gender In the
Black Community

BLS 470 – Race and Punishment

BLS 470 – Inequality in the U.S.

BLS 470 – Race, Class, and Gender:
Inequalities and Intersections

BLS 470 – Black Feminisms

-> Thematic Area: Historical Inquiry

BLS 207 – African American History 1619
to Present

BLS 225 – The African World View

BLS 304 – Social Movements

BLS 344 – History of Africa Since 1850

BLS 425 – African-American Women

BLS 470 – Racial Capitalism

BLS 470 – Global Migration

*Students may pursue other Special
Topics.