

# AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES, BA

## ADVISING AND CAREERS

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#### DECLARE OR CANCEL THIS MAJOR

Please follow the process described on the African Cultural Studies website. (<https://african.wisc.edu/undergraduate-program/>)

#### ADVISING

If you like to plan, seeing your major advisor is very important; it can make the difference between fitting in *Contemporary Arabic Literature and Culture* and *South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission* before you graduate. Many students also try to complete more than one major or certificate, and discussing how you might be able to reach this goal is another primary role of your major advisor. Advisors can speak to you about course content, which courses fit best with your interest areas, and what kinds of courses might work best with your learning style. Any and all of these discussions can occur during your advising appointment.

In addition to discussing the major, advisors also know a lot about:

- General Education requirements
- Breadth requirements
- Interpreting university policies and deadlines
- Connecting majors to careers
- Getting involved with campus organizations
- Finding volunteer and/or internship opportunities
- Talking about your academic challenges and difficulties
- Connecting with tutors
- Picking a study abroad program
- Practicing for interviews
- Talking about graduate school
- Proofreading résumés and cover letters

#### CAREERS

Humanities majors develop a wide variety of skills and talents, so they're prepared for just about any type of career or educational pursuit. Our coursework builds the critical thinking and communication skills needed to succeed in careers ranging from politics and education to business and law.

One of the more significant skills African Cultural Studies students develop is language acquisition. We offer a number of funding opportunities (<https://languages.wisc.edu/scholarships/>) to support language study, small class sizes with more opportunity for participation and cultural exchange, unique study abroad and international internship experiences, and instructors who are primarily native speakers with a keen interest in teaching. Plus, UW–Madison ranks #1 in the nation for students earning a bachelor's degree in language other than English!

In addition to the valuable language training and cultural competence an African Cultural Studies major gives you, consider what you learn in the

classroom as well as what you do each day to be a successful student. The skills you develop are equally important in the workplace:

- critical reading, reflection, and analysis
- expanded world view and exposure to new ideas/ways of thinking
- effective teamwork to advance a common project/purpose
- effective time-management and self-motivation to complete projects independently
- demonstrated writing proficiency in short and long essay format
- discussion and debate strategies
- proper research design and methodology
- broader knowledge of career and graduate-study options

Count on being well-prepared for an exciting and rewarding career!

Visit our website (<https://african.wisc.edu/undergraduate-program/career-and-skill-development/>) for more information.

#### SUCCESSWORKS

SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps you turn the academic skills learned in your classes into a fulfilling life, guiding you every step of the way to securing jobs, internships, or admission to graduate school.

Through one-on-one career advising, events, and resources, you can explore career options, build valuable internship and research experience, and connect with supportive alumni and employers who open doors of opportunity.

- What you can do with your major (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/what-you-can-do-with-your-major/>) (Major Skills & Outcomes Sheets)
- Make a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)
- Try "Jobs, Internships, & How to Get Them," (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/canvas/>) an interactive guide in Canvas for enrolled UW–Madison students