Mission Statement

The Africana Studies Programs provides courses, a minor and programming for undergraduates in CAS/BA and SPCS at Saint Peter’s College. The interdisciplinary program allows students to focus on areas that complement and augment their major fields of study, as well as expanding the horizons of their academic interests. Africana Studies, through courses and programs, explores the interconnected historical, cultural, artistic and political forces of African-American, African and Caribbean peoples. It encourages students of all ethnicities to think critically about the interplay of race in the lives of individuals, institutions, and societies. We seek to enhance students' awareness of and commitment to issues of social justice and community service.

Goals within the Africana Studies Program

A. Provide students from all majors with instruction in college level courses that familiarize them with the multiple forces that relate to, and emerge from, the African-American, Afro-Latino, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.
B. Provide students with programming that familiarize them with the multiple forces that relate to, and emerge from, the African-American, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.
C. Develop with multiple departments and programs a greater depth to our classes and programming.
D. Develop with student organizations common programming to celebrate similarities and differences with the African-American, Afro-Latino, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.
E. Foster with multiple offices common programming to celebrate similarities and differences with the African-American, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.

Relationship of Department Mission and Goals to those of the College

The Africana Studies Program Mission and Goals are harmonious with the College’s Mission states we are to educate a diverse community of learners in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs to excel intellectually, lead ethically, serve compassionately and promote justice in our ever-changing urban and global environment. Our evolving curriculum, programming and coalition building all serve to meet these goals.
Program Objectives in Accordance with Its Goals

Goal A – Provide students from all majors with instruction in college level courses that familiarize them with the multiple forces that relate to, and emerge from, the African-American, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.

**Objective**

Students will achieve a greater understanding of the underlying complexities of the African-American, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.

Goal B - Provide students with programming that familiarize them with the multiple forces that relate to, and emerge from, the African-American, Afro-Latino, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.

Students achieve a greater understanding of the underlying complexities of the African-American, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.

Goal C - Develop with multiple departments and programs a greater depth to our classes and programming.

**Objectives**

1. Demonstrate that departments and programs share resources and exchanges perspectives to broaden and add depth to each other’s offerings.
2. Students will achieve a richer education based on these collaborative efforts.

Goal D - Develop with student groups common programming to celebrate similarities and differences with the African-American, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.

**Objectives**

Students will:
1. Demonstrate a cooperative spirit where they are comfortable working with one another to embrace who they represent
2. Demonstrate a comfort level to explore issues which at times are avoided.
3. Demonstrated that limited resources can be maximized by collective activities.

Goal E - Foster with multiple offices common programming to celebrate similarities and differences among the African-American, African and Caribbean people’s experiences.

1. Demonstrate that numerous offices can work collectively to further the knowledge of common issues
2. Demonstrated that limited resources can be maximized by collective activities.
Curriculum, Requirements, Pedagogy and Philosophy

As with other minors/programs (Women’s Studies and Latin American/Latino Studies when it was just a minor) Africana Studies is intentionally not housed in any department. The philosophy, shared by the directors of Africana Studies, Latin American/Latino Studies, Women’s Studies and Social Justice, behind this is that by becoming a part of any department, these minors/programs would lose much of their interdisciplinary nature. Also, while these minors have a curriculum that must be completed to earn the minor, they also provide programming that cuts across disciplines. In addition, the minors/programs have more flexibility when it is time for a new program director to take over if they are not housed in a department. Perhaps most important, if a number of entities such as Africana Studies, Women Studies and Latin American/Latino Studies were placed under a single umbrella such as a Multicultural Studies major or minor, each would lose its unique contribution – one size does not fit.

To earn a minor in African Studies, which is open to all majors, students must complete a minimum of 18 credits in approved courses. All students must complete the following courses:

As 177 Introduction to Africana Studies

This course offers an introduction to the field of Africana Studies. It includes the theoretical foundations for this discipline as well as an historical exploration of forces leading to emergence of artistic, music, poetry and social movements.

As 490 Seminar in Africana Studies

This capstone course will provide students with the opportunity to synthesis their previous 15 credits, as well as materials from other courses, into a senior thesis research project on a topic developed with the students and the program director.
In addition to these six credits, students must take an additional 12 credits selected from a variety of options. Below is a sample of these course offerings; however, through the work of an Advisory Council of students, faculty and administrators, more options are constantly added and others removed.

Ar 231 Egyptian Art  
Ar 240 Cultural Diversity in Art  
Ar 499 Egypt: Art, History, Religion (Travel Course)  
As 360 Contemporary Issues Facing People of the African Diaspora  
Ec 452 Economic Development  
Ed 428 Literature, Culture and Social Issues of West Africa  
El 322 The Black Novel  
Hs 273 The Islamic World  
Hs 327 A History of Jesuits  
Hs 347 The Modern Near East  
Ls 101 Introduction to Latin American Studies  
Ls 351 Issues in the Latino Community  
Po 410 Nationalism and Revolution  
Po 420 Comparative Politics: Middle East and North Africa  
Po 424 Government & Politics in Africa  
SJ 130 Introduction to Non-Violence  
SJ 325 Violence and Social Change  
So 224 Black Hair and Identity in America  
So 245 Haitians in America  
So 246 Haitians in America  
So 352 Minority Group Relations  
Ur 202 Urban Music: From Jazz to Hip-Hop  
Ur 333 Black Community and the Law  
Ur 412 Ethnicity and Race in Urban History

The Africana Studies Program does more than offer a minor and classes. It also has become one of the driving forces on campus to create more diverse programming. Working with other minors, clubs and offices, Africana Studies offered a record number of programs during the 2010-2011 AY – see attached.

The Africana Studies Program has an informal Advisory Council consisting of faculty, administrators, staff and students that help shape the direction of both minor and the programming. The primary purpose of this council is to ensure that the Program continually is evolving. An area which has produced a great deal of thought is several joint presentations and publications by faculty on our community based research and pedagogical efforts. This not only provides time to reflect but also allows us to examine our shortcomings.

Assessment Measures: Methods and Timelines:

The successes and opportunities for improvement, of these efforts are covered in our Implementation Plans.

- The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director, continues to yearly review and revise our curriculum in the context of our goals and assessment

- The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director, continues to yearly review and revises department requirements in the context of our goals and standards.
• The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director, will meet bi-monthly to discuss and share our curriculum and programming successes and failures.

• The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director, will annually analyze student works, individual and collective, to reflect on what we are doing well and areas we need to improve upon.

• The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director, will monitor the number of declared students for the minor.

• The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director, as well as the number taking these courses.

• The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director, will examine the diversity of the students who take the courses, declare the minor and attend the events.

• The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director will annually survey minors who are seniors and eventually our graduates on a five year cycle paralleling the survey for the majors.

• The Program’s Advisory Council, under the guidance of the director and with various clubs and offices will evaluate the various programs held in terms of attendance, who is attending and relationship to the college’s and program’s mission. These programs are now evaluated via survey monkey.

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<th>Goal</th>
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<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
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