



# African African-American Studies

# NEWSLETTER

African/ African-American Studies

Eastern Kentucky University

Volume 1, Number 2, Spring 2017  
ISSN: 2474-5375



# CELEBRATE WITH AFA





## *From the Editor,*

It is with great pleasure that I present to the EKU community the Spring 2017 edition of the African and African-American Studies newsletter. Within the contents of this publication, you will find news and information about AFA's busy Spring semester, which featured a round-table discussion with EKU's black administrators, entitled "There is Room for You! Maximizing Opportunities for Blacks in Higher Education." The AFA Colloquium Series remained a popular event on campus. This series included a star-studded panel of EKU Faculty—Drs. Wardell Johnson, Carolyn Dupont, Iddah Otieno, and Marybeth Chrostowsky—who presented their research in a panel entitled "The Burdens and Breakthroughs in History: The Black Experience in Distant and Recent Memory." The colloquium series also had the privilege of sponsoring a lecture in April by the Hon. Dcn. Chike John Okafor, Chairman of the House Committee on Health Care Services, Federal House of Representatives, Nigerian National Assembly.

What makes AFA, of course, is the wonderful diversity and contributions of our faculty and students. Thus, this newsletter highlights the engaging scholarship and pedagogical success of our faculty, and the academic fervor and community engagement of our students. This publication would not have been possible without the support and leadership of AFA's director, Ogechi Anyanwu, and the brilliant, talented, and hardworking Brenna Brown. Thank you also to all faculty, staff, and students whose contributions made this publication possible.

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A portrait of Brenna Brown, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a light blue blazer over a white top. She is smiling and looking slightly to the left of the camera. The background is a brick wall with some greenery on the left.

Brenna Brown  
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## *From the Director's Desk*

I am delighted to present to you the second issue of the AFA Newsletter. What a great spring semester AFA has had! This semester we offered 20 sections of AFA classes that enrolled 451 students, and saw an increased number of students who expressed interest in declaring for a minor and certificate in AFA. This semester Jalissa R. Spalding and Okiyonna L. Banks graduated with a minor in AFA, and Stephen G Brewer, Raven S. Anderson, Jessica Hiten, and Kierra N. Priest graduated with a certificate. Join me in congratulating them. I wish them well in their careers.

The AFA Club, under the leadership of De'Zjana Buntin joined the program in planning its events this semester and did a great job laying a solid foundation for their own events next semester. I encourage you join the club. I am also grateful to two ECU students, Mander Jackson and Ambrose Maritim who volunteered to teach Swahili lessons. The lectures were well attended, and we hope to continue in the semesters to come.

As the newsletter reveals, AFA faculty were busy this semester presenting papers at conferences and serving on various committees within and outside the program. We are proud of them. AFA remains committed to promoting and rewarding excellence in writing, teaching, and service. I want to especially congratulate all the AFA award winners this semester. Bryan Strauss was the first place winner of the AFA Writing Award, and the second place winner was Shannon Wright. The AFA Excellence in Teaching Award went to Dr. Joshua Farrington. Evelyn Jones received the AFA Service Award for her longtime commitment to the program. We hope to continue these awards in the spring of 2018.

Our spring colloquium series was successful. To celebrate the Black History month, AFA assembled top black administrators at ECU to discuss the topic: "There is Room for You! Maximizing Opportunities for Blacks in Administration." The event showcased and celebrated ECU's successful efforts at inclusion and diversity, and discussed ways the institution could take advantage of the positions, accomplishments, and faces of the panelists and contributors to attract and retain more black students, staff, and faculty. We are grateful to the panelists and contributors who took time out of their busy schedules to participate: Dr. Laurie A. Carter, Executive Vice President & University Counsel; Dr. Tom Otieno, Interim Dean, College of Science; Dr. Sheila D Pressley, Associate Dean, Health Sciences; Dr. Eric Parker, Executive Director, Model Laboratory School; Dr. Tim Forde,



**Dr. Ogechi Emmanuel Anyanwu**  
 Professor of History  
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Chief Diversity Officer and Special Assistant to the Executive Vice President; Joslyn O. Glover, Chief Equity Officer, Title IX, Office of Equity and Inclusion; Wenceslaus Poryem, Director of International Student and Scholar Services; and Anthony E. Jones, Director of Multicultural Student Affairs.

I also welcomed presentations from four ECU professors, Dr. Wardell Johnson, Dr. Carolyn Dupont, Dr. Iddah Otieno, Dr. MaryBeth Chrostowsky whose papers addressed the theme: "The Burdens and Breakthroughs in History: The Black Experience in Distant and Recent Memory." The highlight of this semester's colloquium series was the well-attended presentation by Honorable Chike Okafor, a Nigerian Congressman whose paper was titled "A Reflection on Health Care Services in Nigeria and the Challenges of Medical Tourism." His visit opens up a good opportunity for ECU to recruit more fee-paying students from Nigeria.

Throughout the semester, AFA enjoyed the support of its students and the university community. I am grateful to the following for supporting our events: the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences, the Office of Diversity, the Department of Anthropology, Sociology & Social Work, the Department of History, and the Department of Exercise & Sport Science, the Col College of Health Sciences, the College of Science, and Model Elementary School. I am especially grateful to the Dean and Associate Dean of



CLASS, Sara Ziegler and Rose Perrine respectively, for their guidance. I also appreciate the dedication of IP staff, Andrea Greer and Margaret Hale, and the support of IP directors.

Many thanks to Dr. Joshua Farrington, the editor of this newsletter and the editorial assistant, Brenna Brown, for doing a great job. The support of the AFA Advisory Board made a huge difference this semester. Finally, I thank our adjunct and associate faculty who were extraordinarily devoted to the success of the program. Our students are lucky to have them as their instructors. What they cover in class matters, but they fully understand that what matters most, in the words of Noam Chomsky, is what students “discover.” I have no doubt that they will continue to help our students increase their capacity to “discover,” and challenge them in the classroom and engage them beyond it, carefully helping to captivate their minds as they make progress towards a fuller identity through encounters with other cultures and ideas. Our students deserve no less.

Enjoy the second issue of AFA Newsletter.

Dr. Ogechi Emmanuel Anyanwu  
Professor of History  
Director of African & African American Studies















# AFA

# Faculty Updates





Dr. Ogechi Emmanuel Anyanwu  
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Dr. Ogechi E. Anyanwu had a busy spring 2017 semester. In addition to carrying out his administrative duties as the director of AFA, he presented a paper titled “University Education in Post-Colonial Africa: The Burden of History and the Promise of the Future” at the Frank Church Symposium in Idaho State University on March 2, 2017. He also presented a paper titled “Experiments with Inclusion in Higher Education in Post-Colonial Nigeria” at the Kentucky Association of Blacks in Higher Education Conference in Berea College, Berea, Kentucky, on March 30, 2017. He is currently editing the fourth volume of *Journal of Retracing Africa*. Dr. Anyanwu spent his spare time watching English soccer games.



Marybeth Chrostowsky  
College of Science  
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Marybeth Chrostowsky, PhD, is a part-time instructor at Eastern Kentucky University in the department Anthropology, Sociology and Social Work and in the African and African America Studies Program. Her interests in Africa and forced migration are rooted in her three years of service as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Chad and Cameroon. For over ten years, she has been conducting research on the challenges that forced migrants face integrating and adjusting in both the United States and Africa. Her research includes a 14-month ethnographic study in Bor, Jonglei State South Sudan, which examined the effects of protracted asylum on the gendered norms and relations among the Dinka Bor after return to South Sudan. Along, with her continuing interests in South Sudan, she is engaged with the refugee community in Kentucky as a member of the Kentucky Refugee Ministries Advisory Board. Another project, Refugee Child Education and Well-Being in Lexington, Kentucky, explores the English Language Learners and Newcomer programs available to refugee students in the Lexington public schools. She presented her findings at the Society for Applied Anthropology annual meeting in Santé Fe, NM. She also spoke at the AFA Spring 2017 Colloquium Series, “The Burdens and Breakthroughs in History”: The Black Experience in Distant and Recent Memory. This spring she is teaching an AFA special topics course titled, Forced Migration in Africa. Students enrolled in this course are creating an educational advocacy pamphlet for Kentucky Refugee Ministries (KRM) Lexington. The pamphlet will provide some indication of the information Fayette County Public School (FCPS) staff need to best meet the educational needs of their refugee students. This pamphlet will become part of KRM’s training for FCPS staff and teachers. This July she will be attending a summer program at the University of Oxford Refugee Studies Center in England. Geared for professionals who work with refugees, this program offers an intensive, interdisciplinary and participative approach to the study of forced migration





Dr. Joshua D. Farrington  
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Dr. Farrington taught 3 sections of AFA 201 and 202 this spring semester. In December 2016, he received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Lambda Sigma Society from a group of students in his AFA 202W course. This semester, he continued working with Gwen Graham and Norman Powell as an editor of AFA's new textbook project. He also moderated the AFA Colloquium series in March, "The Burdens and Breakthroughs in History." He also had a chapter entitled, "African American Conservatism and 'Black Capitalism' in the Age of Richard Nixon," included in the book, *Inventing the Silent Majority in Western Europe and the United States: Conservatism in the 1960s and 1970s*, which was published by Cambridge University Press in April. Additionally, he was interviewed by VIBE magazine regarding his book, *Black Republicans and the Transformation of the GOP* (Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, 2016)."



Dr. Segbegnon Mathieu Gnonhossou  
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Dr. Segbegnon M. Gnonhossou, Adjunct Faculty for the AFA program worked this semester toward finishing his research work with the University of Manchester, where he expects to finish his PhD later this summer. His research focuses on discovering religious and intellectual convictions undergirding political activism among evangelicals in the post-colonial context of the Republic of Benin. Together with his wife Djidjoho, also a PhD Candidate in Family Sciences at the University of Kentucky, Dr. Gnonhossou co-proposed a paper to National Council on Family Relations for consideration for presentation. Based on data collected among married African immigrants in Lexington, KY, the title of the paper is *Family Mediation with African Couples: Exploring a Culturally Sensitive Approach*. If accepted, they will co-present the paper at the NCFR annual meeting later in November 2017. He has also proposed a new AFA course to be taught primarily online with a focus on healing racial relationships. With backgrounds in Linguistics/Communication, Theology/History, and Applied Anthropology, Dr. Gnonhossou is a Board Certified Coach (Center for Credentialing and Education), Workplace Conflict Trainer (Mediation Training Int'l at Eckerd College) and a court-approved family mediator with the Administrative Office of the Court in Lexington, KY. He loves soccer, reading, long distance road trips, and is involved with French/English interpretation services to African immigrants in the Lexington, area.





Gwen Graham  
African/African American Studies  
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Gwen Graham taught AFA 202 (The African American Experience) and a special topics course AFA 347 (The Development of African American Artists) this semester. She has a Master's degree in Teaching and a Bachelor's degree in Art with a minor in Art History, both earned from Eastern Kentucky University. Her focus of study, was and continues to be, on the connections between the African American experience and the works of art created by past and present African American artists. Her teaching style involves creating a learning environment that takes students on an educational journey that stimulates their critical and creative thinking while fostering transformative learning. Her most recent publication is, "Including Seminal African-American Artists in the Humanities," with G. Sweely in the *International Journal of Critical Culture Studies* (Vol. 15, Issue 1, pp.13-29).



Dr. Felicia W. Mack  
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Felicia W. Mack, PhD, is part-time faculty at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky. She also is a Visiting Lecturer at Berea College in Berea, Kentucky. Her research interests include documenting race and gender in online learning environments, racialized policing of black communities, and the impact of DACA on students. She is a regular contributor to [blackpast.org](http://blackpast.org), where she writes about the black experience, especially historical black churches in America.



Dr. Nicola Mason  
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Dr. Nicola Mason was invited to share her research on authentic children's songs and games from sub-Saharan Africa with attendees at the Ohio Music Educators Association conference in January and the Georgie Music Educators Association Conference in February. Her presentation included hands-on activities that explored the diversity of Africa through the singing, playing, and drumming of musics from various geographical regions in Africa. She also spent the day at Huntertown Elementary School in Versailles, KY, as the featured guest artist for their annual Arts Day. Students in grades K-5 explored Ugandan paper bead making, played a traditional stick game from Kenya, and danced/sang to commonly found songs from other countries in Eastern Africa.

A generous grant from the Department of Curriculum & Instruction provided funds to purchase a variety of drums and other African instruments to be used with EKU students and other students in the community. Expanding the instrumentarium also provides more opportunities for experiential learning in her course, AFA/EMS 200 'Exploring Africa Through Play' (General Education Element 6 elective).

When Dr. Mason is not teaching elementary music and African musics, she is an avid runner. She completed the Run the Bluegrass Half Marathon and Derby Half Marathon in April. She looks forward to spending Christmas break running under the warm South African sun as she conducts more field work on authentic children's songs and games.







Iddah Otieno, PhD  
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Dr. Iddah Otieno is a Professor of English and African Studies and Director of the Kenya Exchange Program at Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Lexington, KY. She is also an Adjunct-Professor of African Studies at Eastern Kentucky University where she teaches AFA 201—The African Experience. She received her B.Ed. (English) at Maseno University, Kenya in 1994, M.A. (English) at Eastern Kentucky University in 2001, and Ph.D. in Higher Education Policy (Comparative and International Education emphasis) from the University of Kentucky in 2012. Her research focuses on African Literature, education, and culture. This spring, Dr. Otieno joined other distinguished scholars at the EKU's AFA Spring 2017 Colloquium Series and presented "African Universities in the Age of Internationalization." Dr. Otieno will also be presenting at the 2017 NAFSA-Africa annual conference in Los Angeles, CA in May. Outside work, Otieno loves to explore the world with her family and colleagues through food and educational tours.



Dr. Cleo V. Price  
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Dr. Cleophus V Price was born and raised in Monroe, Louisiana and my two sisters still reside in Monroe. He received his BA from Northeast Louisiana University; MPA from Southern Illinois University in 1993; Doctor of Education from UK in December 2005. He have taught UK 101 (1st Year Students Academic Success course) since Fall 2004 at UK and AFA 202 (Eastern Kentucky University) since Fall 2011 as well provided instructions in a number of African American Studies classes at UK. My full-time job at UK is Assistant Dean in the Graduate School where he lead a team of 4 student affairs professionals. The office is responsible for auditing master and doctoral student files as they prepare to 'sit' for examinations and degree certifications for master, specialist, and doctoral students. Also, before higher education, he spent 9.5 years in the U S Army as a company commander of a M1 Abrams Tank unit (3 of those years in Germany).



Norman Powell, PhD  
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Dr. Norman Powell is an associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Counselor Education. While at Eastern Kentucky University, Dr. Powell served for ten years as the Director of the Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children (KECSAC) and three years as the Director of Teacher Education Services, both for the College of Education.

His bachelor's of Arts degree is in Latin American Area Studies and Spanish from the School of International Service, and his master's and doctoral degrees are in Special Education in emotional behavioral disorders (EBD) with minors in administration and family systems, all from The American University in Washington, DC. Dr. Powell has worked in a variety of administrative, leadership, clinical, direct service and academic positions during his professional career. These have included: special educator, trainer, professor, child and youth care worker and administrator. His research interests include: youth at risk, cultural competence, equity, diversity, student transitions, constructive classroom management, school culture, climate and leadership. Dr. Powell is fluent in Spanish and has traveled extensively in Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe and other areas of the world.

He worked previously as the Program Dean for Life Span Care and Administration, a master's degree program at the Graduate School of Education and Human Services at N. Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Prior to this university position, he served as Director of the Group Home Division for the Associates for Renewal in Education, Washington, DC; special education instructor for the graduate teacher training program at The American University Rose School Special Education Program, Washington, DC; Director of Family Services, Associated Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Baltimore, MD; and Director of Child Care, the Christ Child Institute for Children, Rockville, MD.

Dr. Powell was the co-editor of *Choices in Caring: Contemporary Approaches to Child and Youth Care Work*, a book about the field of residential group care, and community-based programs for children and youth. He collaborated in the creation of the N. Southeastern University publication, *The Child and Youth Care Administrator*, and also served as co-editor and later as the editor.

Dr. Powell served nine years as a member of the Board of Directors of the Child Welfare League of America and has been active in the field of child and youth care work as a speaker, trainer, and advocate for the field of children and youth at risk.

A number of years ago, he spent two weeks in South Africa as the guest of the South African Association of Child Care Workers. He represented the United States at the IX International Colloquium of the European Economic Union in Barcelona, Spain. Dr. Powell has traveled and worked in many areas of the world including Denmark, Australia, Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean Islands.

Dr. Powell received the prestigious Golden Eagle Award by the Council on International Non-theatrical Events for producing a video training series "Walking Through the Storm: Working with Aggressive Children and Youth". He is fluent in Spanish and is certified in special education: EBD K-12. Dr. Powell also is a certified senior trainer in Life Space Crisis Intervention. He completed training at St. Louis University and was selected to serve three years in Honduras, Central America as a volunteer in the U.S. Peace Corps. While in Honduras, Dr. Powell worked with private and public agencies to develop educational and social service programs for Honduran children and youth.



AFA 347

## The Development of African American Artists

Gwen Graham

Fall 2017

Tuesday/Thursday

9:30am-10:45am

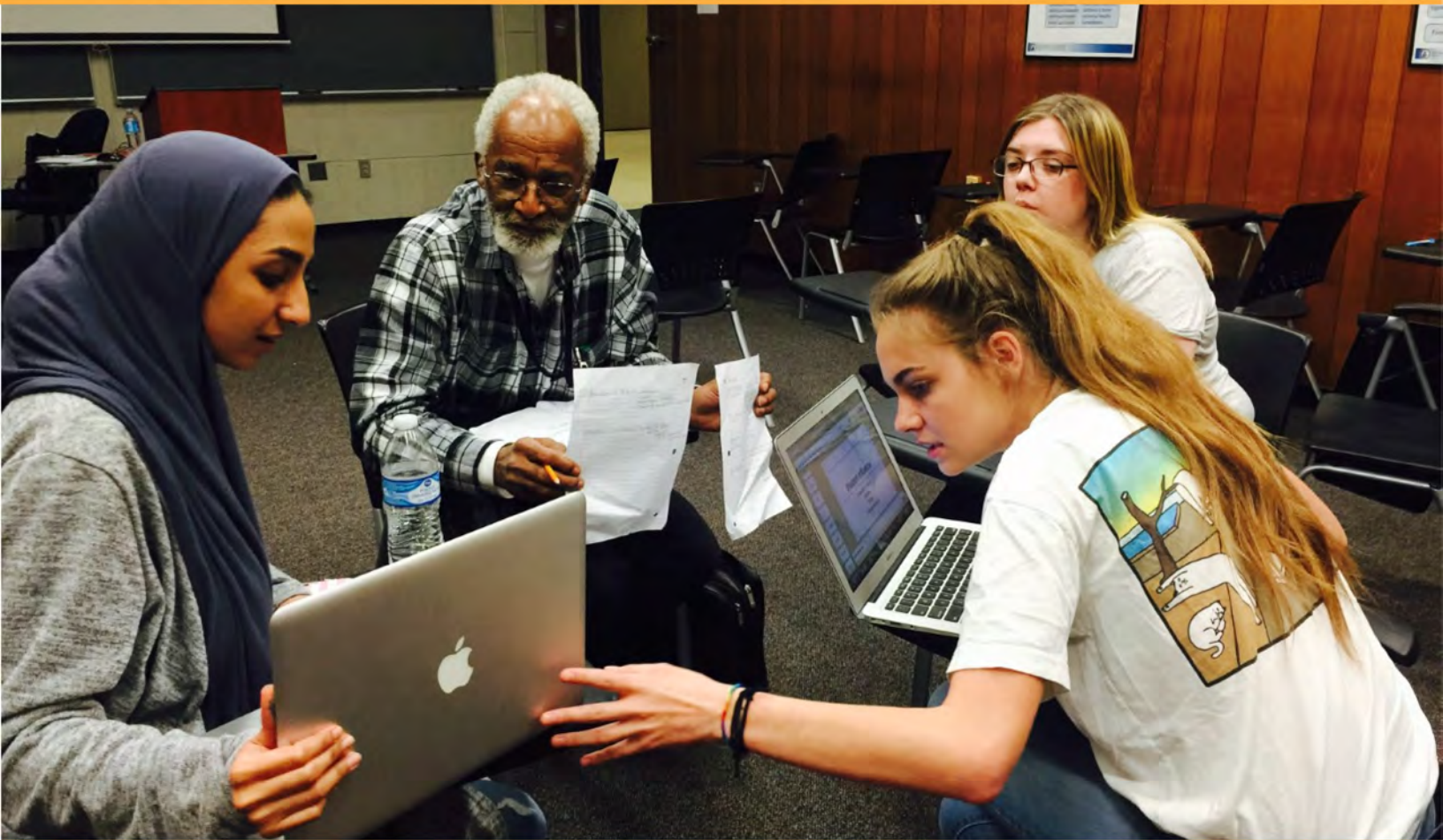
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Students enrolled in AFA 347 will be exposed to a breadth of knowledge concerning the African Diaspora (slavery) and its impact on the art world, particularly African- American art. Throughout this course, students will analyze, evaluate, discuss, and critique the works of many African-American artists, while also gaining an understanding of the instrumental role that the Diaspora had on American art and the art world, especially those pivotal works created by African-American artists.

Along with broadening our students' knowledge on the positive impact of the Diaspora, AFA 347 will aid in supporting EKU's mission to create critical and creative thinkers. Included in this course will be discussions on the physical and psychological aspects of slavery that transcended African to American life and sensibilities. These key aspects played an important role in the development of African-American art that we will begin to view and examine from the 17th century to the present day.









# Notes From AFA Friends





Eric Parker

I began my career in education by serving as a teacher and coach in both middle and high schools in Georgia prior to becoming a school administrator. I then went on to serve as both a middle school principal and as a principal of two different high schools in the Atlanta area. Most recently and prior to coming to Eastern Kentucky University, I was the Assistant Superintendent for Leadership and Continuous Improvement at Montgomery Public Schools in Alabama where I directly supported twenty-six schools and principals. I received my undergraduate education at Radford University in Virginia where I also gained a strong interest in science and education while playing Division I college basketball. Following graduation, I began teaching while simultaneously working on graduate degrees in education from Jacksonville State University, then Argosy University, and most recently the University of Georgia. There are two specific areas of research that I have published recently—which are in the areas of educational equity and access as well as school improvement through teacher/principal quality, development, and retention (to which I recently presented in Kingston, Jamaica earlier this month) and have also shared while part of a study in South America.

I have been familiar with African and African-American studies since I was young. From the earlier memories of my grandparents sharing my family lineage, to my studying the literature and life of W.E.B. DuBois—I grew up with a very thorough understanding and appreciation of African history. The Atlanta area provided a unique setting to learn more history in these areas. Also my growing up in the A.M.E. (African Methodist Episcopal) Church allowed me to embrace and experience a level of African culture in several ways. Through my educational and life experiences, I have been fortunate to meet and learn from several people who I have known for over twenty years that have both visited or lived in parts of Africa—to also those, like myself, who are knowledgeable but have yet to actually visit. There are schools and educational projects and research I am very interested in that will hopefully allow me to one day visit Africa.

All of my experiences in these areas have been extremely rewarding for me as I have learned a lot from people and the research conducted over the years. This continues for me as I transition into my role here at ECU and work with the team in the AFA Studies department and learn more about the various programs and great work each member is involved with. I am confident I will continue to benefit from further involvement and participation with the AFA programs and will also work to ensure the departments at Model can also begin some unique partnerships and collaboration with AFA as well.

As I continue to learn more myself, I hope that my experiences may perhaps provide some level of insight and also create a bridge to provide knowledge or remove barriers to learning about African studies in some way. Although I have not yet had the opportunity to visit, I am a witness and active participant in the study of the history, culture, and resources that the countries of Africa provide around the world.









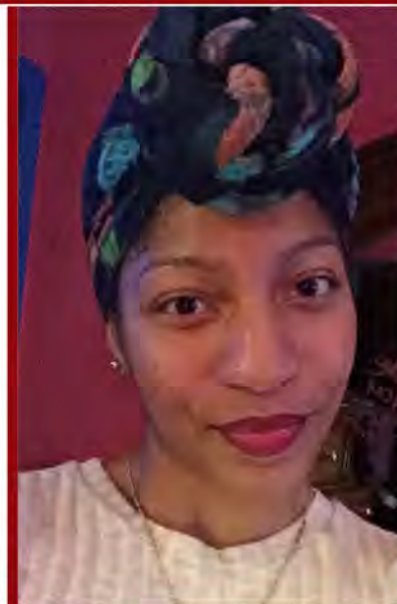
## Notes From AFA Students



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# AFA CLUB NEWS

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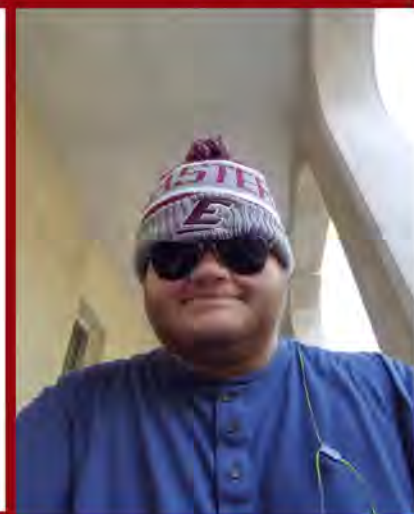


De'Zjana Buntin

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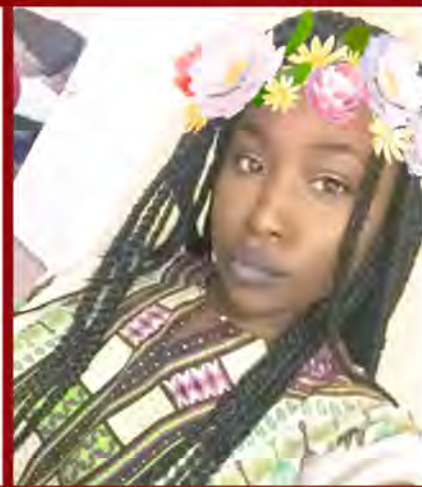
The AFA Club has recently revived itself. During the spring semester of 2017, the AFA club has held several events, mostly discussions, on: the reintroduction of the club, racial harmony, and the federal government's budget cut proposal. Students were able to come and voice their thoughts and opinions, regardless of their background. We plan to become even more active in the fall semester, so be on the lookout! In addition to being the club president, I am also an AFA minor because, to me, AFA means broadening perspectives. There is something that everyone can take away from the classes and events that the AFA program holds. AFA is important to me because we try to offer a sense of belonging and inclusion. Everyone, regardless of gender, race, and/or ethnicity, is welcome to participate in our meetings and broaden their horizons.





William McCarty

AFA means inclusion and progression to me. Hearing the opinions of people that think and look differently than you, leads to a middle ground and a way to work with others. I'm interested in the AFA Club because I'm dedicated to learning--learning about Black history, Black educators and Black art. I'm passionate about the lives of others and how we can lead to a better future.



Paris O'bike

My name is Paris Obike, AFA's secretary. I am a first generation Nigerian so the intricacies of African culture was always a big part of my life. It was when I came to Eastern Kentucky University that I saw opportunities to really be a part of something bigger on campus. African studies was available for any person, white, black, or otherwise, to be a part of and I truly appreciated that ability to share and learn diversity. This prompted me to join others to revive AFA Club on ECU's campus.



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# Featured AFA Students

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Alesia Miller

I have a special passion for African-American Studies. Learning about my history instills a new sense of pride within me. I've visited the Underground Railroad Museum in Cincy, History Museum in Frankfort, actual plantation in Nashville, TN and most recently Charlotte, NC. I've visited the Rankin House near Cincy in Ripley, OH, (abolitionist/underground railroad station), a couple of other places I'm sure, and have started to research personal family history. My next goal is to visit the National Museum of African-American History and Culture in Washington, DC.

My first course in African American Studies entitled, "Intro to African American Studies" was taken in 1997 at the University of KY. The course covered a wide range of topics that I found both intriguing and enlightening. It was during that time at UK that the legendary, Dr. Necia Desire Harkless, (educator, artist, musician, author, poet), appeared as a guest in our class. There were appearances by other Kentucky African-American notables as well. The course left a lasting impression upon me and of course, there was also a personal connection. I learned so much about the African-American experience and culture that I was not aware of before (biblical through present day). My level of consciousness was increased ten-fold. African American Studies soon became one of my most favorite and interesting subjects.

The saga continues for me here at EKU with AFA 202W (The African-American Experience), taught by Dr. Joshua Farrington. The course covers a more detailed time-line of the African-American experience, beginning with early Europe as it connects with the coasts of Africa. This class is as much about American history as it is about the African-American experience. It is thought and conscience provoking as well. You will learn things that will leave you in "Awe." I have found this course to be just as gratifying and intriguing as I have gained so much knowledge about the American experience as a whole. Most of all, this is a course for everyone and I'm certain that anyone who takes it will find it very enlightening.





**Katherine Regis**

I am an Honors Scholar Senior English Teaching major with plans to attend UK Graduate School to become an ALA Librarian. Kate is a current ECU Student Vice President of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, and has been inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta, Golden Key International, and The National Society of Collegiate Scholars honor societies. I am a three-year member of Kappa Alpha Theta. I chose to take ENG 361: African-American Literature with Dr. Neumann to fulfill my upper level English requirement and because I wanted to take a class with Dr. Chris Neumann again. He has been vital to my success as a student through his detailed feedback, and I am happy to have started and ended my time here at ECU with his classes.



**Tiffany White**

I am a political science major, with a minor in paralegal studies. This is my first time taking an AFA class, I think that this course is very interesting because it has answered many of the questions that I have had, and clarified many “myths” that I have thought to be true about African culture. This semester I made contact with a very important person who is the founder of the mobile African American inventors and inventions museum, Dr. Clifton J. Brown of Cleveland, OH. Learning so many things about African culture, and the inventions of many African Americans is an honor. I have always believed that culture and diversity have been important in all aspects of life. Understanding the history and ways that other people live is beneficial, as well as important to being successful in life. The more people that you can make contact with and or network with, the better. The most gratifying experience thus far was speaking in depth with Dr. Brown. Dr. Brown helped me understand some of the most extravagant inventions that African Americans have contributed to this world. I hope that future students gather information that helps them clarify many misconceptions that the average person may have about African history. This class is important in teaching what you may not have learned in your average history class. Future students of AFA courses should come into the course willing to learn and understand African culture, precolonial and post-colonial. Wanting to understand different cultures is what makes the world go around!



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# Graduating AFA Students

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Jalissa Spalding

A minor in AFA means a lot to me. Embracing and learning more about my history is something that I will continue to do especially during the times we live in today. Becoming a civil rights attorney is my career goal and I realize the dire need for an African American presence in the criminal justice system. I feel that having a criminal justice major along with an AFA minor will strengthen my ability to do just that.



Raven Anderson

Having a certificate in AFA means a lot to me. Along the way, I was able to gain more knowledge about my roots. With my degree, I will be working closely with families of different backgrounds. While doing so, I hope to truly make a difference and improve the lives of all.





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**Okiyonna Banks**

As I approached the final classes for my minor in AFA, I knew I had completed the race. The unanswered questions that I once had in high school, were well rounded and shaped into knowledge I can now use in the future to teach curious minds around me!



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**Stephen Brewer**

To me AFA is all about becoming aware of your world views; how they have been shaped and built-up by what we have passively accepted as 'facts' while growing up. AFA has made me aware of just how much the media has shaped our understanding, how a short blurb covering some travesty is all it takes for the mind to generate an often incorrect perspective for an entire continent, or more! Opening yourself up and rejecting what you have come to understand as 'fact' is paramount, and has made me an informed consumer of today's 'pop media', training me to refusing any single view on a given subject, including Africa.



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**Jessica Hiten**

My AFA Certificate is special to me because I can share what I have learned and discovered through the program with others. These were among the most interesting courses I have taken at ECU.







# EKU Library Resources

Victoria Koger  
Collection Management Librarian  
Eastern Kentucky University



EKU Libraries subscribes to the African American Experience Database <http://libguides.eku.edu/africanamericanexp> for you. This database includes material from reference sets and hundreds of primary documents: manuscripts, speeches, court cases, quotations, advertisements, statistics, and other papers, plus over 4,000 interviews with former slaves. For more information on resources, including those for African Studies, please take a look at your AFA research guide <http://libguides.eku.edu/afa> or contact AFA Librarian [victoria.koger@eku.edu](mailto:victoria.koger@eku.edu)

Victoria Koger is the Collection Management Librarian at ECU. She earned her B.A. in Accounting and Philosophy from Lynchburg College and MLIS from Florida State. After working as a reference and instruction Librarian at a few other academic institutions she began at ECU in 2002 and has been the liaison to AFA for the last decade.







# Journal of Retracing Africa

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 1

FALL 2016



*“AFA is proud to release the third volume of JORA. Members of the editorial staff and board worked tirelessly to make the publication possible.”*

*~Ogechi E. Anyanwu, Editor-in-Chief*

ISSN 2333-3081







## CALL FOR PAPERS

# *Journal of Retracing Africa (JORA)*

**Journal of Retracing Africa (JORA)**, is currently accepting manuscripts for its 2017 volume 4 issue. We invite you to submit articles, review books, review articles, or serve as a guest editor on specific topics. JORA is a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary African studies journal. It publishes original, previously unpublished manuscripts on a broad thematic and chronological range. Accepted articles must provide theoretically informed analysis on the social, economic, cultural, and political transformations in African societies during the pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial periods. JORA aims at deconstructing misconceived, mistaken, and missing narratives on Africa and Africans, thus providing a holistic appreciation of the African experience.

## Journal of Retracing Africa



**To submit articles, book reviews, and review articles**, click on "Submit Article" on JORA homepage at <http://encompass.eku.edu/jora/>; create a new account (which is fast and easy); and then upload your manuscripts. You can always login at any time to update your profile and check the status of your submissions.

For further inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact:

**Editor-in-Chief**, Dr. Ogechi E. Anyanwu, [ogechi.anyanwu@eku.edu](mailto:ogechi.anyanwu@eku.edu)


Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AFAEKU/>

**Journal of Retracing Africa (JORA)** is published by Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) Libraries in collaboration with African/African American Studies program at EKU and the Berkeley Electronic Press.



EKU Chautauqua Lecture Series  
2016-2017

# ORDER AND CHAOS



**BIANCA SPRIGGS**

- Afrilichian Poet and Educator
- Author of *Call Her By Her Name, The Galaxy Is a Dance Floor, Undead: Ghouls, Ghosts, and More*, and other books
- Cave Canem Fellow, Sallie Bingham Award Winner (2016)
- Literary Arts Liaison, Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning
- Managing Editor, *pluck! The Journal of Afrilichian Art & Culture*



*The Only Way Out Is Within: A Poet's Path to Surrender*

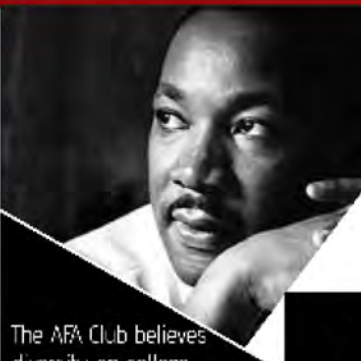
Thursday, February 9, 7:30 PM  
O'Donnell Hall, Whitlock Building  
*Keynote Address for National Black History Month*

Sponsored by the Office of Diversity, the African/African American Studies Program, the Department of Anthropology, Sociology & Social Work, the Department of English & Theatre, the Appalachian Studies Program, the Department of Languages, Cultures & Humanities, and the Honors Program

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

For more information, please contact Dr. Kiki Locke, Chautauqua Lecturer Coordinator, Room 10600 Whitlock, 617 University Ave., 403 University Avenue, Lexington, KY 40506-0001  
www.eku.edu/~chautauqua/lectures/ Design by Kiki Locke



Wednesdays  
**6-7:30**  
cazjane\_puningoma@eku.edu  
william.keaton@eku.edu

# AFA CLUB

The AFA Club believes diversity on college campuses is important and we want to achieve it by striving to maintain perpetual learning, acceptance, encouragement, success and engagement.



The African/African-American Studies Club is reforming and looking to take on new members. We are dedicated to celebrating all ethnicities and cultures; AFA Club will tackle Black issues and highlight the Black experience on campus.

## SATURDAY FOR SERVICE: HELP RESTORE THE SHELBY CITY AFRICAN AMERICAN CEMETERY




Help in removing undergrowth, discovering head stones, and other tasks to help restore one of Kentucky's historical few remaining African American Cemeteries

When: February 11th, 2017  
from 8:30am- 2:30 pm  
Location: 370 Short Acres Road, Junction City, KY  
**\*\*TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED\*\***  
Sign Up On OrgSync: <http://bit.ly/2Jzf8S>




IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT WILL KEATON  
WILLIAM.KEATON@EKU.EDU



## COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Eastern Kentucky University  
Special Guest Lecture

Reflections on Health Care Services in Nigeria and the Challenges of Medical Tourism



**Hon. Dcn. Chike John Okafor**  
Chairman House Committee on Health Care Services  
Federal House of Representatives  
National Assembly,  
Abuja, Nigeria

Venue: Library, Room 128  
Date: April 6, 2017  
Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm

Congressman will also speak at the 31st International Banquet on Saturday April 8, 2017 at 7:00pm, Keen Johnson

Sponsored by the African/African American Studies Program, the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences, International Student and Scholar Services, the Office of Diversity, the College of Health Sciences, and the AFA Club.

For further inquiries, please contact Professor Ogechi E. Anyanwu, Director of African/African-American Studies Program at [ogechi.anyanwu@eku.edu](mailto:ogechi.anyanwu@eku.edu) or 859-622-3483.



# AFA AWARDS CEREMONY

## AWARDS

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD  
STUDENT WRITING AWARD  
SERVICE AWARD

**WHEN: APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 @ 12 NOON**

**WHERE: EKU LIBRARY, GRAND READING ROOM**



African  
African-American  
Studies



African  
African-American  
Studies



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# AFA Award Recipients

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AFA Writing Award, 1st place:  
**Bryan Strauss**



AFA Writing Award, 2nd place:  
**Shannon Wright**



AFA Excellence in Teaching Award:  
**Dr. Joshua Farrington**



AFA Service Award:  
**Evelyn Jones**







## African African-American Studies

### Spring 2017 Events

#### FEBRUARY

- 22. Free Swahili Lessons, 12:00pm-1:00pm @ Tutoring Center, 116 McCreary Hall
- 27. Panel Discussion "There is Room for You" 1:00pm-2:15pm @ Walnut Hall, Keen Johnson

#### MARCH

- 10. "The Burdens and Breakthroughs in History" Colloquium Series, 1:00-2:15pm @ Herndon Lounge Powell Building
- 22. Free Swahili Lessons, 12:00pm-1:00pm @ Tutoring Center, 116 McCreary Hall

#### APRIL

- 13. AFA Writing Awards Presentation, 4:00-5:00pm @ Noel Studio Discovery Classroom
- 19. Free Swahili Lessons, 12:00pm-1:00pm @ Tutoring Center, 116 McCreary Hall
- 21. AFA Awards Ceremony, 6:00pm-7:00pm @ Grand Reading Room, BOCU Libraries

For further inquiries, contact Dr. Ogechi Emmanuel Anyanwu, Director of African/African-American Studies Program (AFA) at [gechi.anyanwu@eku.edu](mailto:gechi.anyanwu@eku.edu) or 639-627-3431.

## AFA Celebrates Black History Month

"There is Room for You! Maximizing Opportunities for Blacks in Administration"  
Facilitator: Dr. Ogechi Anyanwu, Professor of History and Director of AFA

Date: February 27  
Time: 1:00pm to 2:15pm  
Venue: Walnut Hall, Keen Johnson Building

Special Guests:  
Dr. Michael Benson, ECU President  
Dr. Janna Vice, ECU Provost



#### Panelists

Dr. Laurie A. Carter, Executive Vice President & University Counsel  
Dr. Tom Otieno, Interim Dean, College of Science  
Dr. Sheila D. Pressley, Associate Dean, Health Sciences  
Dr. Eric Parker, Executive Director, Model Laboratory School

#### Contributors

Dr. Tim Forde, Chief Diversity Officer and Special Assistant to the Executive Vice President  
Joslyn O. Glover, Chief Equity Officer, Title IX, Office of Equity and Inclusion  
Wenceslaus Poryem, Director of International Student and Scholar Services  
Anthony E. Jones, Director of Multicultural Student Affairs

#### Moderators

Dr. Nicola Mason, Associate Professor School of Clinical Education Prep  
Dr. Wardell Johnson, Associate Professor, Exercise & Sport Science  
Dr. Randall Swain, Professor of Government  
Dezjana Buntin, President, the AFA Club

Sponsored by the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences, the College of Health Sciences, the College of Science, the African/African-American Studies Program (AFA), the Office of Diversity, and Model Laboratory School

## Celebrating SCHOLARSWEEK

April 10 - 14, 2017

#### Monday

Art Student Association Annual Juried Exhibition  
Fred Parker Giles Gallery | 2-4pm

#### University Fellows Showcase

5-7pm  
Presentations: Walnut Hall, Keen Johnson  
Scholar Recognition and Reception, Keen Johnson foyer

#### Tuesday

Honors Thesis Presentations  
10am, 1pm, 3pm | 204D & 204G

#### Alpha Lambda Delta Induction

5-6pm, Grand Reading Room

#### Annual Alumni Spotlight

5:30pm, Dick Mayo Allen Auditorium (108)  
Spotlight Presentations  
6:30pm, Alumni Spotlight Reception - First Floor  
Presenters: Adam MacPharlin and James R. Pennington

#### Wednesday

Honors Thesis Presentations  
10am, 1pm, 3pm | 204D & 204G

#### Aurora: Literary and Arts Journal

2017 Launch and Open Mic  
12-2pm | Noel Studio Discovery Classroom

#### Diversity Scholars Panel

3:30-5pm | Dick Mayo Allen Auditorium (108)

#### Noel Studio Program Appreciation Night

5:30-7pm | Noel Studio Greenhouse

#### EKU Dance Theatre Spring Concert

8pm | O'Donnell Hall, Whitlock Building

#### Thursday

Honors Thesis Presentations  
10am, 1pm, 3pm | 204D & 204G

#### EKU Phi Kappa Phi Induction

2-3pm | Grand Reading Room

#### University Presentation Showcase - Faculty Division

3-5pm | First Floor

#### African & African-American Writing Awards

4-5pm | Noel Studio Discovery Classroom

#### Friday

University Scholars Assembly  
8:30-11am | Grand Reading Room

#### EKU Dance Theatre Performance

1:15-1:30pm | Grand Reading Room

#### Assurance of Learning Poster Showcase

1-4pm | First Floor

#### University Presentation Showcase - Student Division

1:30-3:30pm | First Floor

#### Poster Showcase, URCE, and Mentor Awards

3:30-4:30pm | Allen Auditorium 108

@EKUScholarsWeek  
[ekuscholars.eku.edu](http://ekuscholars.eku.edu)  
#EKUSW17

Unless otherwise noted, events will take place in the John Grant Crabbe Main Library | (859) 622-7403



## AFA Colloquium Series, Spring 2017

Theme: The Burdens and Breakthroughs in History: The Black Experience in Distant and Recent Memory

Facilitator: Dr. Ogechi Anyanwu, Professor of History and Director of AFA

Date: March 10

Time: 1:00pm-2:15pm

Venue: Herndon Lounge, Powell Building,  
Eastern Kentucky University

#### SPEAKERS

Dr. Wardell Johnson, Associate Professor, Exercise & Sport Science, Eastern Kentucky University  
"The Transformation and Rise and Fall of the African American College Coach"

Dr. Carolyn Dupont, Associate Professor, History, Eastern Kentucky University  
"Why White Americans Need Black History: Family Memory and the African American Experience"

Dr. Iddah Otieno, AFA Adjunct Instructor, Eastern Kentucky University  
"The Modern African University in the Age of Internationalization"

Dr. MaryBeth Chrostowsky, Part Time Instructor, AFA & Anthropology, Sociology, and Social Work, Eastern Kentucky University  
"The Effects of Migration on Gender Norms and Relations: The Post-repatriation Experience in Jot, South Sudan"

Sponsored by the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences, the African/African-American Studies Program, the Office of Diversity, the Department of Anthropology, Sociology & Social Work, the Department of History, and the Department of Exercise & Sport Science.









# African African-American Studies

**AFA Offers Fundamental Knowledge** about the unique contributions of Africana peoples to human civilizations from the ancient period to the present.

**AFA Offers Diversity Studies and Employable Skills** that prepare students to thrive in a world or workplace that increasingly recognizes the importance of multiculturalism, inclusiveness, and diversity.

**AFA Offers Skills** in Interdisciplinary methods and approaches that enhance students' critical thinking, writing, and speaking skills, tools they will need to excel in their lives and careers.

**AFA Offers Global and Comparative Perspectives** that compare the experience, lives, ideas, movements of Africana peoples in every part of the world compare to other groups.

**AFA Offers training** in race, gender, class, and social justice that complements students' degrees and prepares students adequately for careers in:

Education

Social Work

Law

Community Organization

Politics

Business

Counseling

Recreation

Management

Urban and Regional Planning

Media

Government

Law Enforcement

Marketing

Immigration

Administration

## HOW TO DECLARE A MINOR/CERTIFICATE

To declare an AFA minor/certificate, you need to fill the "Program of Study Declaration Form" and contact AFA Director, Dr. Ogechi E. Anyanwu (email: ogechi.anyanwu@eku.edu; phone: 859-622-3483; office: Keith 124), to consult on your classes and get the form signed.



## MINOR/CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

Our program offers a minor (18 hours) and a certificate (12 hours). Students pursuing a minor or certificate must take six (6) credits of core AFA classes: AFA 201: The African Experience (or AFA 201W: The African Experience, Writing Intensive) and AFA 202: The African-American Experience (or AFA 202W: The African-American Experience, Writing Intensive). They must also take additional hours of AFA classes or other approved courses (see listing below).

## SUPPORTING AFA COURSES FOR MINOR/ CERTIFICATE

AFA 201: African Experience  
AFA 201W: African Experience (Writing Intensive)  
AFA 202: African American Experience  
AFA 202W: African American Experience (Writing Intensive)  
AFA 200: Exploring Africa Through Play  
AFA 225: African/African American Health Issues  
AFA 304: Slavery in the Americas  
AFA 305: African American History  
AFA 330: U.S. South and Black Education  
AFA 345: Minority Group Politics  
AFA 346: Diversity & Criminal Justice  
AFA 347: Special Topics in AFA Studies  
AFA 349: Applied Learning in AFA Studies (1-3 credits)  
AFA 349: Cooperative Study (1-3 credits)  
AFA 356 African American Political Thought  
AFA 360: Literatures of Africa  
AFA 361: African American Literature  
AFA 367: African Caribbean Literatures  
AFA 378: Black Women in History  
AFA 385: Early African History  
AFA 386: Modern African History  
AFA 435: U.S. Civil Rights Movement  
AFA 495: Independent Study  
AFA 510: African Textile Design  
AFA 710: African Textile Design  
SOC 400: Racial & Ethnic Relations





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