

UMBC UGC Program Changes & Other Request: Africana Studies

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Specifics (see instructions):

This request involves changing the lower level Africa course requirement for both the major and the minor. Specifically, the change involves expanding the number of courses that can satisfy the requirement. Presently, The requirement is satisfied by completion of AFST 211-Intro. To Contemporary Africa. We now would like the requirement to be satisfied by completion of any one of three lower level Africa courses, namely the following courses—AFST 211—Intro to Contemporary Africa; AFST 212—Intro to African History; and AFST 213—Africa: Culture and Development.

Present Core Requirements for AFST Major and Minor

Major Core Req's

AFST 100
AFST 201
AFST 211
AFST 261
AFST 271

Minor Core Req's

AFST 100
AFST 206
AFST 211

Requested Change to AFST Major and Minor Requirements

Major Core Req's

AFST 100
AFST 201
AFST 211, or AFST 212, or AFST 213
AFST 261
AFST 271

Minor Core Req's

AFST 100
AFST 206
AFST 211, or AFST 212, or AFST 213

Rationale (see instructions):This requested change is occasioned by the fact that the department has a reduced number of Africa faculty [i.e., one] which limits our flexibility in being able to offer a particular Africa course on a regular basis. By expanding the requirement to three courses, this will allow for greater flexibility in our Africa offerings. And, just as importantly, it will allow our major and minor students greater flexibility in meeting their lower level Africa requirement.

It should be noted that the three courses in question: AFST 211, 212, and 213, though unique in some aspects of their coverage of Africa, also contain a fair amount of overlap in terms of information about African history and culture.

Current students will not be affected adversely by the requested change. Indeed, they will have increased options in meeting the lower level Africa requirement.

There is no change in the required credits for either the major or the minor.