

# VIBRANT HISTORY, GLOBAL PRESENCE, AND INNOVATIVE FUTURE



## Black and African Diaspora Studies (Minor)

**FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

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# BLACK AND AFRICAN DIASPORA STUDIES (MINOR)

## WHY CHOOSE BLACK AND AFRICAN DIASPORA STUDIES AT DAL?

African peoples have had a presence in Canada for over 400 years. However, the rich histories of African-Canadian people, which are marked by oppression and racial injustice but also by resistance and empowerment, have often been ignored.

In this minor program, you'll explore African-Canadian society and culture from both a historical and contemporary perspective. Through core courses and other materials, you will discover, analyze and celebrate the history, culture and sociology of Black people in Canada and of the global African diaspora.

You'll trace the historical journey from original Black communities in what is now Atlantic Canada to the movement of people to Central Canada and, finally, to lands in the West. This history will be examined in periods of both French and British colonization.

You'll also examine contemporary challenges, placing structural and institutionalized racism under a critical lens. Elective courses focus on a range of topics, from Black literature to music, spirituality and cultural expression in various communities in the African diaspora, giving you a comprehensive and well-rounded perspective.

From past to present: explore interdisciplinary scholarship about African peoples in Canada and discover the history and contemporary issues facing Black Canadians.

**Make the connections:** Develop your awareness of how race, sex, gender, class and other identities affect Black people.

**Global perspective:** Expand your knowledge of the culture and history of African peoples around the world, including discussions of colonialism, power and racial injustice.

**Critical thinking:** Use the tools of Critical Race and Black feminist theories to examine the meaning of Blackness and the concept of race.

**Complement your major:** A minor in Black and African Diaspora Studies adds a valuable dimension to degrees in subjects such as Anthropology, Sociology, History, Philosophy and more.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course content of this minor reflects the diverse origins of African-Canadian people, from those who have been here for eight generations to recent arrivals from different points of the globe.

As a student in the minor program, you'll examine the history and culture of Black Canadians and communities of African origin throughout the world, through the lenses of Critical Race Theory, Black Feminist thought and other critical perspectives.

The program's core course, Introduction to African Canadian Studies, begins with a walking tour of Halifax to identify sites of Black culture, activities and settlement in the surrounding community. From there, you'll broaden your field of view to include topics ranging from history to music to literature to spirituality.

Students who wish to understand the past, present and future of African-Canadians, as well as the legacy of spirituality, art and culture created by communities across the African diaspora, will discover a rich learning experience in the program.

## SAMPLE COURSES

PHIL 2165

Philosophy and the Black Experience

SOSA 2005

Introduction to African Canadian Studies: Society, History and Culture

CTMP 2115

The Idea of Race in Philosophy, Literature and Art

## QUESTIONS?

Contact [fassadac@dal.ca](mailto:fassadac@dal.ca)

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