AFRICAN STUDIES

Council on African Studies
The MacMillan Center
137 Rosenkranz Hall, 203.432.1425
http://african.macmillan.yale.edu
M.A.

Chair
Cajetan Iheaka (English)

Director of Graduate Studies
Jill Jarvis (French)

Director of Program in African Languages
Kiarie Wa’Njogu (203.432.0110, john.wanjogu@yale.edu)

Professors  Serap Aksoy (Epidemiology), Lea Brilmayer (Law), Richard Bucala (Internal Medicine), Theodore Cohen (Epidemiology), John Darnell (Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations), Anna Dyson (Architecture), Owen Fiss (Emeritus; Law), Robert Harms (History), Cajetan Iheka (English), Ann Kurth (Nursing), Daniel Magaziner (History), Roderick McIntosh (Anthropology), Stephanie Newell (English), Elijah Paintsil (Pediatrics; Epidemiology; Pharmacology), Catherine Panter-Brick (Anthropology), Curtis Patton (Emeritus; Epidemiology), David Post (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology), Asghar Rastegar (Emeritus; Internal Medicine), Ian Shapiro (Political Science), Donna Spiegelman (Biostatistics), Michael Veal (Music), Sten Vermund (Epidemiology; Pediatrics), David Watts (Anthropology), Elisabeth Wood (Political Science)

Associate Professors  Katharine Baldwin (Political Science), Marie Brault (Public Health), Cécile Fromont (History of Art), Jill Jarvis (French), Kaveh Khoshnood (Epidemiology), Louisa Lombard (Anthropology), Urania Magriples (Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences), Meleko Mokgosi (School of Art), LaRon Nelson (Nursing), Sunil Parikh (Public Health; Internal Medicine), Carla Staver (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology), Jonathan Wyrtzen (Sociology)

Assistant Professors  Amy Bei (Epidemiology), Lauren Berquist (Economics), Nicholas R. Jones (Spanish), Benedito Machava (History), Hani Mowafi (Emergency Medicine), Kyama Mugambi (Divinity), Nontsikelelo Mutili (School of Art), Oluwatosin Onibokun (Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences), Nana Osei Quarshie (History), Tracy Rabin (Internal Medicine), Jeremy Schwartz (Internal Medicine), Sheela Shenoi (Internal Medicine), Carla Staver (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology), Jessica Thompson (Anthropology)

Lecturers  Adalgisa Caccone (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology), Lacina Coulibaly (Theater and Performance Studies), Leslie Gross-Wyrtzen (African Studies), W. Casey King (Public Health), Sarah Ryan (Law), David Simon (Political Science), Veronica Waweru (African Languages)
**Senior Lectors** Oluseye Adesola (Yorùbá), Jonas Elbousty (Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations), Matuku Ngame (French), Nandipa Sipengane (isiZulu), Kiarie Wa’Njogu (Swahili)

**FIELDS OF STUDY**

African Studies considers the arts, history, cultures, languages, literatures, politics, religions, and societies of Africa as well as issues concerning development, health, and the environment. Considerable flexibility and choice of areas of concentration are offered because students entering the program may have differing academic backgrounds and career plans. Enrollment in the M.A. program in African Studies provides students with the opportunity to register for the many African studies courses offered in the various departments of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the professional schools.

The Program in African Studies also offers two interdisciplinary seminars to create dialogue and to integrate approaches across disciplines. In addition to the M.A. degree program, the Council on African Studies offers students in the university’s doctoral and other professional degree programs the chance to obtain a Graduate Certificate of Concentration in African Studies by fulfilling a supplementary curriculum. (See Council on African Studies, under Non-Degree Granting Programs, Councils, and Research Institutes.) Joint degrees are possible with the approval of the director of graduate studies (DGS) and the relevant officials in the Schools of the Environment, Law, and Public Health.

The African collections of the Yale libraries together represent one of the largest holdings on Africa found in North America. The university now possesses more than 220,000 volumes including, but not limited to, government documents, art catalogs, photographs, manuscripts, correspondence, and theses, many published in Africa.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE M.A. DEGREE**

The Yale University Master of Arts degree program in African Studies was instituted in 1986. The two-year interdisciplinary, graduate-level curriculum is intended for students who will later continue in a Ph.D. program or a professional school, or for those who will enter business, government service, or another career in which a sound knowledge of Africa is essential or valuable. A student may choose one of the following areas of concentration: history; anthropology; political science; sociology; arts and literatures; languages and linguistics; religion; environmental and development studies; and public health.

The program requires sixteen courses: one compulsory interdisciplinary seminar, Gateway to Africa (AFST 505); a second course employing an interdisciplinary approach to African Studies, approved by the DGS; four courses of instruction in an African language; four courses in one of the foregoing areas of concentration; four other approved courses offered in the graduate school or professional schools; and two terms of directed reading and research (AFST 590 and AFST 900) during which students will complete the required thesis; with permission of the DGS, AFST 951 may be substituted for AFST 590. The choice of courses must be approved by the DGS, with whom students should consult as soon as possible in the first term.
THE MASTER’S THESIS
The master’s thesis is based on research on a topic approved by the DGS and advised by a faculty member with expertise or specialized competence in the chosen topic. Students must submit their thesis for joint evaluation by the adviser and a second reader, who is chosen by the student in consultation with the DGS.

PROGRAM IN AFRICAN LANGUAGES
The language program offers instruction in five major languages from sub-Saharan Africa: Kiswahili (eastern and central Africa), Wolof (through a consortium agreement with Columbia University), Yorùbá (West Africa), and isiZulu (southern Africa). Language-related courses and language courses for professionals are also offered. African language courses emphasize communicative competence, and instructors use multimedia materials that focus on the contemporary African context. Course sequences are designed to enable students to achieve advanced competence in all skill areas by the end of the third year, and the African Languages program encourages students to spend one summer or term in Africa during their language study.

Noncredited instruction in other African languages is available by application through the Directed Independent Language Study program at the Center for Language Study. Contact the director of the Program in African Languages.

More information is available on the program’s website, http://african.macmillan.yale.edu.