

Program Change Request

New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: 08/09/18 8:47 am

Viewing: **AAAS-MA:MUSE-MA : Joint Master of Arts in Museum Studies and African & African-American Studies**

Last edit: 09/21/18 11:25 am

Changes proposed by: Istudley

Academic Career	Graduate, Lawrence	
Program Type	Joint Degree	
Constituent Programs	Programs:	
	MUSE-MA - Museum Studies, M.A.	
	AAAS-MA - African and African-American Studies, M.A.	
Department/Program	Museum Studies African & African-American St	Department/ Program #2
School/College	College of Lib Arts & Sciences	School/College #2 College of Lib Arts & Sciences
Degree Code	Master of Arts - MA	Degree Code #2 Master of Arts - MA
Consulting School(s)/College(s)	School(s)/College(s)	
	College of Lib Arts & Sciences	
Consulting Department(s)		
Program Name	Joint Master of Arts in Museum Studies and African & African-American Studies	
Do you intend to offer a track(s)?	No	
Location(s) of Instruction	Lawrence	
Do you intend for this program to be offered online?	No	
Effective Catalog	2019 - 2020	

In Workflow

- A. CLAS Dean or Associate Dean
- B. Provost's Office
- C. COGA Director
- D. CGS Committee
- E. CAC
- F. CLAS Final Approval
- G. Graduate Studies
- H. OIRP CIP Approval
- I. Provost's Office
- J. COCAO 1st Reading
- K. COCAO 2nd Reading
- L. COPS
- M. BOR
- N. Future Academic Catalog

Approval Path

- A. 08/31/18 8:32 am
Kristine Latta (klatta):
Approved for CLAS Dean or Associate Dean
- B. 10/01/18 11:23 am
aball: Approved for Provost's Office
- C. 10/08/18 11:09 am
Kristine Latta (klatta):
Approved for COGA Director
- D. 10/08/18 11:21 am
Rachel Schwien (rschwien):
Approved for CGS Committee

Program Description

Museum Studies and African and African-American Studies offer joint master's degrees with coordinated curricula so that students are able to complete two M.A. degrees in three years. Fifteen graduate credit hours are applied to both programs, allowing students to complete a 33 credit hour AAAS M.A. and a 36 credit hour Museum Studies M.A. with just 54 graduate credit hours.

This program of study is designed to enhance and diversify opportunities for graduate students who are motivated to enter the cultural heritage field as specialists in African and African-American Studies. This three-year joint program allows students to expand their contacts with faculty, enhance their professional networks, and deepen their knowledge of both fields of study.

Demand/Need for the Program

This proposal is intended to move KU to the forefront of a national effort to address the lack of diversity in the professional workforce in American museums. A 2015 report from the Mellon Foundation found that "non-Hispanic White staff continue to dominate the job categories most closely associated with the intellectual and educational mission of museums" and asserted that "the nation will need more programs that encourage students of color to pursue graduate education in preparation for museum positions." This proposal is intended to be one step in that direction.

We have contacted the president of the board of the Association of African American Museums for comments on our proposal. He circulated our idea to his board as well as to other museum professionals. Their responses were positive and encouraging. The most encouraging respondent stated:

"I see great value in a university offering a joint M.A. in Museum Studies and African American Studies. This would be a highly valuable credential and one that I would certainly consider when hiring a new staff member. The credential will enable a student to concentrate their master's degree in learning museum practices while growing in content specialization. The graduate would be highly valuable to any African American history museum. I think the degree program would be a win-win-win situation for students, the universities, and the black museums field. ... As a museum professional who holds a joint M.A. degree in History (in which I focused on African American History) and Museum Studies, I certainly support the university in pursuing the joint degree. I would pursue that degree if I were on the other side of the timeline."

Nationally, the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 13% growth rate for museum workers, which is faster than the average: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/education-training-and-library/curators-museum-technicians-and-conservators.htm>.

Comparative/Locational Advantage

We have found that no other universities currently offer joint degrees in Museum Studies/Museology and African and African American/Africana Studies. However, there are many well-regarded universities offering joint graduate degrees in other fields such as Law, Business, Public Administration/Public Affairs, Urban Planning, Engineering, Library Science, and more. Some examples follow:

KU Museum Studies Competitor, Texas Tech University: Texas Tech offers joint degrees but none with Museum Studies. They offer JD degrees with Accounting, Engineering, and Business; MBA degrees with several programs including Pharmacy, Architecture, and German.

KU Museum Studies Competitor, IUPUI: Like Texas Tech, IUPUI offers joint graduate degrees, but non in Museum Studies. They currently offer: M.S. in Physics/M.S. in Environmental Science; MBA/M.S. in Biology, Geology, Mathematical Sciences, or Physics; M.A. in Economics/M.A. in Philanthropic Studies; M.A. in Philanthropic Studies/MPA in Nonprofit Management; among others.

Admission Requirements Students seeking admission to the joint degree will apply to both the Museum Studies M.A. and the African & African-American Studies M.A. and will be expected to meet the established admission requirements of each program.

[Museum Studies M.A. - Admission Requirements](#)

[African & African-American Studies - Admission Requirements](#)

Students who have begun course work in either Museum Studies or African & African-American Studies can apply to be a joint degree student prior to completing all course work requirements for the first degree. In consultation with the respective Directors of Graduate Study, they may be able to receive credit for course work already completed. However, depending on when the application for admission to the second degree program is submitted, the student may be required to take more than the required 54 credit hours of course work to obtain both degrees.

Please see the [Admission to Graduate Study](#) policy for additional information on admission requirements. Applications may be submitted at <http://graduate.ku.edu/ku-graduate-application>.

Degree Requirements

Students completing the joint degree take all of the required courses in each of the respective programs, as well as fulfilling each program's requirements to gain a breadth of knowledge. Coordination in advising between the two programs enables students to take courses that satisfy the degree needs for both programs. To earn both degrees, students complete 54 graduate credit hours, 15 of which are applied to both programs. Because the required courses are offered regularly, students are able to complete the required courses in the first four semesters of the program, using the final two semesters to complete the remaining credit hour requirements. The programs' curricular requirements follow; further details on program expectations are available in the respective Graduate Student Handbooks.

Museum Studies Requirements for Joint M.A.

Course List

Code	Title	Hours
1. Museum Studies Core		9

Code	Title	Hours
	The Museum Studies Core ensures that all Museum Studies students gain a comprehensive understanding of the theories, history, techniques, and problems common to museums, historical agencies and related institutions. <u>MUSE 803</u> , taken in the student's third semester of study, is a research course that enables students to conduct research or other creative activities that advance the discipline of museum studies.	
<u>MUSE 801</u>	The Nature of Museums	
<u>MUSE 802</u>	Culture of Museums	
<u>MUSE 803</u>	Seminar in Current Museum Topics	

2. Museum Professional Areas 9

Students will develop expertise in the principal specialties of museum work by completing at least three professional area courses (9 credit hours), at least one of which must be a Museum Studies (MUSE) course. Many courses in other departments may fulfill requirements; it is the responsibility of students, and their advisors, to ensure that individual courses meet program requirements based on the general relevance of the course and assurance that the student's work in the class will be applicable to museum studies by meeting with instructors and examining syllabi. Courses taken must be at the 500 level or above. A list of available professional area courses can be found on the Museum Studies website.

3. Museum Experience 3

While enrolled in the Museum Studies M.A. Program, students are required to gain at least 500 hours of museum experience, of which at least 250 hours must be in an approved, professionally supervised internship. Students enroll in 3 credit hours of MUSE 799: Museum Internship to meet this requirement.

MUSE 799 Museum Internship

African & African-American Studies Requirements for Joint M.A.

Code	Title	Hours
4. African & African-American Studies Core		12
<u>AAAS 801</u>	Introduction to Africana Studies: African-American	
<u>AAAS 802</u>	Introduction to Africana Studies: African	
<u>AAAS 803</u>	Research Methods in Africana Studies	
<u>AAAS 804</u>	Seminar in Africana Studies	

5. African & African-American Studies Area of Specialization 6

Students are expected to choose 2 courses in their area of specialization. Courses must be numbered 500 level or above and have a AAAS course number.

Shared Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
6. Joint Degree Electives		15
Any graduate-level MUSE or AAAS course may count as an elective. Out-of-field courses must be approved by the Directors of Graduate Study for both programs.		
7. Final Project or Thesis		
Students completing the joint degree program are required to defend either a final project or thesis in their final semester. The student should consult with their African & African-American Studies and Museum Studies faculty advisors to identify a project or thesis topic that effectively incorporates both areas of study. Faculty advisors from both programs will oversee and evaluate the project or thesis. Students who choose to complete a thesis must enroll in 3 credit hours of <u>AAAS 899</u> in their final semester in lieu of an elective course. Students who choose to complete a final project will take 15 credit hours of joint degree electives as described above.		
Each student will successfully defend their final project or thesis as their final master's examination. The final exam committee, chosen by the student, must have at least four members; at least two from the Museum Studies area and at least two from the African & African-American Studies area.		

If a student decides to complete only the MUSE M.A. or AAAS M.A. and withdraw from the other program, they must complete all requirements for the stand-alone degree.

Faculty Profile

Name of Faculty and Rank	Highest Degree	Number of Faculty FTE
Peter H Welsh, Professor	PhD	1
Sandra Olsen, Professor	PhD	.5
Elizabeth Kowalchuk, Associate Professor	PhD	.5
Cecile Accilien, Associate Professor	PhD	1
Shawn Alexander, Professor	PhD	1
Anthony Bolden, Associate Professor	PhD	1

Abel Chikanda, Assistant Professor	PhD	.5
Jessica Gerschultz, Assistant Professor	PhD	1
Jennifer Hamer, Professor	PhD	0
Dorothy E. Hines, Associate Professor	PhD	.5
Randal Jelks, Professor	PhD	.5
Clarence Lang, Professor	PhD	0
Elizabeth MacGonagle, Associate Professor	PhD	1
Peter Ojiambo, Associate Professor	PhD	1
Dorothy Lee Pennington, Associate Professor	PhD	.5
Peter Ukpokodu, Professor	PhD	1

Student Profile

Anticipated student enrollment			
	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Year 1	1	0	1
Year 2	3	0	3
Year 3	4	0	4

Anticipated number of program graduates	
After 5 Years	4
After 7 Years	8

Academic Support

No additional support needed

Facilities and Equipment

N/A

Program Review, Assessment, Accreditation

N/A

Costs, Financing

	Salaries	OOE	Equipment	Other	TOTAL
Year 1	0	0	0	0	0
Year 2	0	0	0	0	0
Year 3	0	0	0	0	0

What is the source of the new funds?

No additional funds needed

Rationale for proposal

The primary purpose of the program is to enhance and diversify opportunities for graduate students who are motivated to enter the cultural heritage field as specialists in African & African-American Studies. Our market research suggests that students who earn both degrees will gain a significant competitive advantage. Students will expand their contacts with faculty, enhance their professional networks, and deepen their knowledge of both fields of study.

Additional Information

Supporting Documents

[Sample Program of Study MUSE-AAAS Joint MA.xlsx](#)

Program Reviewer Comments

Kristine Latta (klatta) (08/22/18 10:03 am): Added note about 700 level courses to Joint Degree Requirements section. Confirmed change with MUSE.

Kristine Latta (klatta) (08/22/18 10:27 am): Reversed prior change after further discussion with department.

Kristine Latta (klatta) (08/29/18 8:11 am): Added information from Bureau of Labor Statistics with approval of department.

Kristine Latta (klatta) (08/31/18 8:31 am): Approved by Dean Lang on 8/30/18.

Rachel Schwien (rschwien) (09/20/18 2:43 pm): CGS Subcommittee approved 9/20

Rachel Schwien (rschwien) (10/01/18 8:51 am): CGS Approved 9/27

