The USF Department of Africana Studies (AFA) offers rich opportunities for global citizenship. The AFA curriculum includes an exciting and diverse range of courses on people of Africa and its diaspora. Students can examine “The Black Experience” from historical and contemporary perspectives. These courses offer an intellectual foundation for student travel to the African continent, Latin America, and the Caribbean. AFA’s undergraduate majors as well as graduate students have traveled to such amazing countries as Brazil and Botswana. You too can become globally aware by majoring or minoring in Africana Studies. Be bold! Be adventurous! Be an Africana Studies major!

Cheryl R. Rodriguez, Ph.D., Chair and Director,

For more information on degree and certificate programs, contact Dr. Rodriguez.
CONGRATULATIONS TO AFRICANA STUDIES GRADUATES!

RAYMOND HAMILTON, MLA

FRED HEARNS, MLA

CAMARA “Cam” SILVER, MLA

Chelsea Williams, BA Africana Studies

“My AFA degree has been beneficial in expanding my knowledge of diversity and the impact that historical events have on cultural relations. As I pursue a law degree, I am certain that my Africana Studies degree will help me to become a more well-rounded attorney.”

Maya Elizabeth Brown, BA Africana Studies, Cum Laude

Corliss Heath, Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies
Rene O’Brien, Graduate Certificate in Genocide and Human Rights
Focus on Africana Studies Students and Their Research!

Christopher Pineda

‘Finding a Home: Latino Residential Influx into Progress Village, 1990-2010’

Progress Village was developed as an African American residential community for families dislocated during the construction of Interstate-4 during the late 1950s. For over thirty years the community’s residential population was 90% Black. The purpose of this project is to examine some of the reasons for a recent significant influx of Latino residents into this historically Black community. Data for the study derives from census statistics, newspapers articles, and scholarly publications. Also interviews were conducted with community leaders of the Progress Village Civic Association and a number of Latino residents. All of these sources are analyzed in order to show how national immigration policies, migration patterns and economic limitations affect movement into certain communities like Progress Village. This is a topic that is often overlooked due to the invisibility of Latinos in discussions of race and residence in America.

Lisa Armstrong

Black Families in Carver City-Lincoln Gardens

Carver City- Lincoln Gardens (CCLG) is a historically Black community, located in an area of Tampa known as “West Tampa”. This neighborhood began developing in the 1940s during the Jim Crow Era. Created to perpetuate racial segregation, Jim Crow laws determined where children went to school and where people could and could not live. The history of Black families in CCLG has been ignored and the networks of kinship that characterize these families have not been studied. This research will contribute to the literature on local history in Tampa relating to the Black family. The goal of this particular study is to demonstrate how Black families support and sustain themselves through the collective efforts of the community and extended kinships.

AFA Alums—Where are they now?

Nicole Sealey - MLA (Africana Studies) is a Cave Canem fellow and the recipient of a 2014 Elizabeth George Foundation grant. Winner of the 2012 Poetry International Prize and selected for inclusion in Best New Poets 2011, her work has appeared in Callaloo, Harvard Review, Poetry International, Ploughshares, and Third Coast, among other literary online and print journals. While pursuing the MLA in Africana Studies, Nicole completed an Internship at the famous Studio Museum in Harlem, N.Y.

Reginald Eldridge Jr. - MLA (Africana Studies) is a spoken word artist and poet who continues a close affiliation with the department and his USF classmates. His most recent publications include: “(Still) Playing in the Dark: From People of Color to Black and Back Again” RaceBaitr. June 12, 2015 and “On Rising” The Offing. May 12, 2015.

C.P. Patrick— Christina Platt graduated from USF with a B.A. degree in Africana Studies. She went on to earn the M.A. degree in African Studies from The Ohio State University and a J.D from Stetson University College of Law. Today she is known as C.P. Patrick, a novelist living in Washington, D.C. In 2014 she published her debut novel, The Truth about Awiti, a historical fantasy that takes place in 15th century Africa and 21st century New Orleans. The USF Department of Africana Studies is extremely proud of this creative and brilliant writer.
The Institute on Black Life is actively engaged in a broad range of research projects, university-based events, and collaborative projects with organizations both at USF and in the greater Tampa Bay community. IBL programs include lectures by local, national and international scholars.
In June 2015, the Institute on Black Life and the Department of Africana Studies presented an “African and African American History” workshop for Hillsborough County teachers. In 1994 and 2002, the Florida legislature passed laws that required instruction of African and African American history and culture in K-12 classrooms throughout the state. Hillsborough County social studies teachers are trying to transform the curriculum and meet this mandate. During the workshop teachers examined concepts such as race, racism, social inequality and social class while also considering strategies that reflect culturally responsive teaching.
February 19-20, 2015—USF faculty, students, staff and community members presented sessions and workshops on the shared history, art and cultural richness that resulted from the dispersal of Africans throughout the world.

**Displays and Conversations**

- **East Hillsborough Historical Society**
  African American Genealogy Growing your family tree, finding your roots: African American genealogy resources available in the East Hillsborough Historical Society's Quintilla Geer Burton Archives Center, Plant City.

- **African American Museum**
  Bartow, Florida  The Luster All African American Heritage Museum is a place where visitors can learn about the rich and diverse experiences of persons of African descent in Central Florida, and how our Black ancestors' lives helped shape the history of the region, the state, and the nation.

- **USF Committee on Black Affairs (COBA)**
- **Florida Diversity Council**
- **USF Library Special & Digital Collections**
- **Carver City—Lincoln Gardens Civic Association**
- **USF Office of Multicultural Affairs**
- **USF Study Abroad**

Go to [http://ibl.usf.edu/conferences/](http://ibl.usf.edu/conferences/) for a copy of the program.
Dr. Cheryl Rodriguez is Associate Professor of Africana Studies and Anthropology. Her research interests include Black feminisms; community ethnography and youth in the African diaspora. Her recent anthology, *Transatlantic Feminisms: Women and Gender Studies in Africa and the Diaspora* (2015), is an interdisciplinary collection of original feminist research. Co-edited with Professors Akosua Adomako Ampofo and Dzodzi Tsikata of the University of Ghana, the book demonstrates the power of transcontinental connections and exchanges between feminist thinkers. Dr. Rodriguez received a Global Academic Partners grant for the collaboration that led to the book. She also received a USF “Research that Matters” award for the development of the African American Neighborhoods project, an ethnographic website and book project on Tampa’s historically Black communities. Dr. Rodriguez serves on the Hillsborough County Historical Advisory Council and is the Hillsborough County Historian.

Dr. Edward Kissi teaches courses on African history, genocide and human rights. He is an internationally recognized scholar on comparative genocide, and the initiator of the African Initiative on Genocide and Human Rights Education. As a Fellow of the International Institute for Advanced Studies (IIAS), a think-tank in Ghana, he delivered his inaugural seminar, in 2013, at the University of Ghana on “Human Rights and the Debates over Dignity and Social Order in Africa.” Dr. Kiss’s talk was widely covered on radio and television and on the internet in Ghana. It also generated passionate reactions in Ghana, and reignited a national debate over gay rights, particularly his view that diverse African societies have a legal and moral obligation to respect diversity in all its forms and that sexual minorities, in particular, ought to be accorded the same dignity and respect that all minority and human groups enjoy in any modern society in the 21st Century. He was among the invited speakers at the Conference on World Affairs (USF-St. Petersburg) and spoke on the panel that discussed the relevance of International Criminal Tribunals for upholding global justice and human rights. He also attended, as an invited speaker, an International Conference on Genocide, Prevention, Cultures of Peace and Holocaust Education, organized by UNESCO and the Aladdin Project, in Dakar, Senegal.

Dr. Laurie Lahey is currently working on a manuscript about the civil rights movement in Camden, New Jersey. Her research explores how an unlikely alliance of militant African Americans, Puerto Ricans, and white Christians cooperated in their quest for social justice during the late-1960s and early-1970s. Dr. Lahey was awarded a $10,000 grant by the New Jersey Historical Commission to assist in the final research and publication on this project. Her work will also appear in the forthcoming edited collection, *Beyond Civil Rights: African American and Latino/a Activism in the Twentieth Century United States*, which will be published by the University of Georgia Press. Her research and teaching interests include: Race and racism in American history, the African diaspora, 20th century social movements, religion and politics. In April 2015, she was awarded a Faculty International Travel Grant from USF's Internal Awards Program to present her research at the Latin American Studies Association in San Juan, Puerto Rico in May.

Dr. Omotayo Jolaosho joined the department in Fall 2015. She is a cultural anthropologist with a background in performance and integrated arts. Her scholarship focuses on the role of embodied performance in community mobilizations for social change in South Africa. Her research has been supported by awards from Fulbright Hays, National Science Foundation, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Social Science Research Council, among others. Her work extends beyond South Africa as the co-editor of *African Women Writing Resistance: Contemporary Voices*, a transnational anthology on women’s strategies of contestation and resistance to the challenges they experience.
Dr. Kersuze Simeon-Jones teaches “Haiti: Legacy of Resilience” and “Afro-Diaspora Literature and Political Movements” for the Department of Africana Studies. Her academic contribution for 2013 was an entry for *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Postcolonial Studies* entitled “The Negritude Philosophy and the Movement.” She also wrote an entry on Haiti, for *the Digital Library of the Caribbean*. Dr. Simeon-Jones is the author of *Literary and Sociopolitical Writings of the Black Diaspora in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*.

Dr. Abraham Khan teaches courses on race and sports and on Social Theory in Africana Studies. His first book, *Curt Flood in the Media*, was published in 2012 by the University Press of Mississippi. Dr. Khan is interested in investigating the discourses that influence racial politics and cultural narratives of racial justice. Dr. Khan is currently examining the civic imagination of liberal integrationism and the symbolic crises that emerge from the attempt to formulate black Identity as an agency of social activism in sport.
The Institute on Black Life currently administers a number of scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students. The scholarships were established to provide academically talented students the opportunity to study at the University of South Florida. These scholarships are based on academic talent, grade point average, financial need and a personal statement of commitment to their success at USF. To be considered for a scholarship, APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED to complete a financial aid (FAFSA) application available from the USF Office of Financial Aid or on line at www.fafsa.edu.gov

For detailed information, see www.IBL.USF.EDU

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If there is character, ugliness becomes beauty; if there is none, beauty becomes ugliness. ~Nigerian Proverb

Student Success:
Institute on Black Life Scholarships

The Institute on Black Life currently administers a number of scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students. The scholarships were established to provide academically talented students the opportunity to study at the University of South Florida. These scholarships are based on academic talent, grade point average, financial need and a personal statement of commitment to their success at USF. To be considered for a scholarship, APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED to complete a financial aid (FAFSA) application available from the USF Office of Financial Aid or on line at www.fafsa.edu.gov

For detailed information, see www.IBL.USF.EDU

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Catherine and John Lott Brown Endowed Scholarship

Mia Flowers
Stephano Mauricio Iglesias
Stevenson Morency

Biomedical Sciences
Biology
Civil Engineering

Ruth and Jerry Bell Endowed Scholarship

David Guirguis
Kimberly Pusey

Biomedical Sciences
Psychology

Bright House Scholarship

Jennifer Martinez
Dayana Jean-Paul

Health Sciences
Statistics

Robert Louis Allen Endowed Scholarship

Doniesha Sullivan
Yaquelin Coll Zayas
Peter Kivuva

Psychology
Biomedical Sciences
Business – Management

Ivory Club Endowed Scholarship

Abdillahi Ahmed
Moyosore Ajeigbe
Samuel Alao
Farah Hodan
Ossie Robert Ogwo
Kelechi Ohaeto
Antonia Panaou

Biomedical Sciences
Chemical Engineering
MPH – Global Communicable Diseases
Elementary Education
Mechanical Engineering
Health Sciences
Ph.D. Candidate, Civil Engineering
COMING -February 2016
Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Institute on Black Life at USF!

Annual Conference—February 18—19, 2016—"Activism Matters"

A STUDY OF NEGRO LIFE IN TAMPA
1927

INTRODUCTION

A study of NEGRO LIFE IN TAMPA was made at the request of the Tampa Welfare League and the Tampa Young Men's Christian Association. This study was made by representatives of the Interracial Commission, the National Council of the Y. M. C. A., and the National Urban League. The object of the study was to determine the social needs of the Negro Community, to ascertain the extent to which these needs were being met by existing agencies, and to suggest a basis upon which to build a more effective social program.

The representatives of this study express appreciation to public officials for access to records, to the special committee appointed by the Mayor, to the Executive Committee of the Tampa Welfare League, to the Board of Directors of the Local Y. M. C. A., and to the Past Planning Committee of the Negro Community, whose untiring efforts made this project possible.

THE LONG HISTORY OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN FLORIDA

PASS THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL!