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*The AAAL Minor lets you enter a whole world of black culture and immerse yourself in the African American story. #blackamericaagain”*

**ZACH COLLIER,  
STUDENT**

## AAAL MINOR REQUIREMENTS

The African and African American Literature Minor is a six-course (18-credit hour) program of study that can be combined with any undergraduate major at WCU.

### TWO REQUIRED COURSES, FOUR ELECTIVES

Students begin the minor by completing two required survey courses—one in African Literature (CLS 203 or CLS 351) and one in African American Literature (LIT 202 or LIT 203)—and then choose from a variety of elective classes that include:

- » Harlem Renaissance
- » African American Novel
- » African American Film
- » Urban Literature
- » African American Rhetorics
- » Frederick Douglass
- » Martin Luther King
- » Black Women Writers
- » Special-Topics Research Seminars (ENG/CLS 400)

The English Department offers at least five AAAL Minor-affiliated courses each semester, allowing you flexibility in your choice of classes and enabling you to complete the minor in a relatively short amount of time.

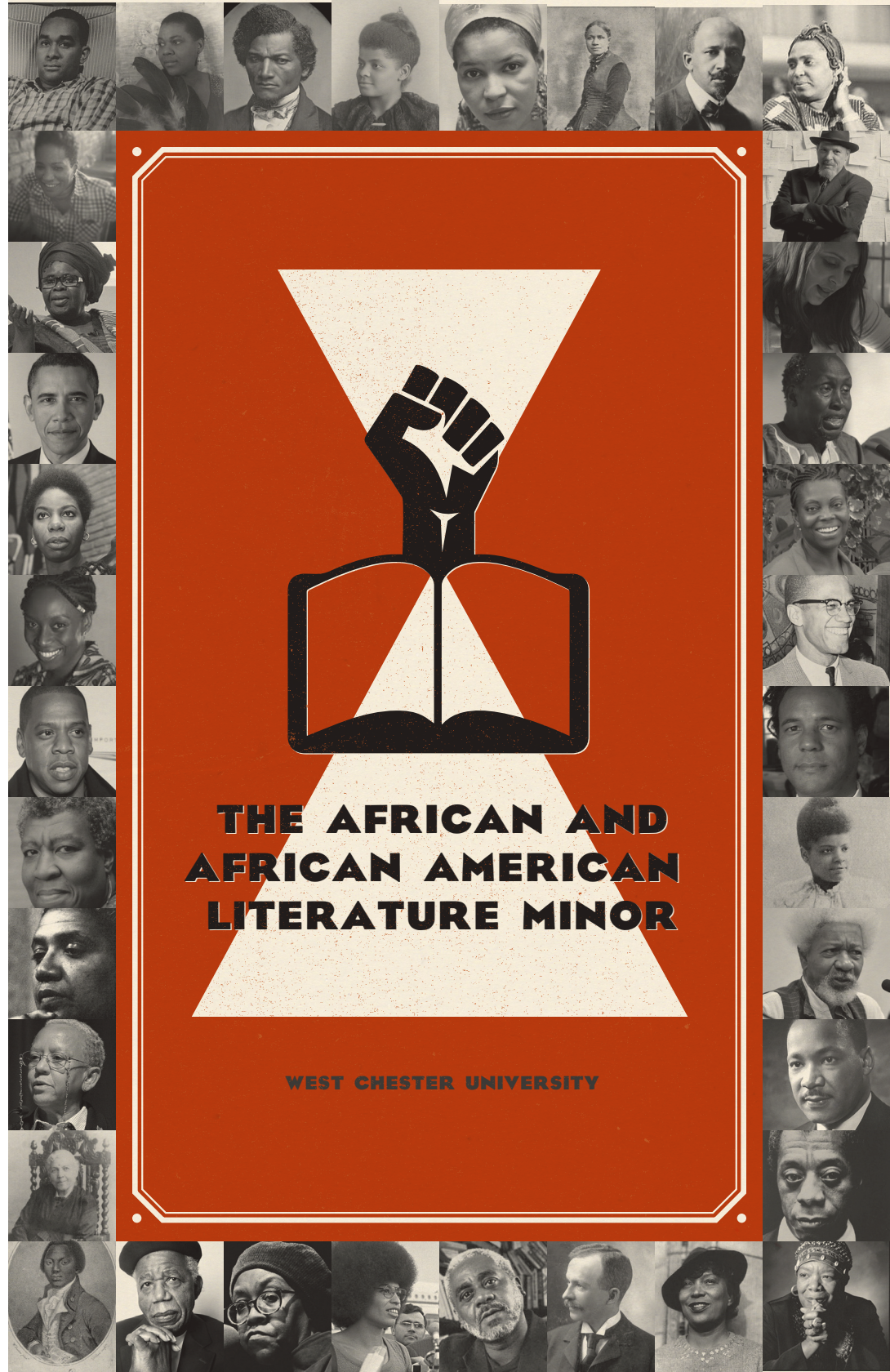
### LEARN MORE

To learn more about the AAAL Minor at WCU and contact our program coordinator, Google us at “AAAL Minor at WCU” or visit:

[wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/English/africanLit.aspx](http://wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/English/africanLit.aspx)

- » Downloadable advising sheet
- » Link to the registrar’s Add-Minor form
- » Complete list of our course offerings
- » Information on all of our current faculty
- » Program coordinator’s contact information
- » Link to the AAAL Minor Facebook page
- » Student learning outcomes

**WCU**  
WEST CHESTER  
UNIVERSITY







# THE AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE MINOR AT WCU

*The English Department's minor in African and African American Literature gives students the opportunity to explore a rich field of literature from Africa, the United States, and other contexts within the African Diaspora. Our curriculum emphasizes the diversity of voices and experiences within African and African American cultures.*

## FASCINATING BOOKS, EXPERT FACULTY

As a student in the AAAL Minor, you'll study texts and materials from a variety of places, periods, and perspectives, and read well-known classics alongside neglected but equally fascinating books. You'll also work with dedicated faculty who are expert in, and passionate about, a wide range of African and African American literatures. They'll help you develop a sophisticated critical vocabulary for responding to the literature and interpreting it in its theoretical, cultural, historical, and political contexts.

## A MINOR THAT MATTERS NOW

The AAAL Minor will not only deepen your grasp of black historical experience but also sharpen your understanding of our own racial era and the signature events and movements that have defined it—from the Obama presidency to mass incarceration to Black Lives Matter and beyond. Even more broadly, the program will help you learn how language, both oral and written, has the power to reflect and even reshape the worlds we inhabit together.

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*The AAAL Minor has expanded my grasp of the human experience, taking it beyond the Western-centric approach I was taught in high school. The program's combination of literary and historical study has allowed me to perceive the world in new, exciting, colorful ways.*”

**MYJKA MOBLEY,  
STUDENT**



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*Minoring in African American literature gave me a better understanding of black history and taught me to interpret texts written by authors whose culture and background differ from my own. These things in turn have given me a more diversified view of life.”*

**MARY FREED,  
STUDENT**

## CAREER PREPARATION

How can the AAAL Minor help to prepare you for a career? Our students cultivate the critical competencies and multicultural perspectives sought by employers in today's diverse workplace. By reading, discussing, and writing about literature, you'll sharpen your critical and creative thinking skills, grow as a speaker and writer, and better understand the racial dynamics of today's globalized world. Our program benefits students pursuing careers in PK-12 education, law, criminal justice, social work, business, marketing, and fine arts, to name just a few.

## SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

The AAAL Minor hosts a variety of cultural events and opportunities aimed at building community and enriching students' experience in the program. In recent semesters, we have held student-faculty roundtable discussions on current films made by black filmmakers and about black experiences, taken trips to see special museum exhibits and plays, and brought exciting poets and authors to campus.

