
Procedure for selection of students
Students wishing to graduate with distinction in AAAS must submit an application form (attached below) by April 15 of the junior year. Applications should include a 1-2 page description of the proposed project and a letter of recommendation from the faculty member directing the project. Students must have an overall GPA of 3.3 and a GPA of 3.5 in the major.

Expected product
A senior thesis that makes an original contribution to the field of African or African-American Studies is required. Completed projects are due by April 15. The thesis should be a minimum of 60 pages. The requirements for other forms of submission (e.g., video, photographic) will be determined in consultation with the student, advisor, and program director. All students are expected to engage in archival and/or field research.

Evaluative body
The candidate will offer an oral defense of the senior project before a faculty committee consisting of the project advisor, the program director, and one other faculty member.

Evaluative procedure
The student’s advisor is responsible for overseeing the progress of the project. An oral defense of the senior project is required.

Levels of distinction
Distinction, High Distinction, and Highest Distinction.

Special courses, other activities required, comments
In the senior year, the capstone seminar or an alternative senior level seminar in the program is to be taken. Students in the distinction program must enroll in AAAS 194A in the Fall and 194B in the Spring.

Department of African & African American Studies
Application for Graduation with Distinction in African and African-American Studies

Name of Student: ___________________________   Graduation Date: ______________

Cumulative Duke GPA: (all Duke courses - 3.3 minimum required) ________

GPA in courses taken in the major: (3.5 minimum required) ________

Title of Distinction Project: __________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

Project Advisor: ____________________________________________________________________

(This individual must also be listed below as a member of the Faculty Committee.)

Faculty Committee Members: (Three faculty members, including the Project Advisor) (please print)

Project Advisor  __________________________

Program Director  __________________________

Third Member  __________________________

Description of Honors’ Project: Please attach a 1-2 page description of the project

Letter of Recommendation: Please attach a letter of recommendation from your Project Advisor.

Signature of Thesis Supervisor: ___________________________ Date ____________

Submission of Application: To the Director of Undergraduate Studies

Deadline: April 15 of junior year