

Africana Studies Program
Process for Adding Affiliated Faculty/Executive Committee Members

*Adopted by the Executive Committee September 15, 2021

Because International and Areas Studies (IAS) programs do not have their own faculty, they depend upon faculty from other departments to teach courses, mentor students, and help in the governance of the program. In the Africana Studies program, these faculty are termed “affiliated faculty.” Most IAS programs also have an executive committee – a group of affiliated faculty charged with additional responsibilities. The Africana Studies program has an executive committee, but often consults all affiliated faculty for help in program governance, student mentoring, etc.

Criteria and procedures and policies governing the appointment of affiliated faculty and executive committee members in the Africana Studies program are outlined below.

Affiliated Faculty

- Faculty become affiliates of the Africana Studies program through the invitation of the program coordinator and following the approval of the program coordinator and the executive committee.
 - Faculty will be considered for approval after submitting to the program coordinator and executive committee a copy of their CV as well as a brief statement of interest (no more than one page) discussing their qualifications, interests, and goals for participating in the program.
 - Applications will be considered as they arise; there is no formal timeline for the application and invitation process.
- Before extending the invitation to the potential affiliate, approval will be obtained from the candidate’s department chair. These requests should be made through the Kennedy Center’s Associate Director for Research and Academic Programs (or AD).
- Faculty affiliates must have the training and expertise requisite for Africana Studies. Qualifications include the following:
 - A PhD in a relevant field and training in the specific area to be studied. For example, an affiliate may have a PhD in history, English, French, Political Science, etc., but her/his/their training should include courses and at least part of a dissertation focused on Africa or its diasporas. A candidate may also have gained significant academic expertise in Africana Studies beyond the PhD, demonstrated by accepted academic output in the field as described below. In other words, expressing an interest in the field is not a sufficient qualification to be named an affiliate.
 - The affiliate should be active in the field, including publishing in scholarly venues recognized as relevant and important to the program and its related disciplines and demonstrating teaching expertise in Africana Studies.
- Affiliated faculty should be actively teaching and/or mentoring students who are interested in her/his/their area of research and are expected to participate in regular affiliated faculty meetings and program events.

Note: Those with limited experience who are not yet qualified but interested in being involved are encouraged to become involved in Africana Studies events, teaching, and scholarship to build up that experience to become an affiliate. Please contact the program coordinator for further resources.

Executive Committee Members

- A number of affiliates will become members of the program's executive committee by invitation of the program coordinator. Before extending the invitation, approval will be obtained from the candidate's department chair and dean. As with requests for affiliated faculty, requests for members of the executive committee should be made through the AD.
- Members of the executive committee take a more active role in the governance of the program, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Reviewing and approving potential faculty affiliates.
 - Assisting the coordinator in matters related to the governance of the program, including curriculum and budget decisions.
 - Assisting the coordinator as needed with student advisement, teaching core courses, considering petitions for exceptions, etc.
- The program coordinator should strive to include committee members representative of both the range of academic disciplines involved in the program and African continental vs African diaspora studies.
- Any changes in curriculum should be approved by the program's executive committee and/or affiliated faculty. This is especially true for changes in program requirements.
- Every year, at the beginning of fall semester, the program coordinator should provide the AD with an updated list of affiliated faculty and executive committee members.