

University of California, Santa Barbara
Department of Black Studies
2023-24 Black Studies Emphasis Application

BSE

The Black Studies Emphasis builds on our university's great strengths in Race Studies, Comparative Ethnicity and the Black experience, and positions UCSB as a leader in Black Studies and Social Justice research and pedagogy. Students are required to successfully complete five courses, designed to develop a critical and analytical understanding of racial theory and pedagogy as well as the study of Black people in local and global contexts. A current copy of the BSE course checklist is attached (pages 3 and 4).

Eligibility

Admission into the Black Studies Emphasis is highly selective.

Students that are eligible must be enrolled in a doctoral program in the departments of Chicana/o Studies, Communication, Education, English, Feminist Studies, Global Studies, History, Linguistics or Political Science.

To apply to be part of the Black Studies Emphasis please complete this application in its entirety and provide all additional requested application materials. Below is a checklist of required application materials. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Required Application Materials Checklist

1. Letter of Application
 - The letter of application should describe any relevant coursework, the applicant's anticipated research specialty in their home department and its relation to interdisciplinary scholarship in Black Studies.
2. Personal Information (found on page 2)
3. CV
4. Writing Sample (3-5pages)
5. UCSB Transcripts
6. Letters of Recommendation
 - **Two** letters of recommendation are required for your application to be considered. One letter must be from a UCSB faculty member in your home department and the other from a faculty member in the Department of Black Studies (Faculty Advisor/Dissertation Committee Member). These letters can be sent separately by the recommender to millawu@ucsb.edu

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Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I. _____

Perm #: _____ Email: _____

Black Studies Faculty Advisor: _____

Home Department: _____ Year of Entry into Program: _____

Letters of Recommendation Requested from:

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send completed application materials millawu@ucsb.edu. Applications will be considered at any time.

INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE EMPHASIS IN BLACK STUDIES

<http://www.blackstudies.ucsb.edu/programs/graduate>

University of California, Santa Barbara

Student Name: _____

Perm: _____

EMPHASIS IN BLACK STUDIES – 2023-2024

Applicants must first be admitted to, or currently enrolled in, a UCSB Ph.D. program participating in the Black Studies graduate emphasis: Chicana and Chicano Studies, Communication, Education, English, Feminist Studies, Global Studies, History, Linguistics, Political Science, and Sociology. Candidates pursuing the Black Studies Emphasis must also fulfill the departmental and University requirements related to their degree program. Applications to the Black Studies Doctoral Emphasis may be submitted at any stage of the Ph.D. work and applications will be accepted throughout the year.

The Black Studies Emphasis (BSE) represents an unparalleled asset in the production of 21st century interdisciplinary scholars. Forty years ago, the University of California at Santa Barbara launched a program devoted to the research, study, and teaching of Black Studies after several African American students seized control of the computer center on campus late in 1968 and demanded systemic change in the curriculum of the university. In the decades that followed, numerous struggles no less difficult have been waged to preserve, expand, and solidify a freestanding Department of Black Studies.

Black Studies as an inter-departmental set of conversations and intellectual questions supports a multifaceted undergraduate curriculum at UCSB. Today, Black Studies is acclaimed by students as one of the best teaching departments on campus, with a solid roster of world-renowned scholars who teach, research, and serve the intellectual and policy interests of Black people around the world. Doctoral emphasis students are encouraged to apply for Black Studies Teaching Assistantships as part of their training.

CORE COURSES – BSE gains its distinct identity by focusing on four broad areas of inquiry: Race Studies, including local, national, and transnational regimes; Black Studies traditions of criticality, activism, social justice, and transgressive epistemology; African Culture and Identity in America and throughout the Diaspora; Comparative Ethnic Studies.			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
BLST 206	Graduate Proseminar	4.0	
BLST 208	Issues in Black Studies Epistemology and Pedagogy	4.0	
TOPICS COURSES – Students must complete two topics courses selected from an approved list of courses in participating departments other than their home department. One of these courses should also be outside of the Black Studies Department. A student may petition for a 200-500 level course not yet listed to substitute for the topics course. Such courses may be pre-approved by emailing the course description and syllabus to the chair of the BSE Steering Committee.			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
DISSERTATION PREP SEMINAR – Typically taken after advancement to candidacy, BSE students will discuss their dissertation proposals and other dissertation-related work-in-progress for critical feedback.			

COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
BLST 599	Ph.D. Dissertation Research and Preparation		

VERIFICATION OF COMPLETION
<p>EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS SATISFIED (DATE): _____</p> <p>EMPHASIS DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: _____</p> <p>PRINT NAME: _____</p>