



WHY MAJOR IN AFAM?

You **Can** _____ with **AFAM!**

Journalist

Nurse

Lawyer

Business owner

Counselor



Educator

Physician

Social worker

Nonprofit Director

Artist

ERIN MARION'S STORY...

McCausland College of Arts and Sciences

BACHELOR OF ARTS

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

Learning to lead

For Erin Marion, majoring in African American Studies meant turning classroom learning into community engagement and policy conversations that shaped her future. As a dual major in AFAM and political science, Erin found that her courses deepened her desire to learn more about her government and African American experiences.

With a faculty mentor's guidance, she conducted research on discrimination in Black communities. Erin collected data, organized campus events and presented her findings to community members and policymakers.

The experience strengthened Erin's research and communication skills and led her to graduate with leadership distinction. Plus, understanding the policymaking process helped prepare her for law school.

"In my African American Studies courses, I learned about historical contributions and the importance of advocacy in all aspects of life," Erin says. "Those lessons prepared me to apply what I learned in the classroom to help better the communities we live in."

"This experience allowed me to be educated about salient issues and work with members of our communities to lobby for policy that can protect individuals."



Erin Marion



YOUR STORY...



Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

AFAM HAS 5 CAROLINA CORE COURSES

<u>AFAM 200</u>	Freedom Papers: Narratives of Race and Nation	VSR		
<u>AFAM 201</u>	Introduction to African American Studies: Social and Historical Foundations	GSS	Overlay Eligible	
<u>AFAM 202</u>	Introduction to African-American Studies	AIU	Overlay Eligible	
<u>AFAM 218</u>	Convergence and Divergence in African American and Jewish Relations: Historical and Contemporary	GSS or VSR	Overlay Eligible	
<u>AFAM 355</u>	Race and Ethnic Relations	GSS	Overlay Eligible	




 "The Lamp" by Romare Bearden, 1954
 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

You Can . . . WITH AFAM!

Who Are We?	Here at USC the Department of African American Studies, we study and teach about Black experiences in an interdisciplinary field that examines the history, culture, beliefs and actions of people of African descent in the United States and across the world. And we intersect this knowledge with broader understandings of ethnicity, culture, and many other experiences. We have been promoting excellence at USC for 55 years .
Why Major in AFAM?	With a major or minor in African American Studies you concentrate on fascinating courses that expose you to vital knowledge, and you are mentored by an internationally distinguished faculty who care deeply about your academic as well as career success. A major, double major, or minor – all options.
Who are AFAM's faculty?	We are a faculty of 15 scholars who are experts in Anthropology, Art & Art History, Education, Dance, History, Literature, Music, Sociology & Criminology, Psychology, or Political Science. We actively connect you to academic, scholarship, research, and career opportunities.
What are AFAM scholarship and career opportunities?	We have a paid internship with the Central Carolina Community Foundation , and more internship opportunities are coming online in 2026. Employers seek students who have majors or minors because we help you further sharpen your analytical, critical-thinking, communication, leadership, and creative/artistic skills. And we have several scholarships available to majors and/or minors – Willie Harriford Scholarship, Grace Jordan McFadden Award, and Rick and Rory Ackerman Scholarship.
Who are AFAM alumni?	Graduates of our program have had a very wide range of successful careers such as in business, medicine, health services, law, politics, higher education, and journalism.
Degree requirements?	For a BA in African American Studies, you must earn 28 credit hours along with other university and college requirements.

AFAM SCHOLARSHIPS (WILL POST DEADLINES SOON)

- **Willie Harriford, Jr. Scholarship:** Provides support to AFAM majors who are in good standing and who have demonstrated financial need. (At least \$500)
– a scholarship available to First Year & Transfer Students
- **Grace Jordan McFadden Award:** Recognizes excellence and advancement in African American studies' scholarship; encourages and promotes the study of diverse aspects of African American culture, life and history, and provides financial scholarships to students who pursue a AFAM course of study (Majors & minors). (At least \$500 award)
- **Rick & Rory Ackerman Scholarship:** Provides support to AFAM majors who are in good standing and who have demonstrated financial need. (\$500 per semester | \$1,000 per year)



AFAM FACULTY & STAFF



Thaddeus Davis »
Associate Professor, Theatre and Dance



Kendall Deas »
Assistant Professor of Education Policy, Law, and Politics



Nikky Finney »
John H. Bennett, Jr. Endowed Professor of Creative Writing and Southern Letters



Melanie Holmes »
Assistant Professor of African American Studies



Todd Shaw »
Associate Professor, Political Science & Interim Chair



Deena A. Isom »
Associate Professor of African American Studies & Vice-Chair



Nancy Tolson »
Director of Undergraduate Studies



Lindsay Arave
Administrative Coordinator



Claire Jiménez
Assistant Professor, English Language & Literature



Birgitta Johnson »
Associate Professor, Music



Seulhee Lee »
Assistant Professor, English Language and Literature



Pamela Martin »
Professor, Psychology



Abbe Schriber »
Assistant Professor, Art History



Kimberly E. Simmons »
Associate Professor, Anthropology



Qiana J. Whitted »
Professor, English Language and Literature



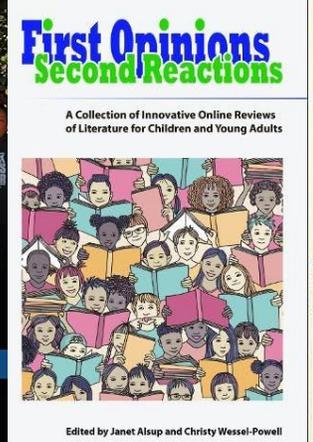
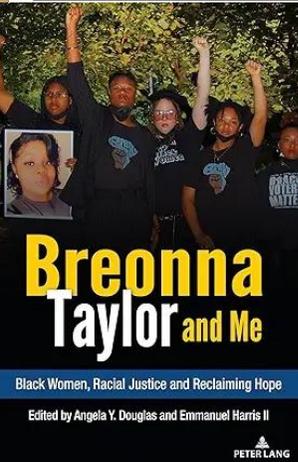
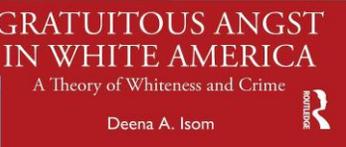
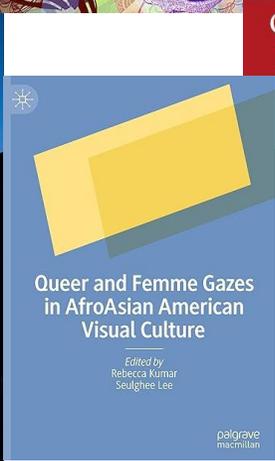
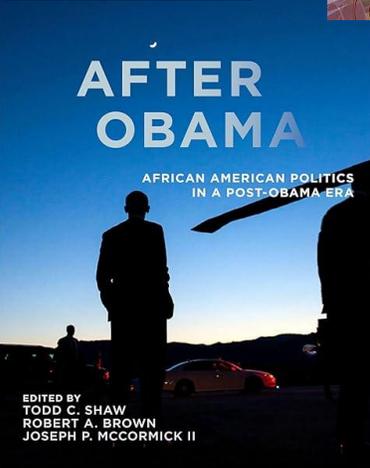
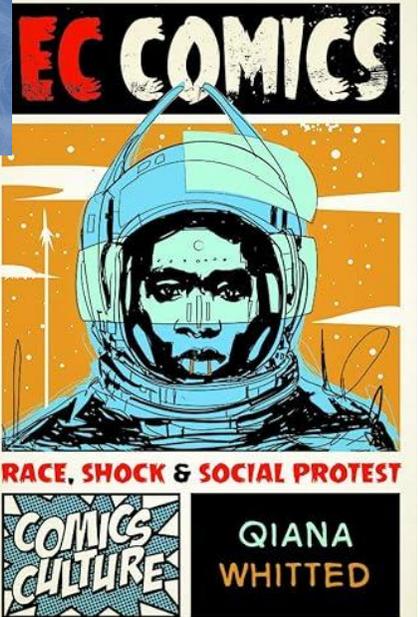
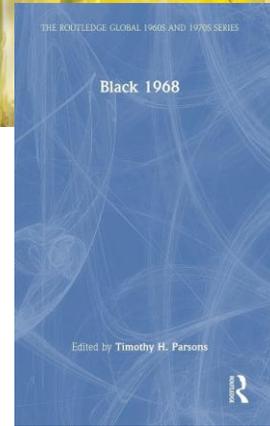
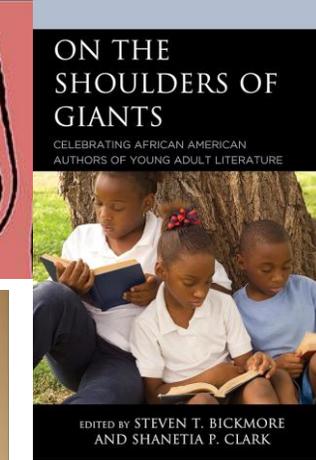
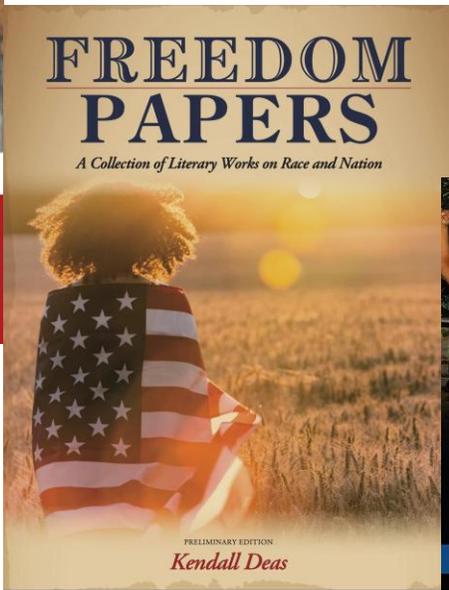
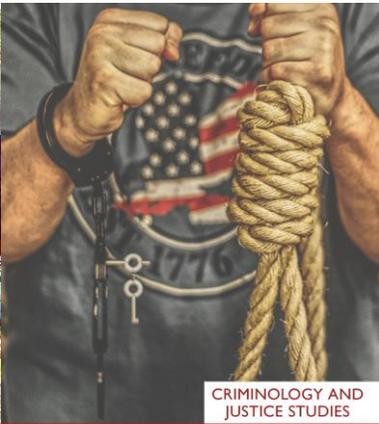
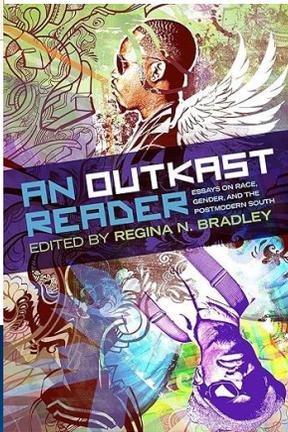
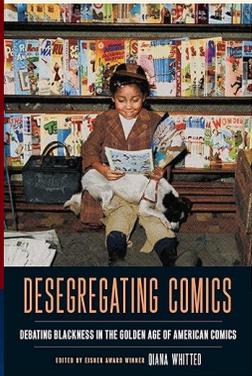
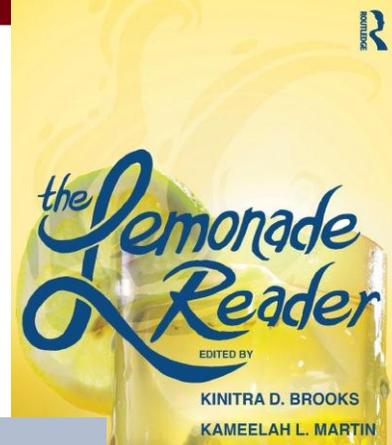
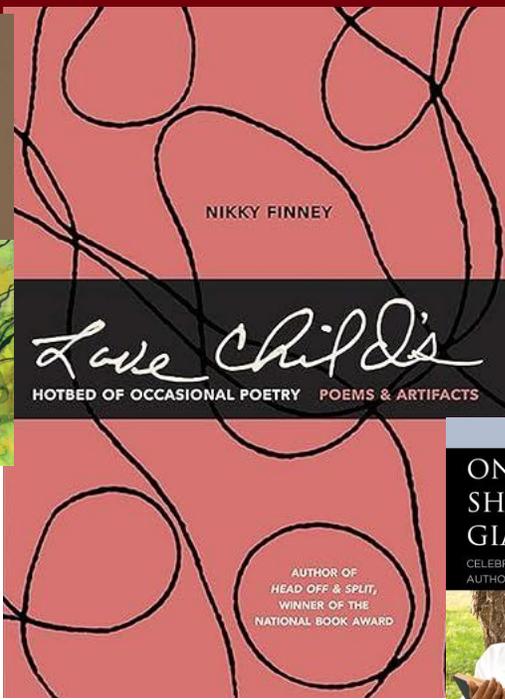
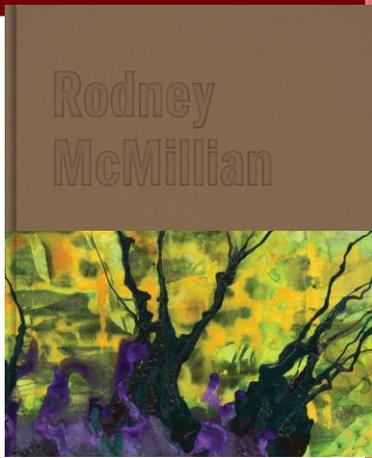
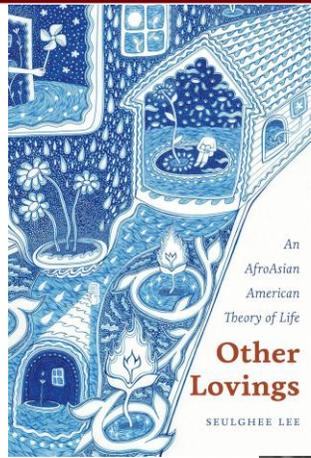
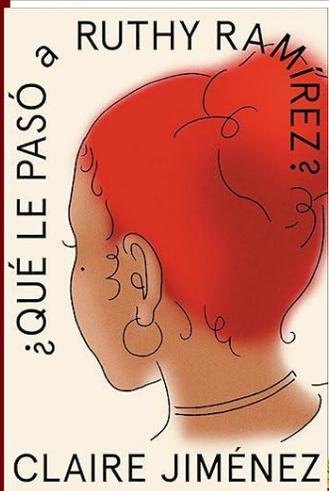
Tanya Wideman-Davis »
Associate Professor, Theatre and Dance

Joe Grant
Adjunct Professor

Larry Watson
Adjunct Professor



**McCausland College
of Arts and Sciences**
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA





FOR MORE INFORMATION...

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