What Sets Our Africana Studies Program Apart?

Q: We frequently talk about skills that we expect students in our majors to acquire: critical thinking, communication, research and analysis, organization, and empathy. In addition to these more general skills, are there specific skills that your program offers to prospective students?

A: In addition to building skills in research and communication (such as forming logical and coherent arguments, applying discipline-specific methodologies, and navigating information technology), graduates of Africana Studies at Rowan will demonstrate a high level of multicultural competence. They will be able to promote human rights and social justice; understand the popular culture, trends, experiences, and controversies related to dominant, disenfranchised, and marginalized groups across the African Diaspora; show awareness of intercultural conflicts and perspectives; demonstrate knowledge of historical events and politics; exhibit ethical and civic responsibility; and apply their knowledge of competing and interdisciplinary schools of thought to real-world circumstances.

Q: How does your program give students an advantage in today’s job market?

A: The Africana Studies program prepares college graduates to succeed in a world that is becoming increasingly globalized. Specifically, graduates of Africana Studies have the ability to function in and adapt to stressful and unfamiliar environments or situations, understand and evaluate people from diverse backgrounds, handle complex tasks, show initiative and creativity, and write, communicate, and analyze the written word effectively.

Q: What jobs / careers are students in your major best positioned to pursue?

A: Many Africana Studies graduates have gone on to have very successful careers in a variety of fields, including business, law, medicine, foreign service, public administration, social work, and education.

The Bottom Line

One of the main goals of the Africana Studies program is to prepare Rowan students to be effective civic leaders. In order to give students the proper experience to help them become civic leaders, Rowan University offers service learning courses for its students. These courses help to bridge the gap between the academy and the public by fostering university-community collaboration. They require students to participate in community projects that allow them to put theory into practice and understand the complexities of practical problem-solving in real-world situations.