

CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
Professional Qualification Statement for Degree/Concentration/

Date:	11/11/09
College/School/Department:	College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Interdisciplinary Studies
Degree/Concentration/Certificate:	Degree: Minor in African American Studies
Coordinator:	LaJuan Simpson African American Studies Coordinator
Coordinator Responsibilities:	Work with faculty in proposing new courses and changes to the African American Studies curriculum. Coordinate proposed curriculum changes for submission to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
Degrees:	PhD, English with a specialty in African American Literature MA, English BA, English
Experience:	15 years of college and university teaching; service on curriculum committees; writing proposals for new courses; service as coordinator for African American Studies, responsible for coordinating curriculum change proposals
Courses taught at CSU:	AFAM 2010 Intro to African American Studies, AFAM 3100 Harlem Renaissance, ENGL 1102 English Composition, ENGL 2122 American Literature, ENGL 3410 African American Literature I, ENGL 3420 African American Literature II, ENGL 3510 Caribbean Literature, ENGL 4800: Special Topics The Life, Legacy and Literature of August Wilson, ENGL 4800: Special Topics Black Masculinities and the African American Male Writer, ENGL 4810: Women and Literature Black Feminism and Womanism, ENGL 5400 African American Literature and Culture, ENGL 5410 African American Novel

1. What evidence exists that the coordinator has the qualifications and credentials for leadership in the development and review of the curriculum?

The coordinator has a PhD in English with specialization in African American Literature. She has 15 years of university level teaching experience with 5 years experience in intensive course development for the African American Studies Minor. She has served on curriculum committees, and has been responsible for coordinating curriculum change proposals for a variety of academic programs.

2. What evidence exists that the coordinator provides oversight for assessing the quality of the curriculum for the program and for ensuring that the curriculum and its delivery are educationally sound?

The curriculum for the African American Studies Minor was approved by the Board of Regents in fall of 2007. Since this time, the coordinator in concert with a growing AFAM focused faculty has developed courses that have been added to a vibrant and growing minor program. The eighteen (18) hour minor requires AFAM 2100 Intro to African American Studies (nationally recognized benchmark course for AFAM Programs) and 15 hours of upper division elective coursework. Elective courses are offered by a diverse faculty from a wide variety of disciplines including Communication and Media Studies, English, History, African American Studies, Psychology, Sociology, Art, Theatre, and Cultural Studies. The AFAM Minor at CSU is supported by a variety of academic programs, departments, schools and colleges and this interdisciplinary undergirds its learning outcomes and programmatic goals. Audits of all AFAM course syllabi and classroom observations are conducted by the coordinator each semester.