



# Career Options after African Studies

the study of African history, culture & language  
[www.utsc.utoronto.ca/hcs](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/hcs)  
Minor

## What is African Studies?

**African Studies is one of the Humanities** which explores African history, culture, economies, political systems and artistic expression. The program focuses on:

- Interconnections with Europe, Asia and the Americas
- Africa's central role in world history and processes of globalization
- Recent developments in our understanding of African civilizations
- African, Caribbean and African-American cultural and artistic responses to modernity, racism, and liberation

## Skills of African Studies Grads

- Understand connections between Africa's past and present
- Critically engage with African cultures and values
- Examine selected issues in African ethnography
- Gather, review, evaluate and interpret information
- Present information and ideas clearly
- Develop interdisciplinary analytical skills
- Develop the ability to utilize scholarly and cultural materials
- Understand the limits of and barriers to knowledge
- Think innovatively about Africa's place in the world

## Entry-Level Jobs for Bachelor Grads

Common employment destinations include:

- Community Centre Manager in Non-Profits
- Public Relations Consultant in Corporations
- International Trade Policy Officer in Gov't
- Human Resources Associate in Recruiting
- Underwriter in Insurance
- Social Policy Researcher in Think-Thanks
- Reporter/Broadcaster/Journalist in Media
- International Development Researcher in NGOs
- Foreign Service Officer in Federal Government
- Research Associate in Marketing Agencies

*The Career Directory:* [www.canadastop100.com/tcd](http://www.canadastop100.com/tcd)

## Graduate & Professional Studies

Popular further education opportunities include:

- Literature – Master of Arts
- History – Master of Arts
- Education – Bachelor or Master
- International Development – Master of Arts
- Political Science – Master of Arts
- Law School – JD (Juris Doctor)
- Paralegal Studies – Diploma
- Journalism – Master or Post-Diploma
- Public Relations – Post-Graduate Certificate

### Use LinkedIn!

UofT African Studies graduates are working in Education, Program Management, and Research.

Attend our LinkedIn workshop to learn about the *Find Alumni* tool for networking!

African Studies Grads from U of T have gone on to:

- United Way (Resource Development)
- Free the Children (Program Coordinator)
- Boys & Girls Club (Activity Leader)



## Examples of Fields that 'Fit' the Skills of African Studies Grads

- Education
- Journalism and Reporting
- Newspaper/Book Publishers
- Consulting Firms
- Community and Social Services
- Non Profit Causes and Social Advocacy Groups
- Government (Federal, Provincial, Regional, Municipal)
- Law / Legal Services

## Your 4-Year Career Exploration Action Plan

### 1 Do Your Research

The databases below provide you with details about job prospects, nature of work, educational requirements, working conditions, pay and related career paths:

**Career Cruising:** Log into [cln.utoronto.ca](http://cln.utoronto.ca), click on Resources, and click on Career Cruising to be logged in automatically

**O\*Net:** [online.onetcenter.org](http://online.onetcenter.org) (U.S. site)

Attend our workshop **Discover Your Skills and Career Options**, meet with a Career Counsellor, and use our resources to get to know your skills, values, personality and interests:

[www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/get-know-yourself](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/get-know-yourself)

Use the advice on our tip sheets for gathering info: [www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/tipsheets](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/tipsheets)

- Information Interviews
- Working On-Campus
- Internships
- Volunteering

### 3 Build Your Network

Explore **Professional Associations** and get involved: volunteer for their events and conferences, and get to know people in your industry of interest. These are your future mentors, supervisors and colleagues!

African Studies Association - [www.africanstudies.org](http://www.africanstudies.org)

Canadian Association of African Studies - [www.arts.ualberta.ca/~caas](http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~caas)

Association of the Worldwide African Diaspora - [www.aswadiaspora.org](http://www.aswadiaspora.org)

Arts Council of the African Studies Association - [www.acasaonline.org](http://www.acasaonline.org)

Association for the Development of Education in Africa - [www.adeanet.org](http://www.adeanet.org)

*Other associations and websites for finding networking opportunities and experience include:*

International Development Research Centre - [www.idrc.ca](http://www.idrc.ca)

Organization for Social Science Research in Africa - [www.ossrea.net](http://www.ossrea.net)

### 2 Explore Career Options & Get Experience

Gain exposure to your options in the world of work and make connections while you're a student via campus events and programs listed on [cln.utoronto.ca](http://cln.utoronto.ca) and [ccr.utoronto.ca](http://ccr.utoronto.ca):

- [Extern Job Shadowing](#)
- [In the Field](#)
- [Explore It!](#) (course-based)
- [Partners in Leadership](#) (4<sup>th</sup> year students)
- [iLead, uLead, weLead](#) (Dep't of Student Life)
- Employer Information Sessions
- Career & Volunteer Fairs
- [Departmental Student Association](#) Events

Apply for [Work Study](#) jobs in CLN in Fall and Spring! You might also find work via [www.scsu.ca/jobs](http://www.scsu.ca/jobs).

Find networking opportunities, internship programs and entry-level jobs via websites like [www.talentegg.ca](http://www.talentegg.ca) and [www.charityvillage.ca](http://www.charityvillage.ca).

As an upper year student (14+ credits), attend UTSC's [Get Hired Conference](#) and participate in [Jobs for Grads](#).

As a graduate, explore internships and other trainee programs like [www.careeredge.ca](http://www.careeredge.ca)