



University of
BRISTOL

MA Black
Humanities
Postgraduate study



Why study Black Humanities at Bristol?

This unique interdisciplinary MA offers you the opportunity to study Black Humanities through critical engagement with the histories, philosophies, languages, literatures and arts relating to local and global African and African Diaspora communities.

Based on cutting-edge research and dialogue with arts and community activists, you will study debates about race, ethics, and representation. Together we will ask how the arts and humanities reflect and generate changes in society. Through your reading and seminar discussions, you will be encouraged to tackle urgent questions concerning racism, anti-racism, and social justice. These will be discussed via historical and contemporary contexts in Africa, the Caribbean and the Americas, and Europe. Over the course of the programme, you will also learn about Black experiences in Britain, and specifically in Bristol, a city deeply entangled with the transatlantic plantation economy and site of an ongoing, complex, legacy of memory work.

The University of Bristol is home to the Centre for Black Humanities, an international hub for research that informs our teaching, ensuring the syllabus is always underpinned by the latest knowledge. We place critical importance on being part of an international and multilingual community. This will be reflected in our programme of external speakers and opportunities to engage with Bristol's cutting edge cultural scene.

'The best thing about the MA Black Humanities program was the way the course was taught. I thoroughly enjoyed learning about Black philosophy, art, music, history and literature from the perspective of instructors who differ in race and culture. This program prepares students for a future in any field.'

Andrea, USA (Graduated 2019)

What will you study?

- Black Humanities I & II core units
- Research Skills and Dissertation

Option units include:

- Pan-Africanism: Ideas and Archives
- History and Legacies of Slavery
- Modernism and the 'Black Atlantic'
- Theorising Violence
- Decolonising Literature and Literary Studies
- Post-Apartheid South Africa
- African-American Music in the 20th Century

Career prospects

Students who complete this MA will have acquired transferable skills including critical thinking, ethical sensitivity, and the ability to argue persuasively. This equips graduates for research degrees such as a PhD as well as careers in teaching, campaigning, arts administration, publishing, law, the civil service, media and journalism. These could be in cultural or heritage industries, government and non-government organisations, or international organisations.

Contact us

If you have any questions relating to the programme or the application process, please contact our Enquiries Team:

Tel +44 (0)117 394 1649

Email choosebristol-pg@bristol.ac.uk

You may also contact the Programme Director

Dr Ruth Bush

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If you need all or part of this publication in an alternative format please contact the Enquiries team:

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