The Round Tower, neighbour to Centre of African Studies
CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

The Centre of African Studies was established in 1984 to organise a two-year study programme and to coordinate African Studies within the University of Copenhagen. The University of Copenhagen was given the national responsibility for African Studies because of the ongoing activities and already existing expertise on Africa within various departments of the university. Today, all study programmes take place in English facilitating a unique international study environment with students from all over the world.

Research

The Centre of African Studies has recently launched its new research strategy. The strategy is framed around the emerging configuration of scholarly resources that constitute its immediate research base, as well as in relation to its growing networks and collaborative partnerships with scholars in Africa and across the globe. The research at the centre revolves around the three thematically distinct yet interconnected areas:

- Sovereignties and Citizenship
- Religion, State and Society
- Environment and Change

To read more about the Centre of African Studies’ research please refer to our website.

From time to time the centre publishes ‘Africa Papers’ written by its researchers as well as foreign visitors to the centre. A full list of these papers and an electronic version of the most recent issues can be found at our website.
Study Programmes

The programme encompasses a number of disciplines and is based, in particular, on the social science and humanities disciplines. The aim is for the student to acquire an interdisciplinary methodology and a theoretical and empirical frame of reference, thus becoming qualified to work independently on contemporary issues in Sub-Saharan Africa. For this purpose, students are trained in the use of central concepts from the disciplines which are the primary focus of African Studies, and they will be able to apply this system of concepts when working on empirical material of a broad and complex nature.

Full-Time MA Programme in African Studies
The Centre of African Studies offers a two-year postgraduate full-time study programme in African Studies comprising of 120 ECTS points leading to a master’s degree in African Studies. The study programme consists of the following components:

Compulsory Courses:
• Economic Development in Africa
• Nature, Population and Society in Africa
• Politics, Development and Change in Africa
• Religion, Culture and Society in Africa
• Master Thesis Seminar

For further details of the individual course descriptions please refer to the study curricula on the Centre of African Studies’ website.

Optional Components:
Optional components normally take place after the completion of the compulsory courses from the third semester.

• Traineeship or Fieldwork gives students the opportunity to gain practical experience within their study programme. The traineeship
or fieldwork must have direct relevance to African Studies and therefore takes usually place in Africa.

- Study Abroad allows students to be a part of an exchange programme with a partner university or a self-organised study programme with permission from the Study Board.
- Optional Courses enables students to deepen their theoretical knowledge and specialize in current affairs, thematic areas and disciplines. Optional courses vary from semester to semester, a list of the current offered courses can be found at our website.
- Kiswahili

**Guest & exchange students**
Students that are enrolled at the University of Copenhagen or other universities in Denmark and abroad can gain insight into the academic area of African Studies by either choosing between the ‘Optional Courses’ or ‘Kiswahili I and II’. Bachelor students are eligible to apply for courses at the Centre of African Studies after having passed 2 years of their studies, equalling 120 ECTS points.

**Continuing Education Programmes**

**Professional Master’s Programme in African Studies**
The Professional Master’s Programme provides ambitious private- and public-sector staff with the opportunity to obtain a Master’s degree within one of the main academic fields of Africa Studies. The Master’s Programme corresponds to one year’s study (60 ECTS), and is typically taken part-time over two or three years.

**Part-Time Studies in African Studies**
Part-time studies at CAS provides private- and public-sector staff with the opportunity to pursue interdisciplinary and internationally oriented continuing education on a non-degree basis. Part-time students can sign up for one or more ‘Optional Courses’ including Kiswahili I and II at the Centre of African Studies.
Career Prospects

The programme aims to give students scientific and job related competences which can lead to employment within the broad area that comprises international actor’s relations with African and other developing countries. Such employment could concern positions within aid and development activities or other developing agents. Either as part of public programmes, through the business community or consultancy industry or through non-governmental organisations (NGO). The competences acquired can also lead to employment in international governmental and non-governmental organisations, e.g. within the UN system. In connection with fact finding and reports, international institutions can also benefit from the analytical capacity which the study programme provides. Moreover, the programme aims at various parts of the educational sector as well as at communication and information work in general.

The Staff and Lecturers

Centre of African studies is run by a dynamic team headed by the director and associate professor. The staff members include associate professor, MSO professor, assistant professors, senior researchers, PHD and Post-Doc students, administrators and librarians.

Lecturers responsible for the centre’s courses and seminars are both from the Centre of African Studies as well as from various departments at the University of Copenhagen, developmental institutions, the private sector and DANIDA. In addition to that a variable number of guest researchers are affiliated to the centre. Also, a number of contacts and working relationships with institutions in the Nordic countries, Europe, USA and not least Africa have been established.
Quality Assurance

The institution of external and internal examiners plays a key role in order to maintain the high academic level as well as a continuous quality development of the centre. To strengthen the quality of the study programmes the Advisory Board with representatives of relevant groups, is invited to review the Study Curricular organised on a continuous basis. In addition, the Study Board carries out regular evaluations of the courses which are subsequently available to the public.

Africa Seminars

During the semester the centre organises Africa Seminars either upon current affairs or research related topics that are addressed by guest speakers and visiting lecturers from abroad. The seminars are open to the public and announced in our weekly newsletter.

The Library

Students at the Centre of African Studies have 24 hours access to the library with their student ID card. The library includes more than 10,000 books, 60 periodicals as well as international report literature covering African studies primarily in social science and humanities disciplines, e.g. in human rights, environment, democracy, development, religion, politics and conflicts. To search within the book database please refer to the Royal Library system REX or contact the librarians.

Newsletters

CAS Students News sends out regularly notices about internship positions, student jobs, scholarships and cultural events in relation to Africa.
CAS eNews disseminates information about Africa Seminars, conferences, workshops and similar events at the University of Copenhagen and other research institutions in the greater Copenhagen.

Subscribe to our newsletters at our website: www.teol.ku.dk/cas
Centre of African Studies
Købmagergade 46, 4th floor
DK- 1150 Copenhagen
Denmark
Tel: +45 35 32 25 85
E-mail: cas@teol.ku.dk
www.teol.ku.dk/cas