



## Blackademia: Programs, Admission Pathways and Resources

### Programs and Courses

#### Major and Minor in Black Studies

Open to all Western students, the new Major and Minor in Black Studies offers a variety of local, national and global disciplinary perspectives on Black history, culture and heritage. One focus, given Canada's proximity to the United States, is how race plays out there – including how government race policies generated resistance both historically, with the Civil Rights Movement, and currently with Black Lives Matter.

Students from all backgrounds and disciplines can enrich their studies at Western through exciting new courses, such as [Introduction to Black/African Diaspora](#), [Black Geographies](#), and [From Du Bois to Black Panther: Black Popular Culture Today](#). There are also a number of community-engaged learning opportunities for students through course work to better situate their studies in the real world and provide hands-on experiences that bring their course discussions to life.

To learn more about the [Major and Minor in Black Studies](#), consult the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/gsws/undergraduate/programs/blackstudies/index.html>

#### Prospective Black Law Students

Western Law is pleased to financially support the law school application process for five Black undergraduate students. Eligible students will receive a package valued at over \$1800 that includes:

- A voucher for the \$200 Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) application fee;
- A waiver of Western's Faculty of Law application fee (\$150); and
- Princeton Review's **LSAT Fundamentals** LSAT Prep Course, which includes:
  - 30 hours of virtual class prep with an expert instructor
  - Online lessons to help reinforce your in-class prep
  - 4 practice tests (to be self-proctored at home)
  - Online score reports with detailed explanations
  - 150+ hours of additional videos and online content
  - Access to 60+ full Official LSAT PrepTests™

**Link to webpage:**

[https://law.uwo.ca/future\\_students/jd\\_admissions/prospective\\_black\\_law\\_students.html](https://law.uwo.ca/future_students/jd_admissions/prospective_black_law_students.html)

### **Minor in Histories of Africa and the African Diaspora (Huron University College)**

Completion of first-year requirements, including at least 0.5 course in History, English, or Political Science with a mark of at least 60%.

**Link to webpage:** [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

## **Admission Pathways for Students**

### **Western Research Scholars' Academy Program**

The Western Research Scholars Academy is a new mentorship network for Western researchers co-designed with researchers to provide support through connection and mentorship with international academic leaders, professional development and research resources.

**Link to webpage:** [The Western Research Scholar's Academy Program](#)

### **Faculty of Education Equity Admissions Pathway**

Western's Faculty of Education is strongly committed to equity, diversity and inclusivity in all that we do. One of the ways that we do this is through recruiting and supporting applicants to our initial teacher education program who reflect the student population in Ontario schools. Specifically, it is our goal to admit and support more Indigenous and Black teacher candidates, women teacher candidates, teacher candidates living with disability, and LGBTQ2S+ teacher candidates and other equity deserving or underrepresented groups. We recognize that this starts with recruitment of a diverse range of applicants into our

initial teacher education programs and we enthusiastically encourage individuals from all equity deserving groups to apply.

**Link to webpage:** [Equity Admission Application](#)

### **Western Law - Prospective Black Law Students**

Western Law is pleased to financially support the law school application process for five Black undergraduate students. Eligible students will receive a package valued at over \$1000 that includes: A voucher for the \$200 Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) application fee; A waiver of Western's Faculty of Law application fee (\$115); and Princeton Review's **LSAT Fundamentals** LSAT Prep Course, which includes: 30 hours of virtual class prep with an expert instructor, Online lessons to help reinforce your in-class prep, 4 practice tests (to be self-proctored at home), Online score reports with detailed explanations, 150+ hours of additional videos and online content, and Access to 60+ full Official LSAT PrepTests™

**Link to webpage:** [Prospective Black Law Students](#)

### **J.D. Admission Pathway for Black Law Student Applicants**

Black applicants are individuals who self-identify as members of the Black community. The Faculty of Law recognizes that such individuals are not represented adequately within the legal profession and strongly encourages applications from members of this group. Applications from Black candidates will be reviewed holistically, informed by the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion. Candidates may use the optional essay to discuss lived experiences, which will be given additional weight during the review process. We are striving to have all applications in this category assessed by at least one Black reviewer (among two reviewers).

**Link to webpage:**

[https://law.uwo.ca/future\\_students/jd\\_admissions/first\\_year\\_applications/applicant\\_categories.html](https://law.uwo.ca/future_students/jd_admissions/first_year_applications/applicant_categories.html)

### **Ivey University Pathways Program (UPP)**

The University Pathways Program (UPP) is a tri-school partnership between Ivey (Western), Smith (Queen's), and Schulich (York) designed to provide students with opportunities for self-reflective, experiential, and identity development opportunities, essential for comprehensively exploring the benefits of a business school education. The University Pathways Program is a free, limited enrolment program. Participants are selected through

an application process. Currently the program is only open to **Black students in the Greater Toronto Area**. The program starts in Grade 11 and continues through to high school graduation.

**Link to webpage:** [University Pathways Program - Supporting Your Future \(queensu.ca\)](https://www.queensu.ca/pathways/)

### **Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry Black Applicant Pathway (BAP)**

The Black Applicant Pathway (BAP) was established in recognition of the damage caused by years of racism and systemic bias against Black people that has resulted in significant underrepresentation in institutions of higher learning. It is hoped that the BAP will be one way of reducing challenges faced by Black applicants to medical school.

**Link to webpage:** [Black Applicant Pathway \(BAP\)](https://www.schulich.queensu.ca/bap/)

## **Resources for Undergraduate Students, Staff and Faculty**

### **Western Libraries Black Resource Collection**

Includes fiction and non-fiction works encompassing the Black diasporic experience, highlighting its rich cultural history and influence. The titles were selected and compiled by Black mental health staff therapists, African Canadian scholars, and students comprising the Black Student Association (BSA).

**Link to webpage:** [Black Resource Collection](https://www.westernlib.ca/black-resource-collection/)

### **Research Collections of Black History and Literature**

This guide is part of an ongoing effort to highlight the diversity of our collections and to encourage the exploration of Black voices in the past and present. We welcome your input on this guide.

**Link to webpage:** <https://guides.lib.uwo.ca/c.php?g=731539&p=5254919>

### **Brescia - EDI-D Collection**

The Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Decolonization (EDI-D) Collection was originally a physical display to showcase materials from the Beryl Ivey Library that assisted the Brescia community in their ongoing learning & unlearning on various topics surrounding EDI-D. We intend to amplify and center the perspectives of equity-deserving groups when selecting materials for this display, including writers who are Black, Indigenous, & People of Colour

(BIPOC); members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community; and those who live with visible & invisible disabilities.

**Link to webpage:** [Brescia - EDI-D Collection - Western University \(exlibrisgroup.com\)](https://exlibrisgroup.com/Brescia-EDI-D-Collection-Western-University)

### **The James Alexander and Ellen Rea Benson Special Collections**

The James Alexander and Ellen Rea Benson Special Collections contributes to Western Archives' antiquarian and rare book holdings. The Benson Special Collections was established in 1934 as the Treasure Room Collection. It was located on the first floor of the Lawson Memorial Library, now known as Lawson Hall. From 1966-1971, the Treasure Room Collection was housed in a closed-off section of the library stacks. Includes rare books on Canadian Black history and abolitionism.

**Link to webpage:** <https://www.lib.uwo.ca/archives/benson.html>

### **Black History-related materials from Archives and Special Collections**

Reference materials are available for immediate use in the Archives and Research Collections Centre (ARCC) Reading Room.

**Link to webpage:** [Reading Room Material - Black History related materials from Archives and Special Collections - Research Guides at Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.lib.uwo.ca/archives/benson.html)

### **Africa Institute at Western**

The Africa Institute at Western University was created to advance scholarship related to African societies. The Institute is an interdisciplinary entity with the participation of many faculty members, staff and students from across campus. Its members are building sustainable collaborations and partnerships with Africans to foster initiatives that address some of the most pressing issues facing the African continent and encourage knowledge exchange between partners.

**Link to webpage:** <https://www.uwo.ca/africainstitute/>

## **Resources for Graduate Students and Post-Doctoral Fellows**

### **Graduate and Postdoctoral Information:**

**Link to webpage:** <https://grad.uwo.ca/index.html>

## ***Services***

The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (SGPS) at Western University offers a comprehensive collection of services for graduate and postdoctoral scholars, including admissions assistance, administrative support throughout a student's academic journey, funding and fee guidance, and career development programs. With dedicated staff to help with application processes, funding packages, and postdoctoral appointments, SGPS aims to support students and scholars from admission to beyond graduation.

**Link to webpage:** [https://grad.uwo.ca/about\\_us/our\\_services.html](https://grad.uwo.ca/about_us/our_services.html)

## ***Own Your Future Program***

"Own Your Future" (OYF), offered by the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, is an exceptional career development program tailored for doctoral students, including black and racialized students, focusing on life after studies. It provides workshops and resources designed to help PhD candidates navigate and succeed in diverse career paths, utilizing their academic strengths effectively.

**Link to webpage:** [https://grad.uwo.ca/about\\_us/our\\_services.html](https://grad.uwo.ca/about_us/our_services.html)

## ***Staff Directory***

The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (SGPS) welcomes graduate school applicants, current students, faculty, and staff across campus to connect with our specific staff and faculty. For more information and to make these connections, please access our Staff Directory by clicking here. We are pleased to facilitate these connections and support our campus community.

**Link to webpage:** [https://grad.uwo.ca/about\\_us/directory.html](https://grad.uwo.ca/about_us/directory.html)

## ***Regulations***

This webpage serves as a comprehensive guide for students, offering detailed information on the rules, regulations, and available support to navigate their studies successfully. From general information, including a calendar of events and personal information collection

notices, to in-depth coverage of admissions, registration processes, program designs, and financial support, the page covers every aspect of the postdoctoral journey.

**Link to webpage:** [https://grad.uwo.ca/about\\_us/regulations/index.html](https://grad.uwo.ca/about_us/regulations/index.html)

### ***Program Contacts***

To ensure you reach the correct individual or department that can best address your questions, we encourage you to utilize the search function provided on this webpage. Alternatively, you can browse through the comprehensive list below, which includes names and email addresses of faculty members and administrators specific to each graduate program.

**Link to webpage:** [https://grad.uwo.ca/about\\_us/program\\_contacts.cfm](https://grad.uwo.ca/about_us/program_contacts.cfm)

## **Additional Learning Opportunities**

### ***Unpacking and Addressing: Anti-Black Racism***

Anti-Black racism in North America is a legacy of not just colonialism but essentially the transatlantic slave trade and the subsequent mistreatment of Black people following the abolition of slavery. This module provides some insight into some common terms related to anti-Black racism, alongside a review of the different ways anti-Black racism has been manifested. Learn some practical strategies that can be used to address anti-Black racism in your day-to-day lives.

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Define anti-Black racism and related concepts.
- Identify the harmful impact that historical Canadian laws and policies have had on Black Canadians and Black populations.
- Identify the harmful impact contemporary Canadian attitudes and social trends have had on Black Communities.

- Take action when encountering anti-Black racism in interpersonal and institutional settings.

*This module can be applied to the Award of Achievement in Anti-Oppression and the Anti-Oppression Certificate Program offered by the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at Western.*

**Link to [registration for Students](#) for the [Unpacking and Addressing Anti-Black Racism module](#).**

### **Black Canadians: History, Presence, and Anti-Racist Futures**

This micro-course explores some of the major histories, migrations, artists and activists that have contributed to the presence and survival of Black people in Canada. The course tracks Canada's evolving relationship to Blackness and Black people, while inviting learners to reflect upon the ways Canadian views of race and multiculturalism have influenced Black communities throughout the country. We invite you to reflect, dream, and think alongside some of today's most prominent Black intellectuals as we examine the history of Black presence in Canada, and imagine vibrant Black Canadian futures.

**Register for this [free course](#) from Coursera created by Dr. Andy Knight through the following link <https://www.coursera.org/learn/black-canadians>**