Dear Student,

The Department of African American and African Studies (AAAS) is now accepting applications for the 2nd annual ***Blackness and the Politics of Professional Career*** sponsored by the Department of African American and African Studies and the Center for Career and Professional Success.

In this program, we hope students will gain valuable knowledge and insight that will help to prepare them for life after college and as they pursue their career goals. We also hope students will continue to correspond with their career professional as they seek advice related to their career goals.

Accordingly, ***Blackness and the Politics of Professional Career*** aims to match student participants with a career professional in varying areas of expertise who identify as Black, African, or African American. AAAS student participants will then engage with their designated professional over a few weeks, with an emphasis on how racial identity and blackness relate to a professional career and a person's career aspirations and development. The student participants will also discuss with the career professionals how the student can use the critical inquiry and thinking skills gained at the university, whether through a degree in AAAS or in classes that highlight blackness and race to aid them in their profession career and life. In addition to these conversations, the student participants will have an opportunity to shadow the professional at least once while they are working. Due to the pandemic students may have a "virtual visitation".

All the student participants and the professionals will come together at the beginning of the program and at the end. At the beginning of program there will be an introduction meeting on Zoom where the career professionals will get to meet the students and vice-versa. At this meeting, the students and career professionals will setup four meeting dates (In Person and/or Zoom). After the 2nd meeting, the students will be asked to write up a short summary of their meeting. Then after all the meetings have been complete the students will be asked to write-up a report that discusses their overall experience and what they learned. Students will be asked to complete a survey and participate in a panel discussion and celebratory banquet that marks the end of the program. At the end of the Program, students who complete the entire program will receive a reward for their participation.

If you are interested in how a degree in African American and African Studies applies to a professional career and are concerned about how Blackness can influence a professional career, then this program is for you.

To apply for this program, you will need to write a short statement between 250-350 words explaining why you are interested in ***Blackness and the Politics of a Professional Career***.   You will need two faculty references (including names and email addresses). Additionally, you will need to fill out the attached form. We will be asking for your GPA and your GPA in your major. We will also be asking if you are AAAS major, AAAS minor, and/or a member of any organization that seeks to understand "the Black Experience". Please note that AAAS majors, minors, and members of organization that seek to understanding the Black experience will be given preference, however anyone interested is eligible to apply and can be admitted. Applications should be emailed to beckham.4@osu.edu

Applications are due Tuesday, January 31st, 2023.

Application to

Blackness and the Politics of a Professional Career

Sponsored by

The Department of African American and African Studies (AAAS)

&

The Center for Career and Professional Success

1) Full Name
2) OSU Email
3) Telephone Number
4) Do you have a grade point average (GPA) of a 2.0 or above (Yes or No)?
5) Are you a major or minor in AAAS (Yes or No)?
   If no, then are you interested in majoring or minoring in AAAS?
6) Are you a member of any other organizations that focuses on Blackness, Race, Diversity etc.?
7) Faculty or Administrator Reference (Full Name, Email, Telephone Number)
8) Faculty or Administrator Reference (Full Name, Email, Telephone Number)