The Center for Afro-American and African Studies is a new unit within the University of Michigan. It is engaged in the study and teaching of Afro-American and African history, culture, and politics. The Center is dedicated to the development of a curriculum that relates to Black peoples and to the building of a reservoir of trained and well-informed personnel who can creatively and productively address the developmental problems of Black communities.

The Center is structured around three major components:

ACADEMIC COMPONENT

The overall function of the Academic Component is to provide a teaching function. It aims to build a curriculum of courses that are developed around this curriculum, it aims to develop a well-trained and well-informed personnel reservoir of teachers and leaders who can creatively and productively address the developmental problems of Black communities.

RESEARCH COMPONENT

The Research Component is basically concerned with gathering information, and in so doing it utilizes the Academic Component as a pool of teachers and students. The research function of the Research Component is to report and disseminate information to the Academic Component.

SCHOLARSHIP

To ensure a leadership role in the development of Afro-American and African Studies.

DEVELOPMENT

To promote the development of Black leaders who can creatively and productively address the developmental problems of Black communities.

INFORMATION

To provide our students and others with an informed and ongoing Black perspective on local and worldwide situations affecting people of African descent.

The Center for Afro-American and African Studies is now entering its second year of operation.