

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

The American Studies degree has as its focus the cultures, institutions, arts, structure, and social processes of the United States. It emphasizes interdisciplinary work which integrates disciplinary perspectives. Students choose two broad areas within which to work. It is often chosen by students wishing to enter Law School.

American Studies graduates work in business, non-profit organizations, media and culture industries. The B.A. in American Studies is also an excellent preparation for law school or graduate school. Each student designs his or her own program within specific guidelines and in consultation with an advisor. The courses a student takes as part of the American Studies program may be given in any school within the university but will include American Studies courses and appropriate Interdisciplinary Studies courses. A list of courses which apply to the American Studies degree may be obtained from the academic advisor in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies. Double majors including American Studies are encouraged.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (120 hours)

- I. Core Curriculum Requirements*: 42 hours
 - A. Communication (6 hours)
 - 3 hours Communication (RHET 1302)
 - 3 hours Communication Elective (BIS 3320)
 - B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
 - 6 hours Government (GOVT 2301 and GOVT 2302)
 - 6 hours History (HIST 1301 and HIST 1302)
 - 3 hours Social and Behavioral Sciences
 - C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
 - 3 hours Fine Arts (ARTS 1301)
 - 3 hours Humanities (AMS 2341 or HUMA 1301)
 - D. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 hours)
 - 3 hours College Algebra (MATH 1306 or MATH 1314)
 - 3 hours Statistics (STAT/MATH 1342 or PSY 2317)
 - E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

* Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from accredited institutions of higher education. The courses listed in parenthesis are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major.

- II. Major Requirements: 54 hours (45 hours beyond the Core Curriculum)

Major Preparatory Courses (6 hours)

One of the following: MATH 1306 or MATH 1314 or higher level core math course

One of the following: PSY 2317 or STAT/MATH 1342

AMS 3302 American Cultures *or* AMS 2341 American Studies for the 21st Century (at the lower division

BIS 3320 Nature of Intellectual Inquiry**

Two of the following:

HIST 3369 United States Foreign Relations

HIST 3385 Early African American History

PSCI 3325 American Public Policy

PSCI 3327 American Foreign Policy

Major Related Courses (36 hours)

In addition to the core requirements, students will take 18 semester credit hours of course work in each of two of the following six disciplinary options, for a total of 36 hours:

1. The American Body Politic

2. Americans Past and Present
3. American Business and Technology
4. American Literature and the Arts
5. Popular Culture
6. America and the World Community
7. Gender in America

** A required Major course that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. An additional IS course will be taken if BIS 3320 is used to satisfy the Core Curriculum Communication Elective requirement.

III. Elective Requirements: 33 hours

Advanced Electives (6 hours)

Free Electives (27 hours)

Students must complete 51 hours of upper division work to graduate.