AMS 2390 Topics in American Studies (3 semester hours) May be repeated for credit as topics vary (9 hours maximum). (3-0) Y

AMS 3300 American Popular Culture (3 semester hours) Examines American culture from the colonial period to the present through some of its most popular cultural forms: fiction, drama, film, advertising, music, fairs and festivals. Considers the economics of cultural production, ways of critically reading popular texts, and how consumers make use of popular culture. Pays particular attention to the ways gender, race, and class influence how popular texts are created and consumed. (3-0) Y

AMS 3302 American Cultures (3 semester hours) Study of contemporary American cultures. Examines institutions, culture regions, and the interaction between mainstream American culture and various subcultures. (3-0) Y

AMS 3308 The American West: Myths and Realities (3 semester hours) Examines the history and representation of the frontier in America from the colonial period to the present. Considers how gender, class, and ethnicity shape accounts of Western life. Topics include the place of the frontier in the creation of an "American" character, differing accounts of frontier life, cultural contact between different ethnic groups, Western fiction and film. (3-0) T

AMS 3313 Public Relations (3 semester hours) Study of the techniques used by U.S. corporations, nonprofit organizations, and individuals to create and foster the public images they desire. (3-0) Y

AMS 3314 Public Communication (3 semester hours) Study of communication theory in relation to ways in which the U.S. government and other institutions present themselves. (3-0) Y

AMS 3315 Cultures in Conflict (3 semester hours) An examination of the historical and present relationships between the majority culture and such diverse groups as Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Mormons living in the U.S., with particular reference to life-styles, values, and symbols. (3-0) T

AMS 3317 United States and the World Community (3 semester hours) An examination of the relationships among the United States, its sociocultural institutions, and the world community. Topics will include globalization, foreign relations, and national security issues. (3-0) T

AMS 3318 Contemporary American Conflicts (3 semester hours) An investigation of the core tensions and strains in contemporary American society and culture with emphasis on individual freedoms vs. social responsibility, pluralism, social inequality, gender, and poverty and prosperity. (3-0) Y

AMS 3321 American Ethnic Experience: Immigrants Before 1945 (3 semester hours) Study of the experiences, conditions, and contributions of the old immigrants who came to America before 1945. The course examines the making of mainstream American culture, persistence of ethnic subcultures, and changes in ethnic relations. (3-0) T

AMS 3322 American Ethnic Experience: Immigrants After 1945 (3 semester hours) Study of the experiences, conditions, and contributions of the new immigrants who have arrived in America since 1945. Topics include the changes in immigration policies, new patterns of ethnic relations, and impact of new immigrants on American society. (3-0) T

AMS 3325 Religious Groups in the U.S. (3 semester hours) Study of the Amish, Hutterites, Shakers, Oneida Perfectionists, Rajneeshees, and a number of other groups. The course explores the relationship between sectarian groups and mainstream society. (3-0) T

AMS 3326 The U.S. in the 21st Century (3 semester hours) An exploration of 21st-century scenarios for the U.S. by studying the conditions and trends in the 1990s. The course examines the future roles of the U.S. in the world community. (3-0) T

AMS 3327 Organized Crime in America (3 semester hours) An examination of how the vast network of organized crime has become an ineradicable part of the nation's special fabric and how it alters the ways in which legitimate business is done. Emphasis is placed on understanding the phenomenon and its implications for American life. (3-0) Y

AMS 3374 Entrepreneurs in America (3 semester hours) An interdisciplinary introduction to various kinds of entrepreneurial ventures. The basic purpose of the course is to discover and understand the factors that govern the success (or failure) of entrepreneurial ventures and the role of the entrepreneur in a capitalist economy. (3-0) R

AMS 4302 Approaches to the Study of U.S. Culture (3 semester hours) An investigation of the methodology of American Studies, in which students will be expected to demonstrate their ability to integrate concepts drawn from disciplinary areas in which they have already worked. The course will normally be offered as an independent study. (3-0) S
AMS 4310 Terrorism and American Foreign Policy (3 semester hours) Explores in depth the ways in which critical areas of American foreign policy have been influenced by terrorist events often protagonized by shadowy forces difficult to defend against. (3-0) Y

AMS 4378 Contemporary Studies of America (3 semester hours) Subject matter will vary from semester to semester with emphasis on America in the modern era. May be repeated for credit (9 hours maximum). (3-0) Y

AMS 4379 Topics in American Studies (3 semester hours) Subject matter will vary from semester to semester. May be repeated for credit (9 hours maximum). (3-0) Y

AMS 4V80 Independent Study (1-6 semester hours) Independent study under a faculty member's direction. May be repeated for credit. Consent of instructor required. ([1-6]-0) S

AMS 4381 Senior Honors in American Studies (3 semester hours) Required for graduation magna cum laude or summa cum laude. Prerequisite: Completion of at least 39 and no more than 45 hours of work towards a degree in American Studies and consent of instructor. (3-0) S

AMS 4382 Global Economy (3 semester hours) Considers the changing relationships of population, resources, and the economy, the transformation of classical spatial economies, and the processes producing increasing globalization. Particular attention is paid to technological change and to the dynamics of world trade and investment. This course is also recommended for students who are not economics majors. (Same as ECO 3370 and GEOG 3370). (3-0) T

AMS 4383 Media Issues (3 semester hours) Investigates the impact and influence of the mass media on society today, using classical techniques of argument and evidence. Students engage in debate-styled discussions about topics, such as V-chip technology, TV talk shows, criminal trial news coverage, TV violence, and American values, among others. (3-0) T

AMS 4384 North American Archaeology (3 semester hours) An introduction to archaeological theories and evidence of the settlement of North America before European Contact. (3-0) T

AMS 4385 Professional Communications in Business (3 semester hours) Combines theory and practice in improving both the written and spoken word in business. Students learn to evaluate professional and technical audiences and how to communicate more effectively to those audiences. Principles of composition, organization, tone, format, and punctuation are reviewed. Exercises in effective speaking and group presentations are also conducted. (3-0) T