

# AMERICAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION - INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES MAJOR

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## The Program

The American Studies Concentration is an interdisciplinary program that allows students to take courses in different academic departments that focus on the concept of American culture. The American Studies approach emphasizes the interrelatedness of history, literature, the arts and popular culture. In their course work students will examine American institutions, ideas and material forms in order to better understand the nation's past and to shape their own futures. The major is designed for those students who may wish to have careers in fields such as law, government service, non-profit organizations, journalism, museum work and teaching, where a broad knowledge of American history and culture is desirable.

A minor is available for those students with another major who want to learn more about American culture. Students have the opportunity to receive units for internships.

## Requirements Requirements for the Concentration

Students majoring in the American Studies Concentration must complete 45 units.

Code	Title	Units
<b>Required Courses</b>		
AMST 201	INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN STUDIES	3
Capstone Experience		
AMST 491 or AMST 497	DIRECTED READINGS IN AMST INTERNSHIP IN AMERICAN STUDIES	3
<b>Lower-Division Electives</b>		
Select one course from each area:		9
Historical Perspectives		
AFST 201	MAIN THEMES IN AFRICAN AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES	
HIST 145	HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE CIVIL WAR	
HIST 146	HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE THE CIVIL WAR	
HIST 147	HONORS HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE CIVIL WAR	
HIST 148	HONORS HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE THE CIVIL WAR	
SOCI 241	BLACKS IN AMERICA: MYTHS AND REALITY	
American Literature		

ENGL 233	SURVEY OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE
ENGL 234	MAJOR WRITERS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE
ENGL 235	ETHNIC-AMERICAN LITERATURE
ENGL 238	SURVEY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE
Arts and Culture	
ANTH 209	ANTHROPOLOGY OF AMERICAN CULTURE
ARTH 113	MYTHS AND STORIES IN AMERICAN ART
DANC 127	INTRODUCTION TO DANCE: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
KNES 251	HISTORY OF SPORT IN AMERICA
MUSC 111	INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC IN THE U.S.
MUSC 123	JAZZ HISTORY FOR NON-MAJORS
MUSC 125	HONORS HISTORY OF JAZZ FOR NON-MAJORS
POSC 103	AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT
RLST 204	CHRISTIANITIES IN AMERICA
THEA 103	INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN THEATRE
WMST 235	AMERICAN WOMEN AND POPULAR CULTURE

### Upper-Division Electives

Students must take at least 6 units from each of the following three areas. No more than 9 units may be taken in any one discipline. <sup>1</sup> 30

#### American Institutions and Communities

Courses in this area examine the social, political and economic structures that have shaped American life, their histories and the ways individuals and groups have created and challenged these institutions.

ANTH 365	NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS
ANTH 383	NORTH AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY
ANTH 393	ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL
ECON 303	AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ECON 313	MONEY AND BANKING
ENGL 477	TOPICS IN BLACK AMERICAN LITERATURE
GEOG 420	GEOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
GEOG 423	GEOGRAPHY OF MARYLAND
HIST 306	WOMEN IN 20TH CENTURY U.S. HISTORY
HIST 345	THE AMERICAN COLONIES 1492-1763
HIST 346	THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD 1763-1800
HIST 349	THE CIVIL WAR
HIST 359	THE FDR ERA
HIST 360	RECENT AMERICAN HISTORY: 1945-1975
HIST 361	UNITED STATES LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER HISTORIES
HIST 362	MAKERS, BUYERS, USERS: THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY 1500-PRESENT
HIST 374	THE AMERICAN WEST
HIST 375	THE CITY IN AMERICAN HISTORY
HIST 379	NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY FROM 1500 TO 1900

HIST 380	NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SINCE 1900
HIST 381	AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY TO THE MID-19TH CENTURY
HIST 382	AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY FROM THE MID-19TH CENTURY
HIST 385	WORKERS AND WORK IN THE UNITED STATES
HIST 397	HISTORY OF MARYLAND FROM COLONIAL TIMES TO THE PRESENT
KNES 441	WOMEN, GENDER, AND SPORT
POSC 305	URBAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
POSC 343	AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLITICS
POSC 381	THE PRESIDENCY
POSC 383	CONGRESS
POSC 384	JUDICIAL SYSTEM
POSC 417	AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTIES
POSC 418	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND POLITICS
POSC 419	CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES: THE FIRST AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS
POSC 420	CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS: PERSONAL LIBERTY AND THE RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED.
POSC 421	POLITICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
POSC 422	THE SUPREME COURT
POSC 450	INTEREST GROUPS AND PUBLIC POLICY
RLST 320	AMERICAN RELIGIONS

#### Global Connections

Courses in this area investigate Americans' experiences with the world and the ways the global cultures have shaped American culture. Topics include migrations, immigration, globalization and transnational cultures.

ENGL 476	TOPICS IN MULTI-ETHNIC AMERICAN LITERATURE
HIST 314	THE UNITED STATES AND VIETNAM:1945-1975
HIST 331	AMERICAN MILITARY HISTORY: 1865 - 1950
HIST 332	AMERICAN MILITARY HISTORY SINCE 1950
HIST 370	DIPLOMATIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1900
HIST 377	ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY
HIST 378	IMMIGRANTS & IMMIGRATION IN THE UNITED STATES
POSC 355	LATIN AMERICAN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES
POSC 432	UNITED STATES-RUSSIAN RELATIONS
POSC 436	U.S. FOREIGN POLICY
POSC 453	INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY

#### Ideas and the Arts

Courses in this area explore textual, oral and visual representations of American culture and employ multi-disciplinary strategies to understand them.

ARTH 300	INTRODUCTION TO MUSEUM STUDIES
ARTH 302	MUSEUM AND COMMUNITY

ARTH 335	AFRICAN-AMERICAN ART
ARTH 337	ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE UNITED STATES I: COLONIAL TO 1900
ARTH 338	ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE U.S. II: 1900 TO PRESENT
ARTH 350	HISTORY OF PRINTS IN AMERICA
EMF 385	RADIO, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY
ENGL 331	AMERICAN DRAMA
ENGL 431	LITERATURE OF THE AMERICAN ROMANTIC PERIOD
ENGL 432	LITERATURE OF THE AMERICAN REALISTIC PERIOD
ENGL 433	AMERICAN SHORT STORY
ENGL 435	DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMERICAN NOVEL: 19TH CENTURY
ENGL 436	AMERICAN NOVEL-20TH CENTURY
ENGL 437	AMERICAN POETRY THROUGH FROST
ENGL 438	MODERN AMERICAN POETRY
ENGL 440	CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POETRY
ENGL 473	TOPICS IN AMERICAN LITERATURE
HIST 389	ROOTS OF ROCK AND ROLL
KNES 357	SPORT IN FILM
MUSC 421	MUSIC IN THE U.S.
MUSC 426	JAZZ HISTORY
PHIL 326	AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY
POSC 430	AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

**Total Units** **45**

<sup>1</sup> Other courses relating to American culture may be substituted with the approval of the program coordinator.

## Four-Year Plan of Study

### Sample Four-Year Plan

The selected course sequence below is an example of the simplest path to degree completion. Based on course schedules, student needs, and student choice, individual plans may vary. Students should consult with their adviser to make the most appropriate elective choices and to ensure that they have completed the required number of units (120) to graduate.

#### First Year

Term 1	Units Term 2	Units
AMST 201 (Core 11)	3 Lower-Division Elective - Arts and Culture	3
Core 1 (or Core 2)	3 Elective	3
Lower-Division Elective - Historical Perspectives	3 Core 2 (or Core 1)	3
Lower-Division Elective - American Literature	3 Core 3	3
Elective	3 Core 12	3
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

**Second Year**

<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Units Term 2</b>	<b>Units</b>
Upper-Division Elective - American Institutions and Communities	3 Upper-Division Elective - Ideas and the Arts	3
Upper-Division Elective - Global Connections	3 Upper-Division Elective - American Institutions and Communities	3
Core 5	3 Core 4	3
Elective	3 Core 7	4
Elective	3 Core 9	3
	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>

**Third Year**

<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Units Term 2</b>	<b>Units</b>
Upper-Division Elective - Global Connections	3 Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective - Ideas and the Arts	3 Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3 Core 6	3
Core 8	4 Core 10	3
Elective	3 Elective	3
	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>

**Fourth Year**

<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Units Term 2</b>	<b>Units</b>
Upper-Division Elective	3 AMST 491 or 497	3
Elective	3 Upper-Division Elective	3
Core 13	3 Upper-Division Elective	3
Core 14	3 Upper-Division Elective	3
Elective	3 Elective	1
	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>

**Total Units 120**

## Learning Outcomes

1. Students possess the ability to integrate knowledge and modes of thinking across two or more disciplines.
2. Students communicate effectively in the presentation of interdisciplinary materials through various modes of transmission.
3. Students conduct, analyze and apply research from two or more disciplines or through interdisciplinary research.