American Studies

Interdisciplinary Minor

Directors: Catherine Danielou (Dean's Office, College of Arts and Sciences) and Deborah Littleton (College of Arts and Sciences)

The American Studies Program offers, through the College of Arts and Sciences, an interdisciplinary minor that examines various aspects of United States society and culture. Students are introduced to a wide range of different “texts” from American art, literature, music, history, science and technology, political science and sociology, justice sciences, and popular culture. These “texts” may include movies, media, music and audio recordings, material artifacts, folkways, and food ways, as well as traditional written material. Students learn how to interpret and interrelate these texts in order to acquire a more complete and multifaceted understanding of American life and history. The minor in American studies thus provides a broad background in liberal arts and social sciences while developing skills of interdisciplinary thinking useful in a variety of careers. An American studies minor complements and counterbalances more narrowly focused majors; at the same time, it enhances majors that are either national or international in scope.

A grade of C or better is required in all courses applied to the American Studies minor. Students interested in the minor may contact Dr. Catherine Danielou (Dean's Office, College of Arts & Sciences), Ms. Deborah Littleton (Director of CAS Advising) or their academic advisor.

Minor in American Studies

Requirements

Music, the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy

Select three of the following:

- AAS 165 Jazz Styles: History and Appreciation
- AAS 235 Introduction to African History and Culture
- AAS 300 African American Music
- AAS 301 History and Tradition of Gospel Music
- AAS 330 African Aesthetics and Traditional Religion
- AAS 366 African American Literature II
- AAS 448 African American Poetry Tradition
- ARH 101 The Art Experience
- ARH 485 Special Topics: Museum Studies
- MU 165 Jazz Styles: History and Appreciation
- MU 205 African-American Music 1619-Present
- MU 364 American Music
- MU 365 The Evolution of Jazz
- ECE 332 Literature for the Young Child
- EEC 405 Children's Literature in Early Childhood and Elementary Education
- EH 223 American Literature I: Before 1865
- EH 224 American Literature II: 1865-Present
- EH 324 African-American Special Topics
- EH 365 African American Literature, 1746-1954
- EH/AAS 366 African American Literature, 1954-Present
- EH 416 Modern American Poetry
- EH 424 African-American Special Topics
- EH 446 African American Autobiography
- EH 447 African American Dramatic Tradition
- EH 448 African American Poetry Tradition

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Select two of the following:

- AAS 200 Introduction to African-American Studies
- AAS 220 History of Sport: The African American Experience
- AAS 273 The Black Power Movement
- AAS 310 Black Image: Screen and Television
- AAS 311 Race and Representation in Media
- AAS 325 Black Psychology
- AAS 250 Special Topics in African-American Studies
- AAS 335 The Psychology of Hip Hop
- AAS 346 Race, Rhetoric, and Resistance
- AAS 420 Public Health and Medical Issues in African Communities
- AAS 442 Race, Crime, Gender and Social Policy
- ANTH 222 Ancient North America
- ANTH 355 Archaeology of Alabama
- ANTH 426 NAGPRA, Repatriation, and Indigenous Rights
- EC 413 Urban Economics
- CJ 100 Introduction to the Criminal Justice System
- CJ 220 Police in America: An Overview
- CJ 230 The Judicial Process in America: An Overview
- CJ 240 Corrections in America: An Overview
- CJ 380 Media, Crime & Justice
- CJ 442 Race, Crime, Gender and Social Policy
- CJ 463 Urban Structures
- PSC 101 Foundations of American Government
- CJ 464 Crime and Place
- PSC 221 American State and Local Government
- PSC 319 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- PSC 330 The American Judicial Process
- PSC 331 The U.S. Congress
- PSC 332 The American Presidency
- PSC 380 The Politics of Constitutional Law
- PSC 381 The Bill of Rights
- PSC 401 Seminar in American Government
- PSC 418 Politics and Race in America
- PSC 431 American Constitutional Law
- PY 240 Psychology of Social Inequality
- PY 301 Psychology of Music
- PY 424 Psychology of Race and Ethnic Relations
- SOC 275 Urban Sociology
- SOC 316 Popular Culture
- SOC 319 Sociology of The South
- SOC 336 Sport and Society
- SOC 350 Sociology of Hip Hop
- SOC 470 Population Dynamics
- SW 100 Introduction to Social Work
- SW 302 Social Welfare Policy Analysis
- SW 452 Birmingham Neighborhood Studies

History
Select two of the following: 6

HY 120 The United States To 1877
HY 121 The United States Since 1877
HY 207 The American Film
HY 210 History of American Medicine
HY/AAS 223 African-American History to 1865
HY/AAS 224 African-American History Since 1865
HY 225 History of Alabama
HY 226 History and Development of Birmingham
HY 228 Southern Industrial History
HY 273 The Black Power Movement
HY 274 LGBT History
HY 289 Topics in African American History
HY 303 Women in American History
HY 304 U.S. Civil Rights Movement
HY 305 Popular Culture in American History
HY 307 The American Film
HY 308 History of Popular Music in the United States
HY 309 American Independent Film
HY 312 Rock n Roll and Race Relations
HY 322 The Great Depression in Film
HY 325 Southern Politics in the 20th Century
HY 326 Mansions, Mines, and Jim Crow
HY 340 Popular Culture in the 1960s
HY 384 Health & Illness in Modern America
HY 388 History of American Medicine
HY 403 Colonial American History to 1765
HY 405 War and Society in Early America
HY 409 U.S. Constitutional History to 1877
HY 410 U. S. Constitutional History Since 1877
HY 413 Reconstruction in America
HY 416 The Fifties in America
HY 417 The Making of Modern America 1877-1920
HY 418 America in the 1920s and 1930s
HY 420 Recent America 1945 to the Present
HY 411 The Antebellum South
HY 412 The American Civil War
HY 414 The New South, 1877 to 1945
HY 423 Southern Women: Image and Reality
HY 424 Emergence of Modern American 1877-1945
HY 427 History of American Technology
HY 428 Technology and American Life
HY 429 Workers in American Society
HY 430 U. S. Labor History
HY 431 American Film and Violent Society
HY 435 American Urban History
HY 437 Resistance and Revolution in British America
HY 439 American Environmental History

Total Hours 21

A grade of 'C' or better is required for all classes counting toward the American Studies minor.

Courses

AS 201. Studies in American Culture. 3 Hours.
Team-taught, interdisciplinary study of American society and culture through selected readings from American literature and history, as well as other “texts” from art, music, industrial and technological developments, folk and popular culture. Specific topics vary with instructors; materials for study include cultural experiences and expressions of diverse groups within American society, including native Americans, African American, immigrants and women.

AS 202. Studies in American Culture. 3 Hours.
Team-taught, interdisciplinary study of American society and culture through selected readings from American literature and history, as well as other texts from art, music, industrial and technological developments, and folk and popular culture. Specific topics vary with instructors; materials for study include cultural experiences and expressions of diverse groups within American society, including Native Americans, African Americans, immigrants, and women.

AS 301. Studies in American Culture. 3 Hours.
Team-taught, interdisciplinary study of American society and culture through selected readings from American literature and history, as well as other texts from art, music, industrial and technological developments, and folk and popular culture. Specific topics vary with instructors; materials for study include cultural experiences and expressions of diverse groups within American society including Native Americans, African Americans, immigrants, and women.

AS 401. Senior Seminar in American Studies. 3 Hours.
Topics of national and regional interest from any discipline but sufficiently broad to allow focus on specific intellectual problems using analytical skills and interdisciplinary methods learned in Core Curriculum courses, required elective courses, and chosen major. Should be taken during senior year.
Prerequisites: AS 201 [Min Grade: D] and AS 202 [Min Grade: D]