

AMERICAN STUDIES

Director: Roger Noll

Program Coordinators: Joseph Corn, Richard Gillam

Administrative Committee: Barton J. Bernstein (History, on leave), David Brady (Political Science), Rudy Busto (Religious Studies), Albert Camarillo (History), Gordon Chang (History), Wanda Corn (Art and Art History), Arnold Eisen (Religious Studies), Nicholas Jenkins (English), Gavin Jones (English), David Kennedy (History), Doug McAdam (Sociology), Sianne Ngai (English), Jack Rakove (History), Arnold Rampersad (English), Ramón Saldivar (English, and Comparative Literature), William Solomon (English), Barry Weingast (Political Science), Richard White (History), Gavin Wright (Economics), Steven Zipperstein (History)

The American Studies program is administered through the office of Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities; see <http://www.stanford.edu/group/HSP/AmStud/>.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

BACHELOR OF ARTS

The purpose of the American Studies program is to provide students with a comprehensive and critical interdisciplinary understanding of the American experience. The program builds on a series of core courses emphasizing intellectual and cultural as well as historical and legal analysis. American Studies is also a broadly multicultural major that gives serious curricular attention to issues of diversity, especially as raised by distinctions of race, class, ethnicity, and gender. All majors take an intensive seminar, "Perspectives on American Identity," that explores the tension between commonality and difference, and society and group, from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The program stresses the study of multiculturalism in depth as well as breadth by requiring students to take at least two approved classes focusing specifically on race and ethnicity. Majors who take five or more such courses have the option of graduating with a race and ethnicity specialization in American Studies.

All American Studies majors work closely with a faculty coordinator to develop an independent study plan consisting of 14 (or more) courses totaling at least 60 units. All are to be taken for a letter grade. Study plans must emphasize one of four general concentrations or areas of interest (History and Society; Literature and Thought; Visual and Material Culture; and Politics, Policy, and Economics).

Concentration Requirements—All majors must take a total of thirteen courses in four areas of concentration: (1) History and Society; (2) Literature and Thought; (3) Visual and Material Culture; and (4) Politics, Policy, and Economics. These thirteen courses include American Studies 150, and History 165A and 165B, which are gateway courses that should be taken as early as possible in a student's course of study, plus two courses to satisfy the race and ethnicity requirement (described in the section below). In addition, majors must meet the following minimum distribution requirements: six courses sufficient to provide a solid grounding in one of the four concentrations; seven courses in the other three areas, with at least one course in each area.

Seminar Requirements—All majors must take American Studies 200, Perspectives on American Identity, plus a second seminar (or colloquium) requiring a substantial paper, from their chosen area of concentration. Most courses that fulfill the second seminar requirement are so noted in the updated list available at the program office. There may be other courses that fulfill this requirement; students should consult the chair or one of the program coordinators in such cases. Seminars taken under the aegis of the Stanford-in-Washington program may also fulfill the second seminar requirement.

Race and Ethnicity Component—Students must take at least two courses in the area of race and ethnicity. These courses may count towards the thirteen-course concentration requirement.

A list of courses satisfying this requirement may be obtained from the program office.

Optional Specialization in Race and Ethnicity—Students who take at least five approved race and ethnicity courses graduate with an American Studies specialization in race and ethnicity. This is noted on the final undergraduate transcript.

MINORS

Students wishing to earn an undergraduate minor in American Studies must complete seven courses for a minimum of 27 units.

All students take the program's core course, American Studies 150/English 121, American Literature and Culture to 1855 (5 units), as an introduction to the critical study of American literature and culture.

Students also complete two of the following four courses in American history (10 units) to provide a historical foundation:

History 165A. Colonial and Revolutionary America

History 165B. 19th-Century America

History 165C. The United States in the 20th Century

History 172A. America since 1945

Additionally, students choose four elective courses appropriate to their particular interests from courses listed under American Studies (12–20 units). These courses should be selected with one of two goals in mind: to give the student a breadth of exposure to various issues in American Studies; and to give the student an opportunity to study an area of American Studies in depth (for example, arts and letters, history, social institutions, policy) or to focus on a particular issue in American Studies (for example, technology in America, race and ethnicity in America, American art and material culture).

All courses counted toward the minor in American Studies must be taken for a letter grade. No course which counts toward the minor can also count toward a student's major.

HONORS PROGRAM

Preferably during the junior year and no later than the third quarter before graduation, majors with demonstrated interest and ability in American Studies may apply to seek honors by writing a senior thesis for 10 to 15 units of credit. This application is to include the topic and a proposed outline of the senior thesis and should be signed by a Stanford faculty member who is willing to direct the student's thesis during the ensuing year. The program may approve the application or request resubmission with revisions. The finished essay must be submitted three weeks before the date of graduation. Units for the honors project must be in addition to the 60-unit major.

COURSES

See departmental listings for complete descriptions and University General Education Requirements (GER) notations. Some courses may require prerequisites that do not apply toward the major. See the *Time Schedule* each quarter for changes in listings. An up-to-date list is available in the program office.

AMERICAN STUDIES

150. American Literature and Culture to 1855—(Same as English 121.) Reading texts from Anne Bradstreet to Melville, examines the major issues in early American cultural and literary history. Developments in the fine and domestic arts; methodological issues associated with the enterprise called American Studies. (Literature and Thought)

5 units, Win (West Norwood)

151. The Transformation of American Thought and Culture, 1865 to the Present—Persistent strains and tensions in American intellectual life and culture over the past 125 years. Readings include autobiographies, novels, documentary works, and historical and theoretical analyses that bear on issues of technology and culture, consumerism, mass society, gender, sexuality, violence, political extremism, and power. (History and Society, or Literature and Thought) GER:3a (WIM)

5 units, Win (Gillam)

152. American Spaces: An Introduction to Material Culture and the Built Environment—(Same as History 152.) American history through the evidence of things, e.g., spaces, buildings, and landscapes of the built environment. How to “read” such artifacts using methods and theories from anthropology, cultural geography, history, and other disciplines. (History and Society, or Visual and Material Culture)

5 units, Spr (Corn)

179. Introduction to American Law—(Same as Law 106, Political Science 182F.) American law for undergraduates. The structure of the American legal system, including the courts; American legal culture; the legal profession and its social role; the scope and reach of the legal system; the background and impact of legal regulation; the relationship between the American legal system and American society in general. (History and Society; or Politics, Policy, and Economics) GER:3b

5 units, Aut (Friedman)

RACE AND ETHNICITY

Two approved race and ethnicity courses are required of all majors. (For details, see previous description of “Undergraduate Programs.”) Approved courses include, but are not limited to those offered through the Program in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity. Foreexample, see History 65.

SEMINAR ON AMERICAN IDENTITY

200. Perspectives on American Identity—(Same as History 260A.) Required for American Studies major. Analysis of the changing interpretations of American identity and “Americanness.” GER:3a (WIM)

5 units, Aut (J. Corn)

Spr (Gillam)

HISTORY AND SOCIETY

114Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Visions of the 1960s—Preference to sophomores. Introduction to the ideas, sensibility, and (to a lesser degree) the politics of the American 1960s. Topics: the early ’60s vision of a “Beloved Community;” varieties of racial, generational, and feminist dissent; the meaning of the counterculture; and current interpretive perspectives on the 1960s. Attention to film, music, and articles and books. GER:3a,4b

5 units, Aut (Gillam)

151. The Transformation of American Thought and Culture, 1865 to the Present—See “Core Lectures.”

179. Introduction to American Law—(Same as Law 106, Political Science 182F.) See “Core Lectures.”

214. The American 1960s: Thought, Protest, and Culture—The meaning of the American 1960s, emphasizing ideas, culture, protest, and the “new sensibility” that emerged during this decade of transition. Topics: black protest, the new left, the counterculture, feminism, the new literature and journalism of the 1960s, the role of the media in shaping dissent, and the legacy of 1960s protest. Interpretive materials from film, music, articles, and books. GER:3a,4b

5 units, Aut (Gillam)

COMMUNICATION

1. Mass Communication and Society: Media Technologies, People, and Society

125. Perspectives on American Journalism

131. Media Ethics and Responsibility

141B. History of Film: The Second 50 Years

CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

15. Africa and the Diaspora

16. Native Americans in the 21st Century: Exploring Sovereignty, Identity, and Narratives of Native Peoples

83B. South Asian Diasporas: Colonial and Postcolonial Reflections

83C. Korean American Migration

EDUCATION

201. History of Education in the United States

FEMINIST STUDIES

260/360. Seminar in Women’s Health: Women and Disabilities

HISTORY

51N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Abraham Lincoln—Myth and Reality

64. Introduction to Race and Ethnicity in the American Experience

65. Introduction to Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity

115. Technology and Culture in 19th-Century America

150A. African American History to the 20th Century

150B. Introduction to African American History: The Modern African American Freedom Struggle

152. American Spaces: An Introduction to Material Culture and the Built Environment

159. Introduction to Asian American History

165A. Colonial and Revolutionary America—Required for American Studies major.

165B. 19th-Century America—Required for American Studies major.

165C. The United States in the 20th Century

173C. Introduction to Feminist Studies

250B. Undergraduate Colloquium: Constitutional Interpretation in History and Theory

255A. Undergraduate Colloquium: Culture and Ideologies of Race

265. Undergraduate Colloquium: New Research in Asian American History

265A. Undergraduate Colloquium: The History of Sexuality in the United States

267. Undergraduate Colloquium: Yesterday’s Tomorrows—Technology and the “Future” in History

268S. Undergraduate Colloquium: American Wests

281A. Undergraduate Colloquium: Environmental History of the Americas

LINGUISTICS

146. Language and Gender

150Z. Language in Society

PSYCHOLOGY

174. African American Psychology

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY

101. Science, Technology, and Contemporary Society

SOCIOLOGY

46N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Race and Ethnic Identities

118. Social Movements and Collective Action

138. American Indians in Comparative Historical Perspective

139. American Indians in Contemporary Society

145. Race and Ethnic Relations

149. The Urban Underclass

150. The Family

LITERATURE AND THOUGHT

114Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Visions of the 1960s—See description under “History and Society.”

150. American Literature and Culture to 1855—(Same as English 121.) See “Core Lectures.”

151. The Transformation of American Thought and Culture, 1865 to the Present—See “Core Lectures.”

214. The American 1960s: Thought, Protest, and Culture—See description under “History and Society.”

AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

105. Introduction to African and African American Studies

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

24Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Ethnicity and Literature—Preference to sophomores.

168. Introduction to Asian American Cultures

202. Comparative Ethnic Autobiography

DRAMA

65. American Musical Theater: Broadway/Hollywood

163. Performance and America

ENGLISH

112. Masterpieces of American Literature

125B. American Modernism and Early Film

126. 20th-Century American Fictions

134. The 19th-Century American Novel: Romance to Realism

156. Whitman and Dickinson

160K. Gender and American Cinema, 1930-1950: The Woman’s Film and Film Noir

160M. Woody Allen

161D. Jewish American Literature

167. American Detective Fiction: From Low Art to High Culture

168B. Introduction to Afro-American Literature

168C. Introduction to Chicana/o Literature

179E. Hemingway and Fitzgerald

186. Henry James and Edith Wharton

186B. Seminar: Melville

186D. Seminar: American Women Writers, 1850-1915

187D. Seminar: Modern British and American Poetry

187F. Seminar: Toni Morrison

187H. Seminar: Gwendolyn Brooks and Ralph Ellison

187M. Seminar: “America” and the Long Poem Tradition

187N. Seminar: W. E. B. DuBois and American Culture

187T. Seminar: Black Humor, Race, Comedy, and Post-World War II American Fiction

LINGUISTICS

73. African American Vernacular English

MUSIC

8A. Rock, Sex, and Rebellion

18A. Ragtime to Bebop (1900-1940)

18B. Bebop to Present (1940-)

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

146. Power in the Blood: Evangelical Christianity in the United States

155. Asian/Pacific American Religious Traditions

SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

124. Mexican and Chicano Cultural Perspectives

137. Spanish American Literature

237. Border Writings

239. Chicano Cinema

VISUAL AND MATERIAL CULTURE

152. American Spaces: Introduction to Material Culture and the Built Environment—(Same as History 152.) See “Core Lectures.”

ART AND ART HISTORY

131A. Art, Architecture, and Design in America: 1600-1865

151. Transatlantic Modernism: Paris and New York in the Early 20th Century

167. The Hollywood Musical

COMMUNICATION

1. Mass Communication and Society: Media Technologies, People, and Society

141B. History of Film: The Second 50 Years

DRAMA

17N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: “Del Otro Lado”—Latino/a Performance Art in the U.S.

65. American Musical Theater: Broadway/Hollywood**163. Performance and America**

ENGLISH

125B. American Modernism and Early Film**160K. Gender and American Cinema: 1930-1950—The Woman's Film and Film Noir****160M. Woody Allen**

MUSIC

15Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Topics in American Music**16Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Ki ho'alu—The New Renaissance of Hawaiian Musical Tradition****17Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Perspectives in North American Taiko**

SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

239. Chicano Cinema

POLITICS, POLICY, AND ECONOMICS

179. Introduction to American Law—(Same as Law 106, Political Science 182F.) See "Core Lectures."

COMMUNICATION

1. Mass Communication and Society: Media Technologies, People, and Society**125. Perspectives on American Journalism****137. Telecommunication Policy and the Internet****160. The Press and the Political Process—(Online course.)****183. Media Economics**

EDUCATION

201. History of Education in the United States

ECONOMICS

116. American Economic History**155. Environmental Economics and Policy****158. Antitrust and Regulation**

FEMINIST STUDIES

260/360. Seminar in Women's Health: Women and Disabilities

HISTORY

150B. Introduction to African American History: The Modern African American Freedom Struggle

HUMAN BIOLOGY

102B. Children, Youth, and the Law**125. Environmental Policy and Law****131. Natural Resources Policy and Law****160. Health Care in America****160A. Seminar in American Health Policy**

POLITICAL SCIENCE

1. Introduction to Political Science**10. American National Government and Politics****89Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: The Presidency****90N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: The Evolution of Voting Rights in the U.S.****91Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Politics of Bureaucracy****104. Seminar: Urban Policy****170. Judicial Politics and Constitutional Law: The Federal System****179G. Black Politics in the Post-Civil Rights Period****184W. Issues of Representation in American Politics****185. Seminar: Asian Americans in Politics****186. Urban Politics****196. Issues of Race in American Politics****197P. Seminar: Political Beliefs and Values of Black Americans****197S. Seminar: Prejudice and Group Conflict****206. Seminar: Politics and Organization****273. Frontiers in American Politics****296. Seminar: Racial and Ethnic Politics in the U.S.**

PUBLIC POLICY

182A,B. Policy Making and Problem Solving at the Local and Regional Level**185. Managing Public Policy: Seminar****190. Social Innovation and the Social Entrepreneur****191. Business Concepts and Skills for the Social Sector****192. Social Entrepreneurship: Mobilizing Private Resources for the Public Good****194. Technology Policy****195. Business and Public Policy****196. The Political Economy of the Federal Budget**

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY

101. Science, Technology, and Contemporary Society**110. Ethics and Public Policy**

SOCIOLOGY

46N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Race and Ethnic Identities**118. Social Movements and Collective Action****149. The Urban Underclass**

URBAN STUDIES

120. Building Community

170. Introduction to Urban Design

186. Revitalizing the E-Downtown

191A. Introduction to Community Service Organizations

191B. Community Organizing

INDIVIDUAL WORK

195. Directed Research

1-5 units (Staff)

199. Directed Reading

1-5 units (Staff)

220. Student Initiated Course—American Studies majors have the opportunity to develop student initiated courses and earn credit for their development, organization, and presentation. Such courses must have a faculty sponsor to assign grades, and must be approved by the chair or one of the program coordinators. See the program administrator for guidelines. Credit is assigned by the chair or one of the program coordinators on the recommendation of the faculty sponsor.

1-5 units, any quarter (Staff)

250. Senior Research Project—Research and writing of senior honors thesis under the supervision of a faculty member. The final grade for the thesis is assigned by the chair based on the evaluations of the primary thesis adviser and a second reader appointed by the program. Prerequisite: consent of chair.

1-15 units, any quarter (Noll)

This file has been excerpted from the *Stanford Bulletin*, 2001-02, pages 217-221. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy; late changes (after print publication of the bulletin) may have been made here. Contact the editor of the *Stanford Bulletin* via email at arod@stanford.edu with changes, corrections, updates, etc.