American Studies

Bachelor of Arts (BA)
American Studies is an individualized interdisciplinary major that offers undergraduates a unique opportunity to take advantage of the depth and breadth of Americanist scholarship and research on the campus in order to explore and understand the United States and its place in the globalizing world. American studies courses integrate a variety of subjects, methods, and materials from many academic disciplines, including the traditional blend of history and literature, as well as the social sciences, material culture, built environment, law, technology, urbanism, ecology, economy, and arts.

Declaring the Major
In order to declare the major, students with less than 60 units must complete AMERSTD 10 and one other lower division requirement. Students beyond 60 units must be enrolled in AMERSTD 10 and speak with a faculty adviser before being allowed to declare. For details on how to declare, please see the student academic adviser at 237 Evans Hall, 510-642-9320, or email amerstd@berkeley.edu.

Honors Program
Students who wish to be eligible to graduate with honors must enroll in the honors thesis seminar, AMERSTD H195. For admission to the course, students must have senior standing, an overall GPA of 3.51, and a GPA of 3.65 in the major. For further information, please contact the student academic adviser in 237 Evans Hall, 510-642-9320, or amerstd@berkeley.edu.

Minor Program
There is no minor program in American Studies.

In addition to the University, campus, and college requirements, listed on the College Requirements tab, students must fulfill the below requirements specific to their major program.

General Guidelines
1. All courses taken to fulfill the major requirements below must be taken for graded credit, other than courses listed which are offered on a Pass/No Pass basis only. Other exceptions to this requirement are noted as applicable.
2. No more than one upper division course may be used to simultaneously fulfill requirements for a student's major and minor programs, with the exception of minors offered outside of the College of Letters & Science.
3. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 must be maintained in both upper and lower division courses used to fulfill the major requirements.

For information regarding residence requirements and unit requirements, please see the College Requirements tab.

Summary of Degree Requirements
Lower Division Prerequisites: Four courses total
Upper Division Requirements: 30-36 units
Historical Requirement
Senior Thesis Requirement: Four units

Please see below for the specific details regarding these requirements.

Lower Division Prerequisites
The lower division prerequisites are meant to introduce the student to a variety of scholarly approaches to the study of American culture and society. In order to determine whether particular courses fulfill the prerequisites, please contact the American Studies student academic adviser in 237 Evans Hall or an American Studies faculty adviser.

AMERSTD 10 Introduction to American Studies or AMERSTD 10A@Introduction to American Studies
Select three lower division courses that focus on the United States

1. No more than three of these courses may be from the same department.
2. Appropriate courses taken at other universities or community colleges may be substituted with faculty adviser approval.

Upper Division Requirements
30-36 units, distributed among the following:

Core Methods Courses: 6-8 units
Students are required to take one course each from the two methods series, “Examining US Cultures in Time” and “Examining US Cultures in Place.” See the program's website for available courses every semester. It is expected that these courses will be completed during the junior year. Due to the unique interdisciplinary nature of the courses, these requirements should be satisfied at UC Berkeley.

Area of Concentration: minimum of six courses, 18-20 units
Upper division coursework drawn from the College of Letters & Science and the professional schools and colleges, in the student's individually articulated area of concentration. Areas of concentration may be highly individualized, depending on the student's intellectual focus, prior preparation, and the availability of courses. Students planning to declare the major should complete a four year plan, major application form and meet with a faculty adviser in their sophomore year or early in their junior year to plan their upper division program. Subsequently, this program can be revised with the approval of the faculty adviser.

1. The area of concentration must include courses from at least two different departments, but no more than three courses from any one discipline. The area may include courses from up to six different departments.

Historical Requirement
One of the courses taken to complete the American Studies major (either upper or lower division) must focus on US history, culture, and/or politics before 1900. Students should check with an American Studies student academic adviser to ensure that the course they take meets this requirement.

Senior Thesis Requirement
Because American Studies at UC Berkeley is an interdisciplinary program based on the major's own offerings and supplemented by individualized programs of study drawing on the resources of the whole campus, students in this major complete their work in the major with an interdisciplinary senior thesis. The thesis is intended to give students
the opportunity to develop an extended analysis of a significant problem related to their area of concentration and to craft the essay into a finished piece of scholarly work. It is designed to give students a sense of competence and confidence in researching, framing, and completing an explicitly interdisciplinary project.

Select one of the following thesis course options:

- AMERSTD 191 Senior Seminar
- AMERSTD 190 Senior Thesis
- AMERSTD H15 Honors Thesis

A thesis course offered by another department

1 A thesis course from another department must be approved in advance by an American Studies faculty adviser.

Undergraduate students in the College of Letters & Science must fulfill the following requirements in addition to those required by their major program.

For detailed lists of courses that fulfill college requirements, please review the College of Letters & Sciences (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science) page in this Guide.

**Entry Level Writing** ([http://writing.berkeley.edu/node/78](http://writing.berkeley.edu/node/78))

All students who will enter the University of California as freshmen must demonstrate their command of the English language by fulfilling the Entry Level Writing requirement. Fulfillment of this requirement is also a prerequisite to enrollment in all reading and composition courses at UC Berkeley.

**American History and American Institutions** ([http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/american-history-institutions-requirement](http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/american-history-institutions-requirement))

The American History and Institutions requirements are based on the principle that a US resident graduated from an American university should have an understanding of the history and governmental institutions of the United States.

**American Cultures** ([http://americancultures.berkeley.edu/students/courses](http://americancultures.berkeley.edu/students/courses))

American Cultures is the one requirement that all undergraduate students at Cal need to take and pass in order to graduate. The requirement offers an exciting intellectual environment centered on the study of race, ethnicity and culture of the United States. AC courses offer students opportunities to be part of research-led, highly accomplished teaching environments, grappling with the complexity of American Culture.

**Quantitative Reasoning**

The Quantitative Reasoning requirement is designed to ensure that students graduate with basic understanding and competency in math, statistics, or computer science. The requirement may be satisfied by exam or by taking an approved course.

**Foreign Language**

The Foreign Language requirement may be satisfied by demonstrating proficiency in reading comprehension, writing, and conversation in a foreign language equivalent to the second semester college level, either by passing an exam or by completing approved course work.

**Reading and Composition**

In order to provide a solid foundation in reading, writing and critical thinking the College requires two semesters of lower division work in composition in sequence. Students must complete a first-level reading and composition course by the end of their second semester and a second-level course by the end of their fourth semester.

**Breadth Requirements**

The undergraduate breadth requirements provide Berkeley students with a rich and varied educational experience outside of their major program. As the foundation of a liberal arts education, breadth courses give students a view into the intellectual life of the University while introducing them to a multitude of perspectives and approaches to research and scholarship. Engaging students in new disciplines and with peers from other majors, the breadth experience strengthens interdisciplinary connections and context that prepares Berkeley graduates to understand and solve the complex issues of their day.

**Unit Requirements**

- 120 total units, including at least 60 L&S units
- Of the 120 units, 36 must be upper division units
- Of the 36 upper division units, 6 must be taken in courses offered outside your major department

**Residence Requirements**

For units to be considered in "residence," you must be registered in courses on the Berkeley campus as a student in the College of Letters & Science. Most students automatically fulfill the residence requirement by attending classes here for four years. In general, there is no need to be concerned about this requirement, unless you go abroad for a semester or year or want to take courses at another institution or through UC Extension during your senior year. In these cases, you should make an appointment to meet an adviser to determine how you can meet the Senior Residence Requirement.

Note: Courses taken through UC Extension do not count toward residence.

**Senior Residence Requirement**

After you become a senior (with 90 semester units earned toward your BA degree), you must complete at least 24 of the remaining 30 units in residence in at least two semesters. To count as residence, a semester must consist of at least 6 passed units. Intercampus Visitor, EAP, and UC Berkeley-Washington Program (UCDC) units are excluded.

You may use a Berkeley Summer Session to satisfy one semester of the Senior Residence requirement, provided that you successfully complete 6 units of course work in the Summer Session and that you have been enrolled previously in the college.
Learning Goals for the Major

The goal of the American Studies interdisciplinary major is to enable students to learn a set of research, critical thinking, and written and oral communication skills that will enable them to become self-conscious and thoughtful investigators of American society. To meet this basic goal, our courses are designed to give students a basic understanding of American history, culture, political economy, social structures, and environment (both natural and constructed), as well as to enable them to use a range of concepts and methods to define and analyze significant problems, issues, and questions relating to American life. Through a close reading of diverse texts and physical and cultural materials, American Studies students learn how to critically analyze how individuals, groups, and a wide variety of political, economic, and cultural institutions have interacted to shape and give meaning to the American experience.

1. Research Skills:
   • Students learn how to locate and evaluate primary source materials and secondary texts. These include published contemporary and historical documents, artifacts of material culture, landscape and architectural structures, visual and auditory media, oral history, and folklore.

2. Critical Thinking Skills:
   • Students learn how to analyze and evaluate cultural texts including literature, performance, film, art, etc., and demonstrate a basic understanding of cultural theory and aesthetics (i.e., to understand and think critically about American society from a humanities perspective).
   • Students learn to critically analyze and evaluate social science arguments, demonstrating an understanding of the premises of qualitative and quantitative evidence (i.e., understand and think critically about American society from a social science perspective).
   • Students learn to analyze and understand the American past so as to gain perspective on and critical understanding of current issues and problems in American life (i.e., to understand and think critically about American society from an historical perspective, which by definition integrates humanities and social science approaches).
   • Students learn to critically analyze and interpret the meaning of American material culture and its built and natural environments (i.e., understand and think critically about American society from the perspectives of the knowledges embodied in the disciplines of geography, architecture, landscape architecture, environmental studies, and art).

3. Written and Oral Communication Skills
   • Students learn how to communicate effectively in written form, demonstrating the ability to formulate a well-organized argument supported by evidence.
   • Students learn how to communicate effectively orally, while demonstrating the ability to listen and respond to what others are saying.

4. Specialized Knowledge
   • Time: Students gain in depth, substantive knowledge about American life and culture in a particular year.
   • Place: Students gain in depth, substantive knowledge about American life and culture in a particular city, region, or other place.
   • Students gain in depth substantive knowledge about particular themes, issues, problems, and questions in American life and experience.

5. Integrative Knowledge and Skills
   • Students demonstrate their mastery of all of the above skills by writing a Senior Thesis that is a focused interdisciplinary research project in their specialized area of concentration.

American Studies

AMERSTD 5 Keywords in American Studies 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2016 10 Week Session, Summer 2016 3 Week Session

Inspirations by Raymond Williams' classic text, Keywords: A Vocabulary of Culture and Society, and the recent Keywords of American Cultural Studies (Burgett and Hendler), this course will provide a short and focused introduction to central terms and debates in American Studies. The goal is: (1) to enable each student to develop a critical understanding of a key concept such as “Race,” “Representation,” “Class,” and “Democracy”; (2) allow students to become familiar with some of the major scholarly works on the keyword; and (3) introduce students to the kind of interdisciplinary inquiry that characterizes our American Studies program.

Keywords in American Studies: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 9 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Moran
Keywords in American Studies: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 10 Introduction to American Studies 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Summer 2017 Second 6 Week Session, Spring 2017
American culture and cultural change, with attention to the multicultural basis of American society and emphasis on the need for multiple methods of analysis. The course will consistently draw on the arts, material culture, and various fields affecting cultural production and meaning. Those areas include literature, film, history, architecture, history of art, religion, music, engineering, environmental studies, anthropology, politics, economics, law, and medicine. This course may include discussion sections depending on available funding. Some versions of this course need four in-class contact hours because of the extensive use of media.

Introduction to American Studies: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for American Studies 10 after completing American Studies 10AC. A deficient grade in American Studies 10 may be removed by taking American Studies 10AC.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week
Summer:
6 weeks - 7.5-10 hours of lecture and 0-2.5 hours of discussion per week
8 weeks - 6-7.5 hours of lecture and 0-2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Studies 10
Introduction to American Studies: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 10AC Introduction to American Studies 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2013, Spring 2012, Fall 2011
American culture and cultural change, with attention to the multicultural basis of American society and emphasis on the need for multiple methods of analysis. The course will consistently draw on the arts, material culture, and various fields affecting cultural production and meaning. Those areas include literature, film, history, architecture, history of art, religion, music, engineering, environmental studies, anthropology, politics, economics, law, and medicine.

Introduction to American Studies: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 10AC after taking 10 or Undergraduate and Interdisciplinary Studies 10. A deficient grade in American Studies 10 or Interdisciplinary Studies 10 may be removed by taking American Studies 10AC.

Requirements this course satisfies: Satisfies the American Cultures requirement

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Introduction to American Studies: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD C10 Introduction to American Studies: Hollywood: the Place, the Industry, the Fantasy 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2013
This course will introduce students to the interdisciplinary field of American Studies, taking the "Hollywood Dream Factory" as the central theme. Focusing on both parts of that phrase, the course will proceed along a double path. We will examine the historical and geographical development of the motion picture industry from the rise of the studio system to the "new" entertainment economy of the 1980's and we will examine ways Hollywood is represented in literature and film.

Introduction to American Studies: Hollywood: the Place, the Industry, the Fantasy: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Moran

Also listed as: L & S C40T

Introduction to American Studies: Hollywood: the Place, the Industry, the Fantasy: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 24 Freshman Seminar 1 Unit
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2009, Fall 2007
The Freshman Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small seminar setting. Freshman seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Enrollment limited to 15 freshmen.
Freshman Seminar: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Freshman Seminar: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 98 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2011, Fall 2007, Spring 2006
Written proposal must be approved by sponsoring faculty. Seminars for the group study of selected topics, which will vary from year to year. Topics may be initiated by students.
Directed Group Study: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Open only to freshmen and sophomores. Consent of instructor
Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the section on Academic Policies-Course Number Guide in the Berkeley Bulletin.<BR/>
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.
Directed Group Study: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 101 Examining U.S. Cultures in Time 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
This course examines how U.S. cultures are constructed, reinforced, and changed, and how those cultures act simultaneously at a given time. To help students develop skills in cultural analysis, lectures will contrast various methods and perspectives as they apply to the study of a particular year or decade. Topics will vary from semester to semester. This course may include discussion sections depending on available funding. Some versions of this course need four in-class contact hours because of the extensive use of media.
Examining U.S. Cultures in Time: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week
Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Examining U.S. Cultures in Time: Read Less [-]
**AMERSTD 101AC Examining U.S. Cultures in Time 4 Units**

Terms offered: Summer 2017 First 6 Week Session, Fall 2015, Fall 2014

This course examines how U.S. cultures are constructed, reinforced, and changed, and how those cultures act simultaneously at a given time. To help students develop skills in cultural analysis, lectures will contrast various methods and perspectives as they apply to the study of a particular year or decade. Topics will vary from semester to semester.

Examining U.S. Cultures in Time: Read More [+]

**Rules & Requirements**

Requirements this course satisfies: Satisfies the American Cultures requirement

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture per week
8 weeks - 5.5 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

**AMERSTD 102 Examining U.S. Cultures in Place 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016

This course examines how U.S. cultures are constructed, reinforced, and changed—particularly in reference to place and material culture. Qualitative and quantitative methods of analysis drawn from several disciplines will help students develop skills in cultural interpretation. Case studies may focus on a neighborhood, a city, or a region. Topics will vary from semester to semester. This course may include discussion sections depending on available funding. Some versions of this course need four in-class contact hours because of the extensive use of media.

Examining U.S. Cultures in Place: Read Less [-]

**Rules & Requirements**

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Summer:
6 weeks - 7.5-10 hours of lecture per week
8 weeks - 6-8 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

**AMERSTD 110 Special Topics in American Studies 3 or 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Fall 2011, Fall 2010

This course is designed primarily to allow faculty to develop focused interdisciplinary courses which address specific issues, themes, or problems in American society. Topics vary from semester to semester.

Examining U.S. Cultures in Time: Read More [+]

**Rules & Requirements**

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Summer:
6 weeks - 7.5-10 hours of lecture per week
8 weeks - 6-8 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

**AMERSTD 110AC Special Topics in American Studies--American Cultures 3 or 4 Units**

Terms offered: Summer 2015 First 6 Week Session, Summer 2015 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2004 10 Week Session

This course is designed primarily to allow faculty to develop focused interdisciplinary courses that address specific issues, themes, or problems in American society and American cultures. Topics vary from semester to semester.

Examining U.S. Cultures in Place: Read Less [-]

**Rules & Requirements**

Requirements this course satisfies: Satisfies the American Cultures requirement

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Summer:
6 weeks - 7.5-10 hours of lecture per week
8 weeks - 5.5-7.5 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
AMERSTD H110 Honors Seminar: Special Topics in American Studies 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
This course is designed to introduce honors students (those who have achieved a minimum overall GPA of 3.3) to the history and theory of American studies as an interdisciplinary field and to explore current themes, debates, and research problems in American studies.

Honors Seminar: Special Topics in American Studies: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor may be required
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week
Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5-10 hours of seminar per week
8 weeks - 6-8 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Honors Seminar: Special Topics in American Studies: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD C111A Architecture in Depression and War 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2010
The Great Depression and World War II are arguably the two most influential events for the development of the built environment in the 20th century. Not only did they alter the socio-economic and political landscape on which architecture and urban planning depend, but they also led to technological innovations and vital debates about the built environment. This course examines the 1930's and 1940's topically, studying the work of the New Deal, corporate responses to the Depression and war, the important connections between architecture and advertising, the role of the Museum of Modern Art in the promotion of Modernism, the concept of the ideal house, and key tests, theories, and projects from the period.

Architecture in Depression and War: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week
Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture and 0-2.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Shanken
Also listed as: ARCH C174
Architecture in Depression and War: Read Less [-]
**AMERSTD C111E Topics in American Studies**

**4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

A course on the intellectual, cultural, historical, and social backgrounds to American literature. Topics will vary from semester to semester. Students should consult the department’s “Announcement of Classes” for current offerings well before the start of the semester.

**Rules & Requirements**

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with different topic and consent of instructor. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Also listed as: ENGLISH C136

Topics in American Studies: Read More [+]

Topics in American Studies: Read Less [-]

**AMERSTD C112A American Cultural Landscapes, 1600 to 1900**

**4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2014, Fall 2013, Fall 2012, Fall 2011

Introduces ways of seeing and interpreting American histories and cultures, as revealed in everyday built surroundings—houses, highways, farms, factories, stores, recreation areas, small towns, city districts, and regions. Encourages students to read landscapes as records of past and present social relations, and to speculate for themselves about cultural meaning.

**American Cultural Landscapes, 1600 to 1900: Read More [+]**

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

**Additional Details**

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Groth

Also listed as: ENV DES C169A/GEOG C160A

American Cultural Landscapes, 1600 to 1900: Read Less [-]

**AMERSTD C112B American Cultural Landscapes, 1900 to Present**

**4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2015, Spring 2014

Introduces ways of seeing and interpreting American histories and cultures, as revealed in everyday built surroundings—homes, highways, farms, factories, stores, recreation areas, small towns, city districts, and regions. Encourages students to read landscapes as records of past and present social relations, and to speculate for themselves about cultural meaning.

**American Cultural Landscapes, 1900 to Present: Read More [+]**

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

**Additional Details**

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Groth

Also listed as: ENV DES C169B/GEOG C160B

American Cultural Landscapes, 1900 to Present: Read Less [-]

**AMERSTD C112F The American Forest: Its Ecology, History, and Representation**

**4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2012, Spring 2011, Spring 2007, Fall 2004

The American forest will be examined in terms of its ecology, history, and representations in paintings, photographs, and literary essays. This examination seeks to understand the American forest in its scientific and economic parameters, as well as the historic, social, and ideological dimensions which have contributed to the evolution of our present attitudes toward the forest.

**The American Forest: Its Ecology, History, and Representation: Read More [+]**

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

**Additional Details**

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Lovell, McBride

Also listed as: ESPM C191/HISTART C189/UGIS C136

The American Forest: Its Ecology, History, and Representation: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD C115 The American Detective in Fiction, Film, and Television 4 Units
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course considers how the American detective is represented in fiction, film, and popular culture. We will examine how representations of the American detective are affected by diverse historico-cultural factors, including the ideology of American individualism, paradigms of investigation and ordered knowledge, and competing discourses of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation. After a brief consideration of early American detectives and detectives in the classic American hardboiled tradition, we will focus on many detectives from traditionally understudied groups, including female detectives, African American detectives, Chicana detectives, Asian American detectives, Native American detectives, and gay and lesbian detectives. This course may be used as an elective in the American Studies major.

Summer: 8 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Dresner

Also listed as: FILM C115

The American Detective in Fiction, Film, and Television: Read More [+]

Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

AMERSTD 130Y Tribal Sovereignty 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course will explore the unique legal status of Indian tribes and reservation lands in the United States, including analyses of treaties, the trust relationship, and the evolution of federal Indian law and policy. Students will examine the impact of such economic development ventures as mineral resource extraction and gaming on tribal sovereignty and culture. The rights of Indian individuals and groups to exercise freedom of religion will be analyzed in the context of sacred lands, repatriation of skeletal remains, and the use of peyote as sacrament.

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Biestman

Tribal Sovereignty: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 131Y Native American Indian Literatures 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course considers several novels, short stories, and autobiographical essays by contemporary Native American Indians. A general historical context will be provided with an introduction to trickster stories and oral performance in translation. The lectures and discussions will focus on the comparative themes of tribal experiences in diverse tribal cultures with a critical review of the traces of traditional oral narratives in contemporary fiction. Comparative worldviews, landscapes, and the identities of authors and characters will be considered in the course.

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Vizenor

Native American Indian Literatures: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 132Y Native American Indian Autobiographies 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course considers several autobiographies written by Native
American Indians. The lectures, discussions, and required books focus
on various cultural themes and theories of autobiography; a comparative
review of diverse tribal experiences and narratives. Theories of cultural
simulations and literary forms of representation in autobiographical
literature will receive general attention in the course. Students will be
required to participate in class discussions and complete two hours
review papers and a final examination.
Native American Indian Autobiographies: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Vizenor
Native American Indian Autobiographies: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 133Y Native America Today 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course focuses on the history and culture of American Indians in the
past hundred years and, in particular, the strategies that have enabled
them to survive as tribes and individuals. The course will begin with an
overview of Native American history and a review of anthropological
perspectives on cultural change. This will be followed by an exploration
of the issues of identity and tradition in various facets of contemporary
Native life, including cultural revival movements, the role of women,
people of mixed descent, and contemporary art and literature. An
emphasis on participation and small group discussions, and exposure to
a wide variety of written and visual materials will give students a chance
to develop insights and skills for responding to cultural diversity.
Native America Today: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Roscoe
Native America Today: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 132B Intellectual History of the United States since 1865 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2015, Fall 2014, Spring 2014
In this course we will be discussing key developments in U.S. thought
since the middle of the nineteenth century, roughly beginning with the
reception of Darwin. The broader story told in the class weaves together
in the history of science and engineering, the arts and popular culture,
philosophy, and education. Our goal is to trace how ideas, whether
they are dominant, challenging, or look back, have affected the ways in
which Americans live together. We will look at how intellectual life has
empowered and expanded the capacity of Americans to understand their
world and achieve goals more effectively. We will also consider how
intellectual theories have contributed to inequality and injustice.
Intellectual History of the United States since 1865: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for C132B after
taking 132B.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of
discussion per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Also listed as: HISTORY C132B
Intellectual History of the United States since 1865: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 134Y American Painting at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course proposes to use the extraordinary local collections,
perticularly of the Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd collection of
American art, to introduce students to the tradition of painting in America
and to the types of intellectual problems with which current scholars
of this area are engaged. All sessions will take place in the galleries in
front of the paintings at the deYoung Museum in Golden Gate Park in
San Francisco. Topics will include 17th and 18th century painting, 19th
century genre painting, folk painting, landscape painting, still life, and
20th century painting.
American Painting at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco: Read
More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Lowell
American Painting at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco: Read
Less [-]
AMERSTD C134 Information Technology and Society 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2014
This course assesses the role of information technology in the
digitalization of society by focusing on the deployment of e-government,
e-commerce, e-learning, the digital city, telecommuting, virtual
communities, internet time, the virtual office, and the geography of cyber
space. The course will also discuss the role of information technology in
the governance and economic development of society.
Information Technology and Society: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Laguerre
Also listed as: AFRICAM C134
Information Technology and Society: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 135Y The Beats in San Francisco 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course will briefly review some of the major works by those poets
and writers of the "Beat Generation" most closely connected with San
Francisco and the Bay Area, and also some of the works by "East Coast
Beats" where it is directly relevant either to the San Francisco Bay Area
or to an understanding of the phenomenon of the Beat Generation
itself. The poets and writers covered will include Allen Ginsberg, Jack
Kerouac, Gary Snyder, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Philip Whalen, and Michael
McClure. We will pay some close attention to the interplay of Beat
Generation writing with music, painting, film, and popular culture. Audio
and video tapes of some of the principals will be available for viewing and
listening.
The Beats in San Francisco: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Loewinson
The Beats in San Francisco: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 136Y A Sense of Place: Four American Worlds 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course invites students to consider the implications of "place" in
American writing. That is "place" as not simply literal topography or locale
but geography of mind, a myth, a body of association, and legend. To
which end we shall be discussing four key modern American works, two
novels, a book of poetry, and a story-cycle.
A Sense of Place: Four American Worlds: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Lee
A Sense of Place: Four American Worlds: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 137Y Changing Media in American Society 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
American news and entertainment reach people around the globe. This
course is an opportunity for critical study of these institutions on their
home ground, using the resources of the Graduate School of Journalism.
The course mixes the perspective of an American historian and a
veteran reporter. We draw on our broadcasting and computer facilities
to allow new comers to see how American journalists shape the flow
of information. We focus on the way this profession is building new
audiences and losing others. The goal of this course is to bring outsiders
into the debate that now rages about the accomplishment and purpose of
American media.
Changing Media in American Society: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructors: Goldstein, Leonard
Changing Media in American Society: Read Less [-]
American Studies

AMERSTD 138AC From Civil Rights Era to the New Gilded Age: Struggles for Racial Equality and Economic Equity from 'Double Victory' to 'Occupy' 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2016

World War II lifted the U.S. from the Great Depression and launched a long economic boom that helped underwrite and propel efforts on behalf of greater racial equality and economic equity. As that boom began to fade in the late 1960s, America’s march toward greater racial equality foundered, while its march toward greater economic equity began to reverse course. The Civil Rights Era gave way to the New Gilded Age. This course will explore the political, legal, and economic history of America’s struggles for racial equality and economic equity – and the relationship between them.

From Civil Rights Era to the New Gilded Age: Struggles for Racial Equality and Economic Equity from 'Double Victory' to 'Occupy': Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:
6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture and 2.5 hours of discussion per week
8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: BRILLIANT

Also listed as: HISTORY C139D

AMERSTD 138Y Advertising and the Culture of Consumption: Gender and Race in Commercial Representations of the Self 1 Unit

Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session

This course will offer several perspectives on the role advertising has played in determining various expressions of American self-identity, with special emphasis on analyzing corporate representations of the self presented of--and directed to-- African Americans and Native Americans in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The course will complicate commercial representations of African Americans and Native Americans by comparing and contrasting these corporately manufactured identities with individualized voices of racial photography, painting, and music of the period. The lectures and discussions will constitute a subtext throughout the course.

Advertising and the Culture of Consumption: Gender and Race in Commercial Representations of the Self: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: McQuade

Advertising and the Culture of Consumption: Gender and Race in Commercial Representations of the Self: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 139AC Civil Rights and Social Movements in U.S. History 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2015, Spring 2014

Beginning with the onset of World War II, America experienced not a singular, unitary Civil Rights Movement -- as is typically portrayed in standard textbook accounts and the collective memory -- but rather a variety of contemporaneous civil rights and their related social movements. This course explores the history, presenting a top-down (political and legal history), bottom-up (social and cultural history), and comparative (by race and ethnicity as well as region) view of America’s struggles for racial equality from roughly World War II until the present. Civil Rights and Social Movements in U.S. History: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:
6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week
8 weeks - 5.5 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Also listed as: HISTORY C139C

Civil Rights and Social Movements in U.S. History: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 139Y The Western Film 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This is a course on the western in American film and literature. We will watch six classic western films, including the and we will read several important pieces of western literature. We will discuss such issues as the myth of the frontier, the meaning of western landscapes, the American debate about law and order, masculinity, and the nature of cowboy life, etc.

The Western Film: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Hutson

AMERSTD 140Y American Film Noir 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
Film Noir is considered a distinctively American Film genre. A selective survey, this course will sample the ganster picture and the pre-noir hard boiled detective film, and then study some prime post World War II examples of film noir proper. Noir themes include a pervasive cultural corruption, the femme fatale, mysteriously disabled and doomed protagonists, the dark city, etc.

American Film Noir: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Griffin

AMERSTD 141Y San Francisco and the Bay Area: The View from the Street 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This is an urban field geography course which will provide a basic overview of Bay Area geography and history. The course will consist of half day field trips to San Francisco and Oakland. We will observe buildings, landmarks, streetscapes, signs, people on the street, etc. in order to understand the forces at work in creating a city. We will cover a broad spectrum of issues, including employment, property development, political power, race, social movements, class structure, popular entertainment.

San Francisco and the Bay Area: The View from the Street: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Walker

AMERSTD 142Y Community Development in the Bay Area 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1995 10 Week Session
This course will provide students with opportunites to discuss and observe in action the most recent theories and practices pertaining to community development in the urban United States. Readings and discussion will be rooted in field trips and interviews with community activists, executive staff and nonprofits, professional planners and designers in the Bay Area. Students will have opportunities to take their own field trips and conduct interviews based on their own interests.

Community Development in the Bay Area: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Morris

Community Development in the Bay Area: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD C152 Native American Literature 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016
An analysis of the written and oral tradition developed by Native Americans. Emphasis will be placed on a multifaceted approach (aesthetic, linguistic, psychological, historical, and cultural) in examining American Indian literature.
Native American Literature: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 151 is recommended but not required

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Also listed as: NATAMST C152

AMERSTD C168 Native American Novelists 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 1999 10 Week Session
Native American Indian literature is a distinctive collection of fiction, poetry, autobiographical narratives, and oral stories in translation. This course will provide a general literary and historical context of this distinctive literature, consider narrative subjects and themes, and focus on critical readings of contemporary novels by Native American Indian authors.
Native American Novelists: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Vizenor
Also listed as: NATAMST C166
Native American Novelists: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 170AC Race and Representation in US Culture 3 Units
Terms offered: Summer 2015 10 Week Session, Summer 2015 3 Week Session, Summer 2014 3 Week Session
This course will explore the history of race, ethnicity and representation across the 20th century by considering the overlapping histories of African Americans, Native Americans and Whites through the study of film, photography and art, and humor. This course satisfies the American Cultures requirement by combining the following 1-unit courses: American Studies 181B - Race Photography, and Art; American Studies 180D - Race and American Humor; and American Studies 184I - Race and American Film.
Race and Representation in US Culture: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive 2 units for American Studies 170AC after taking American Studies 180D, 181B, 184I. Not repeatable for credit with American Studies 178AC or American Studies 179AC. If student is enrolled in 170AC then they will receive no credit if they enroll separately and coterminously in 184I, 181B, or 180D. 
Requirements this course satisfies: Satisfies the American Cultures requirement

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 15 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Race and Representation in US Culture: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD C171 The American Designed Landscape Since 1850 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
This course surveys the history of American landscape architecture since 1850 in four realms: 1) urban open spaces—that is squares, plazas, parks, and recreation systems; 2) urban and suburban design; 3) regional and environmental planning; 4) gardens. The course will review the cultural and social contexts which have shaped and informed landscape architecture in the United States since the advent of the public parks movement, as well as, the aesthetic precepts, environmental concerns, horticultural practices, and technological innovations of American landscapes. Students will complete a midterm, final, and a research assignment.
The American Designed Landscape Since 1850: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Mozingo
Also listed as: LD ARCH C171
The American Designed Landscape Since 1850: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD C172 History of American Business 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Spring 2015
This course will examine selected aspects of the history of American business. Included will be discussions of the evolution of the large corporation, the development of modern managerial techniques, and the changing relationship of business, government, and labor.
History of American Business: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Rosen
Also listed as: UGBA C172
History of American Business: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD C174 Visual Autobiography 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2008, Fall 2007, Fall 2003, Spring 2002
Since visual and literary studies have historically been viewed as separate disciplines, we will use theories from both to study those forms of self-representation that defy disciplinary boundaries, or what we call “visual autobiography.” The course aims to help students become conversant with the elements of alphabetic literacy (reading and writing) and visual literacy (observing and making) in order to develop a third distinctive textual/visual literacy.
Visual Autobiography: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 6 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Also listed as: ENGLISH C143V/UGIS C135/VIS STD C185A
Visual Autobiography: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 178AC Race and Ethnicity in American Culture: Film, Music, and Advertising 3 Units
Terms offered: Summer 2009 10 Week Session, Summer 2009 3 Week Session
This course will examine the politics of racial representation and expression in popular music as well as film and advertising. This course combines 180C, 184I, and 188F.
Race and Ethnicity in American Culture: Film, Music, and Advertising: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 178AC after taking 179AC, 180C, 184I, and 188F.
Requirements this course satisfies: Satisfies the American Cultures requirement
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 15 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Race and Ethnicity in American Culture: Film, Music, and Advertising: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 179AC Representing Race and Ethnicity in American Culture 3 Units
Terms offered: Summer 2008 10 Week Session, Summer 2008 3 Week Session
This course offers students a unified course experience that examines the politics of visual representation and ways of "seeing" race and ethnicity in the U.S. in a comparative way. This course satisfies the American Cultures requirement by combining the following 1-unit courses: American Studies 180C - The Politics of Advertising in the United States: Race, Ethnicity, and Representation; American Studies 181B - Writing Narratives of Race and Gender: Photography and Art; and American Studies 184I - Race and American Film. 
Representing Race and Ethnicity in American Culture: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit or partial credit for 179AC after taking 180C, 181B, or 184I.
Requirements this course satisfies: Satisfies the American Cultures requirement

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 15 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

AMERSTD 180B Advertising and the Culture of Consumption: Gender and Race in Commercial Representations of the Self 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course will offer several perspectives on the role advertising has played in determining various expressions of American self-identity, with special emphasis on analyzing corporate representations of the self presented of--and directed to--African Americans and Native Americans in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The course will complicate commercial representations of African Americans and Native Americans by comparing and contrasting these corporately manufactured identities with individualized voices of racial photography, painting, and music of the period. The lectures and discussions will be designed to build comparatively and incrementally. Gender issues will constitute a subtext throughout the course.
Advertising and the Culture of Consumption: Gender and Race in Commercial Representations of the Self: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 138

AMERSTD 180A Advertising America 1 - 2 Units
Terms offered: Summer 2012 10 Week Session, Summer 2012 3 Week Session, Summer 2011 3 Week Session
This course will discuss contemporary advertising as a commercial practice, as social ideology, and as art/collectibles. Looking at both print and television advertising, we will examine how ads code meaning, how they address audiences, and how they represent identity and construct social norms.
Advertising America: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5-10 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 126

Advertising America: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 180C The Politics of Advertising in the United States: Race, Ethnicity and Representation 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2009 10 Week Session, Summer 2009 3 Week Session, Summer 2008 3 Week Session
This course will address the birth of advertising culture in the U.S., focusing on the specific ways that early advertising used images of Natives to connect products to values associated with nature, authenticity, and masculinity. We will then talk about the use of plantations and African Americans to both sell products and re-imagine the U.S. as a nation. Finally, we will look at the "Golden Age" of advertising (1950-1980) to talk about the way that middle class Euro-American values came to define the American Dream.
The Politics of Advertising in the United States: Race, Ethnicity and Representation: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

The Politics of Advertising in the United States: Race, Ethnicity and Representation: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 180D Race and American Humor 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2015 10 Week Session, Summer 2015 3 Week Session, Summer 2014 3 Week Session
In his famous essay, “Indian Humor,” Vine Deloria, Jr., argued that no social movement could succeed without the use of humor. This course takes up that claim by asking how American comedians have used racial and ethnic humor to advance political claims, mobilize social actions, and create specific vocabularies for addressing social conditions. The production of racial and ethnic humor operates to both include and exclude populations. In addition to asking, Why is this funny?, the course will also explore who laughs and why. Resources will include satirical writings by Will Rogers; short stories by Sherman Alexie, including his revision of The Searchers in “Dear John Wayne”; stand-up comedy by Margaret Cho and others, film, and literature.
Race and American Humor: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Race and American Humor: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 181B Visual Culture in American Society: Photography and Art 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2015 10 Week Session, Summer 2015 3 Week Session, Summer 2014 3 Week Session
This course aims to uncover the long history between race, gender, nation, and the visual. Our particular concern is how visual culture produces meanings about African American, Native American, and women's bodies. What do visual narratives tell us about national identity? Through the specific lenses of visual art and photography, we will ask how do racial bodies become gendered bodies? How have racial meanings and the visual modalities employed to express them changed over time?
Visual Culture in American Society: Photography and Art: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Visual Culture in American Society: Photography and Art: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 181A American Painting at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course proposes to use the extraordinary local collections, particularly of the Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd collection of American art, to introduce students to the tradition of painting in America and to the types of intellectual problems with which current scholars of this art are engaged. All sessions will take place in the galleries in front of the paintings at the deYoung Museum in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. Topics will include 17th- and 18th-century painting, 19th-century genre painting, folk painting, landscape painting, still life, and 20th-century painting.
American Painting at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 134
American Painting at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 182A American Journeys 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course examines the nature, function and status in contemporary American culture of a central metaphor and belief in American experience: human life as a journey to the west, to the east, or to nowhere. We will study the nature and extent of this motif in recent American culture (including its expression in literature, music, and popular idioms) as well as situate our discussions within the context of historical expressions of the American journey as cyclical, eschatological, or as a journey to oblivion. Drawing on selections from, among others, Walt Whitman, Josiah Royce, James Baldwin, Jack Kerouac, and Maya Angelou, we will discuss the notion of journey in terms of possibility, nostalgia, nectar, cynicism, self-deception, and disappointment. Students will be encouraged to consider--and write about--their own relation to this expressive tradition in American cultural history.
American Journeys: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 125
American Journeys: Read Less [-]
**AMERSTD 182B Chinatown in History and in American Imagination 1 Unit**

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

Chinatown occupies a permanent space in major North American cities. This space occupies a special place in the imagination of white U.S. and Canadian settlers, inspiring curiosity and fear and provoking missionary zeal and racial antagonism. Chinatown has emerged variously as an exotic Oriental city, guilded ghetto, slum, and metaphor for intrigue and corruption. We will explore the images and realities of Chinatown in history and in American imagination (represented by literature and films). Chinatown in History and in American Imagination: Read More [+]  

**Hours & Format**

**Summer:** 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** American Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 156

Chinatown in History and in American Imagination: Read Less [-]

**AMERSTD 182C Community Development in the Bay Area 1 Unit**

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

This course will provide students with opportunities to discuss and observe in action the most recent theories and practices pertaining to community development in the urban United States. Readings and discussion will be rooted in field trips and interviews with community activists, executive staff and nonprofits, professional planners and designers in the Bay Area. Students will have opportunities to take their own field trips and conduct interviews based on their own interests. Community Development in the Bay Area: Read More [+]  

**Hours & Format**

**Summer:** 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** American Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 158

Community Development in the Bay Area: Read Less [-]

**AMERSTD 182D Island of History: Angel Island, California 1 Unit**

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

This course will explore the history of California in terms of Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. The island will be the central reference point and illustration for many of the changes that have taken place in the demographics, environment, and politics of California. Beginning with the earliest inhabitants, students will follow the fortunes and misfortunes of the diverse peoples who have come to call themselves Californians. The course will examine specifically the culture and lifestyle of the Coast Miwok Indians, the period of Spanish colonial and Mission administrations, and the later displacement of Spanish-speaking Californios by Anglos as California became a state of the U.S. Students will also consider the impact of national affairs on the island and California as it became in turn a military base and recruitment center for the Civil War and Indian campaigns and then an immigration station. It was as an immigration station that Angel Island had the most profound effect on individual lives and for which the island is now known. Finally, students will focus on Chinese exclusion and immigration. Island of History: Angel Island, California: Read More [+]  

**Hours & Format**

**Summer:** 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** American Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 142

Island of History: Angel Island, California: Read Less [-]

**AMERSTD 182E San Francisco and the Bay Area: The View from the Street 1 Unit**

Terms offered: Summer 2013 3 Week Session

This is an urban field geography course which will provide a basic overview of Bay Area geography and history. The course will consist of half day field trips to San Francisco and Oakland. We will observe buildings, landmarks, streetscapes, signs, people on the street, etc. in order to understand the forces at work in creating a city. We will cover a broad spectrum of issues, including employment, property development, political power, race, social movements, class structure, popular entertainment. San Francisco and the Bay Area: The View from the Street: Read More [+]  

**Hours & Format**

**Summer:** 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** American Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 141

San Francisco and the Bay Area: The View from the Street: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 182F San Francisco Chinatown 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
San Francisco Chinatown: Oriental city? Gilded ghetto? Or just Old Gold Mountain and home base to its Chinese American residents? This course aims to go against and beyond the gilded facade and exotic mystery of San Francisco’s leading tourist attraction by taking an inside look at the history and culture of a complex community constantly in flux. We will review the socioeconomic and political conditions that shaped the formation and development of San Francisco’s Chinatown and the lives of its people from the community’s beginnings in the 1850’s to the present day. In the process, we will also examine how distinct social institutions and Chinatown culture developed in response to life in America, particularly to immigration policies, the anti-Chinese movement, acculturation and assimilation forces, new gender roles and relationships, and U.S.-China politics. There will be an opportunity to learn about San Francisco Chinatown first-hand as the instructor, who is a native of that community, will take the class on a field trip.
San Francisco Chinatown: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 159
San Francisco Chinatown: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 182G Alcatraz: Conquest, Containment, and Contestation 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2013 3 Week Session
Against the backdrop of Alcatraz, we will explore historical and contemporary iterations of power brought to life by questions of memory, punishment, and liberation.
Alcatraz: Conquest, Containment, and Contestation: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 159
Alcatraz: Conquest, Containment, and Contestation: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 183A American Autobiographies 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course will examine samples from several autobiographical "traditions." We will also consider a number of questions about the nature of autobiography, about the act of "writing oneself." We will devote the largest part of the course to a close reading of two major American autobiographies, at least one of which will be from the second half of the 20th century. Students in the course will write weekly and be given the opportunity to experiment with beginning to create their own autobiographies.
American Autobiographies: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 148
American Autobiographies: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 183B The Beats in San Francisco 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2000 10 Week Session
This course will briefly review some of the major works by those poets and writers of the "Beat Generation" most closely connected with San Francisco and the Bay Area, and also some of the works by "East Coast Beats" where it is directly relevant either to the San Francisco Bay Area or to an understanding of the phenomenon of the Beat Generation itself. The poets and writers covered will include Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, Gary Snyder, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Philip Whalen, and Michael McClure. We will pay some close attention to the interplay of Beat Generation writing with music, painting, film, and popular culture. Audio and video tapes of some of the principals will be available for viewing and listening.
The Beats in San Francisco: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 135
The Beats in San Francisco: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 183C The Fiction of F. Scott Fitzgerald 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
We will read and to discover Fitzgerald's key obsessions, elations, and stylistic strategies. We will then inch through what there is of, to speculate what he might have done had he lived to complete it. At the end of the course, each student will write a scene that fills in part of the unfinished section of, accompanied by a five-page essay explaining how that scene is informed by the semester's reading.

The Fiction of F. Scott Fitzgerald: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 150

The Fiction of F. Scott Fitzgerald: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 183D Three African American Classics 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course will give close attention to three works which have been essential to the making of an African American literary tradition: Frederick Douglass's (1845), Zora Neale Hurston's (1937), and Alice Walker's (1982). It would help if students also read Richard Wright's story (1945). In addition to attending to the literary-cultural context of these works, we will explore other writing by these authors and develop comparisons with other African American literature.

Three African American Classics: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 149

Three African American Classics: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 183E The Woman’s Frontier 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2000 10 Week Session
Westward expansion and the frontier experience have long assumed a mythical status as formative events in the annals of American culture, providing Americans with a collective cultural history and space for fantasy. Within this story there has been little room for women: westward expansion has been encoded as a male activity, and the American West has served a proving ground for the definition of American manhood. However, recent research on frontier women's history has shown that white and non-white women were present on all frontiers and in all phases of American expansion to the West. Moreover, white, literate women wrote copiously in, on, and about western frontiers—in letters and diaries, travel and settlement narratives, reminiscences and autobiographies, poems, stories, and novels. Reading from a diversity of women's texts, we will explore gender together with race and class in order to understand the women's frontier. This course will roughly follow a chronological line from the 1830s into the first decades of the 20th century.

The Woman's Frontier: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 150

The Woman's Frontier: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 184A African Americans and the Media 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
Examines the role of U.S. media in constructing racial stereotypes, identities, and understandings of African Americans. Students will examine media coverage of the Rodney King incident, the Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill hearings, the O.J. Simpson trial, and the Million Man March. Visual representations from "Birth of a Nation" to "Amos ‘n Andy" to "The Cosby Show" will be critiqued; black publications and independent black filmmakers will be examined. The goal of the course is to give students a critical understanding of how the media support or challenge social constructions of race in the United States.

African Americans and the Media: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 166

African Americans and the Media: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 184B American Film Noir 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
Film Noir is considered a distinctly American Film genre. A selective survey, this course will sample the gangster picture and the pre-noir hard boiled detective film, and then study some prime post World War II examples of film noir proper. Noir themes include: a pervasive cultural corruption, the femme fatale, mysteriously disabled and doomed protagonists, the dark city, etc.

American Film Noir: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 140

American Film Noir: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 184C Asians and the Cinema 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
From to An introduction to the intersection of image and identity in the depiction of, and by, Asian Americans in film and video. This course seeks to contextualize the independent Asian American media arts field in relation to the mainstream commercial film industry and within the social, political, and cultural movements of the 20th century, providing critical tools for the understanding of ethnicity in American film. Lectures, readings, and discussion will be supplemented by guided screenings of diverse films and videotapes: narrative, documentary, and experimental. Film and video titles include: and .

Asians and the Cinema: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 124

Asians and the Cinema: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 184D The Celluloid Sixties 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course interweaves an analysis of mainstream Hollywood films with significant political, social, and cultural issues of the 1960's. Among the topics considered are the civil rights movement and racial identity; sex and gender relationships; youth culture and the generation gap; the Vietnam war and anti-war protest. Lectures, discussions, and screenings will focus on relevant films, such as and Reading assignments will be compiled in a course reader. For background, students may read Edward P. Morgan, .

The Celluloid Sixties: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 153

The Celluloid Sixties: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 184E Changing Media in American Society 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2000 10 Week Session
American news and entertainment reach people around the globe. This course is an opportunity for critical study of these institutions on their home ground, using the resources of the Graduate School of Journalism. The course mixes the perspective of an American historian and a veteran reporter. We draw on our broadcasting and computer facilities to allow newcomers to see how American journalists shape the flow of information. We focus on the way this profession is building new audiences and losing others. The goal of this course is to bring outsiders into the debate that now rages about the accomplishment and purpose of American media.

Changing Media in American Society: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 137

Changing Media in American Society: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 184F Murder and the Media 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
We will investigate why the U.S. media are fascinated with murder. Covering a range of topics from "going postal" and women who murder their children, this course will consider the way murder serves as social commentary and ironic entertainment in the mass media. If the murderer has become America's favorite anti-hero, then what does that say about Americans? Answering this question will be the primary goal of the class. Readings in a course reader. For background, students may read and watch the movie Murder and the Media: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 165
Murder and the Media: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 184G Nature and the Media 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course explores representations of nature, crossing media boundaries to examine nature writing, TV, film, and advertising. We will discuss the characteristics and constraints of these various media constructions of nature, paying attention in particular to the ways in which all representations of nature serve as reflections of human culture. Considerations of gender, politics, and economics will be included in our analysis of media texts.
Nature and the Media: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 163
Nature and the Media: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 184H The Western Film 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This is a course on the western in American film and literature. We will watch six classic western films, including the and we will read several important pieces of western literature. We will discuss such issues as the myth of the frontier, the meaning of western landscapes, the American debate about law and order, masculinity, and the nature of cowboy life, etc. The Western Film: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 139
The Western Film: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 184I Race and American Film 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2015 10 Week Session, Summer 2015 3 Week Session, Summer 2014 3 Week Session
This course uses film to investigate the central role of race in American culture and history from the late 1800s to the present. We will consider the ways in which film has represented the history of race and racial formations in the U.S. Other topics include the histories of whiteness and ethnicity, representations of race and nation, blackface minstrelsy in the movies, westerns and representations of American Indians on film, borderlands and immigration, and the intersections of race, gender, and sexuality.
Race and American Film: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Race and American Film: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 185A American Studies on the Internet 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
Students in this course will learn skills for doing research on the Internet, with particular emphasis on resources available through the World Wide Web. Taught in a computer lab and taking a broadly international approach to "American Studies," the course will provide hands-on experience with locating, searching and evaluating information for specific research projects. Students will collaborate on compiling an annotated index of online American Studies resources. NOTE: Students enrolling in this course should have a basic working knowledge of how to use both e-mail and a Web browser such as Netscape; students without this experience will be at a serious disadvantage. The course is also intended for individuals with a serious interest in American Studies.
Due to the nature of the class, there is no required reading, but a list of recommended books and articles will be made available. The final exam will require each student to research a topic in American Studies, selected by the instructor, and report on his or her findings with a set of "bookmarks" (Internet addresses) and a brief summary of what was found. The exam will be conducted in class and turned in on floppy disk.

AMERSTD 186A Indians of California 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course will examine and survey the culture and history of the Indians of California. The first half will focus on the unique culture, art, economy, cosmology, and spirituality of the California Indians. The reaction response and resistance of the tribes of California to a succession of invasions will be analyzed, with an emphasis on Indian perceptions of these events. The course will end with a look at contemporary survival of tribes and the renaissance of their traditions.

AMERSTD 186B Native American Autobiographies 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course considers several autobiographies written by Native Americans. The lectures, discussions, and required books focus on various cultural themes and theories of autobiography; a comparative review of diverse tribal experiences and narratives. Theories of cultural simulations and literary forms of representation in autobiographical literature will receive general attention in the course. Students will be required to participate in class discussions and complete two short review papers and a final examination.

AMERSTD 186C Native American Literature 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course is designed to acquaint the student with contemporary literary and cultural issues in Native America. Our discussions will focus on the Native American novel as an opportunity for self-representation and cultural resistance. We will read three of the most influential writers in Native America: N. Scott Momaday, Leslie Marmon Silko, and Gerald Vizenor.
AMERSTD 186D Native American Novelists 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
Native American literature is a distinctive collection of fiction, poetry, autobiography, and oral narratives in translation. This course will provide a general historical context of native literature and consider three important novels: by N. Scott Momaday, by Leslie Silko, and by James Welch. Students may read the critical anthology by Gerald Vizenor in preparation for the course.
Native American Novelists: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 168

Native American Novelists: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 186E Native American Philosophies 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
A comparative study of Native American philosophies. The interpretations of distinctive worldviews in native communities, cultural contact, and concepts of nature and wilderness. A comparative consideration of subsistence and landuse by natives and colonists. The course will also consider origin stories, comparative religions, vision quests, shamanism, and various healing practices. The Ghost Dance and other revitalization movements will be briefly discussed. The lecture approach will be textual and comparative, with some attention to the problems of translation and the representations of native experiences. Students should read by Carl Hammerschlag in preparation for the course.
Native American Philosophies: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 133

Native American Philosophies: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 186F Native America Today 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course focuses on the history and culture of American Indians in the past hundred years and, in particular, the strategies that have enabled them to survive as tribes and individuals. The course will begin with an overview of Native American history and a review of anthropological perspectives on cultural change. This will be followed by an exploration of the issues of identity and tradition in various facets of contemporary Native life, including cultural revival movements, the role of women, people of mixed descent, and contemporary art and literature. An emphasis on participation and small group discussions, and exposure to a wide variety of written and visual materials will give students a chance to develop insights and skills for responding to cultural diversity.
Native America Today: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 130

Native America Today: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 186G Tribal Sovereignty 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course will explore the unique legal status of Indian tribes and reservation lands in the United States, including analyses of treaties, the trust relationship, and the evolution of federal Indian law and policy. Students will examine the impact of such economic development ventures as mineral resource extraction and gaming on tribal sovereignty and culture. The rights of Indian individuals and groups to exercise freedom of religion will be analyzed in the context of sacred lands, repatriation of skeletal remains, and the use of peyote as sacrament.
Tribal Sovereignty: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 130

Tribal Sovereignty: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD C186E Native American Philosophies 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2000 10 Week Session
This course is a comparative discussion of Native American Indian philosophies, distinctive worldviews, and interpretations of sacred and secular ceremonies and stories. The Ghost Dance and other revitalization movements will be studied.
Native American Philosophies: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Vizenor
Also listed as: NATAMST C169

AMERSTD C186H Museums and Sacred Sites 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course considers the experiences, interpretations, and protections of Native American Indian cultural resources in museums and sacred sites. Creation stories, sacred geography, and ceremonies will be compared.
Museums and Sacred Sites: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Biestman
Also listed as: NATAMST C168
Museums and Sacred Sites: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD C186H Museums and Sacred Sites 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course considers the experiences, interpretations, and protections of Native American Indian cultural resources in museums and sacred sites. Creation stories, sacred geography, and ceremonies will be compared. Terms offered: Summer 2000 10 Week Session
This course considers the experiences, interpretations, and protections of Native American Indian cultural resources in museums and sacred sites. Creation stories, sacred geography, and ceremonies will be compared. Museums and Sacred Sites: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Biestman
Also listed as: NATAMST C168
Museums and Sacred Sites: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD C186I Native American Poetry 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2001 10 Week Session, Summer 2000 10 Week Session
This course will give an in-depth analysis to a selection of contemporary Native American Indian poetry. The issues of voice, cultural traditions, and sense of place, memory, imagery, and humor will be the focus of lectures.
Native American Poetry: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Lee
Also listed as: NATAMST C171
Native American Poetry: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD C186J Imagining the Other 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2000 10 Week Session
European images of the exotic existed long before 1492. After Columbus, they were applied to people of the Americas who were thus turned into objects of fear and desire. While these images were modified over the centuries, basic elements of positive, and negative stereotyping connected with notions of race, gender, and environmental conditioning have persisted to the present day. This class will study a selection of European and North American literary texts from the late 18th century to the present, focusing on the discourse of culture, alterity, and identity as well as, on such aspects as the Romantic idealization of "natural man," savagism, natural nobility, communicational boundaries, and forms of cultural hybridity.
Imagining the Other: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Also listed as: NATAMST C174
Imagining the Other: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 187A California Contemporary Immigration 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course identifies issues and patterns of contemporary immigration related to California's social, demographic, and economic structure. It will provide a framework of migration theories and U.S. immigration admission and restriction policies, then will examine resettlement patterns, economic strategies in the marketplace, and the reconstruction of self within diverse social networks. Finally, we will discuss emerging restrictive state and federal immigrant legislation. The approach will be comparative, integrative, and global-historical.
California Contemporary Immigration: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 151
California Contemporary Immigration: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 187B European Images of America 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course examines European images of America in the areas of political theory, social theory, literature, music, philosophy, pop culture, and art. European intellectuals and artists have been drawn to American culture since the inception of the Republic. This course will indicate contradictions and ambiguities in that attraction. Critiques are displaced by admiration for a dynamic and multicultural society and vice versa. This course will examine the powerful dialectical links which have been obtained between European and American intellectual and cultural life.
European Images of America: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 167

European Images of America: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 187C In Search of America 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
American society is fragmented, divided, and often polarized. Race, class, and at times culture serve as boundaries which separate and reinforce distinctions, creating many different Americas within the U.S. How one sees America tends to be intimately related to the environment in which one lives, the social status and class one occupies, and the historical experience of the individual or the group with which one identifies. Yet, there are also forces which bind Americans together and which have produced a culture that transcends various forms of difference to create a common American identity. This course will explore the nature of those forces that divide and unite the peoples of the U.S. Through literature, film, and social science, we will attempt to identify the ingredients of the glue that holds this society together and gives the concept of America meaning.
In Search of America: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 147

In Search of America: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 187D Narratives of Justice 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2000 10 Week Session
Law is commonly viewed as the human reflection of natural law, as what police and judges do, or as a form of politics. This course will explore law as a narrative form. The murder trial of the Native American Whitehawk, the American legal response to racial discrimination, and the recent murder trial of O.J. Simpson will illustrate this method of analysis. While the student will be exposed to a wide spectrum of American legal thought, no legal knowledge or training is required.
Narratives of Justice: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 160

Narratives of Justice: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 188A Caribbean Arts and Cultures: The Carnival 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
The Caribbean is a region rich in traditions of performance and music. This course will consider one of the most popular celebrations, the carnival, focusing on the Trinidad Carnival, calypso, and the Mardi Gras celebrations of New Orleans. Students will consider how the carnival has been sustained and reinvented over the centuries by its participants and the role of carnival in subverting or reinforcing identities and relationships of power.
Caribbean Arts and Cultures: The Carnival: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 147

Caribbean Arts and Cultures: The Carnival: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 188B Walt Disney's America 1 Unit
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
In this course, we will look at the way American society has been both
reflected and constructed in the animated films of Walt Disney. We will
talk about individual Disney texts as expressions of specific historical
moments and as fantasies about more general cultural anxieties.
Walt Disney’s America: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 146
Walt Disney’s America: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 188C Food Culture in America 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2013 3 Week Session,
Summer 2012 3 Week Session
In the course we will explore the social history, political economy and
"aesthetics" of eating in America. We will discuss the foods Americans
consume, how and when they eat, and how they communicate about
food. We will also consider the specific food culture of Berkeley, and
explore the rise of the so-called Berkeley "gourmet ghetto."
Food Culture in America: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 123
Food Culture in America: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 188D San Francisco Detectives 1 - 2 Units
Terms offered: Summer 2013 3 Week Session, Summer 2012 3 Week Session,
Summer 2010 3 Week Session
In this course, we will consider various theories of detective narratives,
discuss the origins of the genre, and focus specifically on the meaning of
San Francisco as the scene of the crime. Students will read and works by
San Francisco writers Marcia Muller and Stephen Greenleaf. We will also
study five detective films: and
San Francisco Detectives: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5-10 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 164
San Francisco Detectives: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 188E Sports: A Lens on American Culture 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2013 3 Week Session
This course explores the nature and motives of societal structures
and practices to illuminate the intersections and reciprocal influences
of society and sports. The central framework of this course draws on
Bourdieu’s notion that the "space of sports...is inserted into a universe of
practices and consumptions themselves structured and constituted as a
system.” This framework underlies our exploration of the ways that the
playing field has been socially constructed and bounded as specific kinds
de-realized, ritualized, specular, performance spaces.
Sports: A Lens on American Culture: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Formerly known as: 122
Sports: A Lens on American Culture: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 188F American Popular Music 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2013 3 Week Session, Summer 2012 3 Week Session
This course will examine the politics of racial representation and expression in American popular music. Topics will include blackface minstrelsy, jazz and the blues, and contemporary music such as reggae, salsa, and rap.
American Popular Music: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 188F after taking 178AC.
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
American Popular Music: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 188G American Popular Culture: Shopping and American Consumerism 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2013 3 Week Session, Summer 2012 3 Week Session
In this course, we will discuss the meaning of shopping in American culture by analyzing films and popular literature as well as theories about consumerism.
American Popular Culture: Shopping and American Consumerism: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
American Popular Culture: Shopping and American Consumerism: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 188H Contemporary Asian American Culture 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2012 10 Week Session, Summer 2012 3 Week Session, Summer 2011 3 Week Session
This course explores changing representations of Asian Americans in film within the historical context of immigration, community formation, racism, and Asian American political activism. We will begin with a brief overview of persistent cinematic stereotypes of Chinese Americans as “perpetual foreigners” and transition to the creation of a panethnic Asian American activist movement in the late 60s. Finally, we will examine the impact of globalization on cinematic representations of Asian Americans.
Contemporary Asian American Culture: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 188H after taking 178AC.
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Contemporary Asian American Culture: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 188I American Indians and Pop Culture 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2013 3 Week Session
This course examines the ways in which American Indians draw upon specific aesthetics to produce culture and political critique through pop culture, as well as the ways in which popular culture constructs “Indianness” as a form of protest or expression of social power.
American Indians and Pop Culture: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Summer: 3 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
American Indians and Pop Culture: Read Less [-]
AMERSTD 188J Comic Book Nation: Comic Books, Superheroes, and American Popular Culture 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2013 3 Week Session, Summer 2012 3 Week Session
This course will introduce students to the history, aesthetics, and mythology of the American comic book from the Great Depression to the present. Over the course of three weeks, this class will consider the invention of the superhero in the Depression and WWII era, its evolution in the atomic age, the new reluctant heroes of the 1960s, and the postmodern anti-hero, through to their current manifestations. Other topics include the emergence of the graphic novel in the 1980s.

AMERSTD 188K American Horrors: Monsters in U.S. Cinema and Literature 1 Unit
Terms offered: Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2013 3 Week Session, Summer 2012 3 Week Session
Film scholar Frank McConell wrote, "Each era chooses the monster it deserves and projects," which is to say that sources of fright are not universal but contingent, culturally and temporally specific. This course will study the changing face of horror in the U.S., from the nineteenth century to the present. Students will begin with Freud's theory of the uncanny - a model which will inform our examinations of various monsters depicted in literature, cinema, television, graphic fiction, and music.

AMERSTD 189 Research and Writing in American Studies 1 - 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2013, Spring 2012, Fall 2011
This course is designed to encourage research skills, critical thinking, and effective writing. An intensive reading and research seminar, the course will assist students in the development of skills fundamental to advanced research in the humanities, social sciences, and cultural studies. In addition to examining some topics in current American studies scholarship, students will conduct semester-long research projects. The effort entails identification of research topics, cultivation of interdisciplinary methodologies, compilation of annotated bibliographies, and completion of a literature review, which may serve as the first portion of the American studies senior thesis. The course is strongly recommended for those who have been out of touch with the conventions of academic research and writing or who might wish to pursue a graduate degree in the future.

AMERSTD 190 Senior Thesis 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
All American Studies majors must satisfy the senior thesis requirement. Three options are available: AS 190-Senior Thesis, AS 191-Senior Seminar, or students may (with prior Faculty Advisor approval) enroll in an upper division seminar appropriate to their concentration for which they write a substantial research paper. Students planning to enroll in AS 190 must complete the "Thesis Proposal/Adviser Agreement" (available in the departmental office) prior to the semester in which the thesis is written.
AMERSTD 191 Senior Seminar 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
Students will meet in seminar and will be required to write individual research papers based on the general themes or issues of the seminar. The particular themes/issues will be outlined on the American Studies Course List provided each semester by the American Studies office.
Senior Seminar: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Declared majors with senior standing

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.
Senior Seminar: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD H195 Honors Thesis 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
This is a required course for students wishing to graduate with honors in American studies. Entails writing a bachelor's thesis pertaining to the student's individual area of concentration within the American studies major. The completed thesis will be read by the thesis supervisor and one other faculty member.
Honors Thesis: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Senior-standing major in American studies; completion of 101 and 102, 3.51 overall GPA, and 3.65 GPA for classes in the major

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.
Honors Thesis: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 198 Directed Group Study for Advanced Undergraduates 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2013, Fall 2011, Fall 2008
Seminars for the group study of selected topics not covered by regularly scheduled courses. Topics will vary from semester to semester. Students must have completed 60 units in order to be eligible to enroll.
Directed Group Study for Advanced Undergraduates: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Regulations set by College of Letters and Science
Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the section on Academic Policies-Course Number Guide in the Berkeley Bulletin.<BR/>
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.
Directed Group Study for Advanced Undergraduates: Read Less [-]

AMERSTD 199 Supervised Independent Study and Research for Upper Division Majors 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2012 10 Week Session
Directed individual study on special topics approved by an American studies faculty member. Enrollment restrictions apply; see the Introduction to Courses and Curricula section of this catalog.
Supervised Independent Study and Research for Upper Division Majors: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the section on Academic Policies-Course Number Guide in the Berkeley Bulletin.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as texts vary. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: American Studies/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.
Supervised Independent Study and Research for Upper Division Majors: Read Less [-]