AMERICAN STUDIES MAJOR, B.A.–GLOBAL AMERICAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION

Contact Information
Department of American Studies
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The major concentration in global American studies maps the reach of American cultures across political and geographical boundaries and through myriad exchanges and intersections. It encourages an engagement with "the global" that extends from the local and regional to the national and transnational, and back again. This major concentration aims to situate the study of American culture in relation to both the recent effects of globalization and in recognition of the always-global character of "America." Students may petition the director of undergraduate studies to have courses not listed approved to fulfill major requirements; such courses will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Department Programs

Majors

- American Studies Major, B.A. (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/american-studies-major-ba)
- American Studies Major, B.A.–Folklore Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/american-studies-major-ba-folklore-concentration)
- American Studies Major, B.A.–Global American Studies Concentration (p. 1)
- American Studies Major, B.A.–Southern Studies Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/american-studies-major-ba-southern-studies-concentration)

Minors

- American Studies Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/american-studies-minor)
- Folklore Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/folklore-minor)
- Southern Studies Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/southern-studies-minor)

Graduate Programs

- Ph.D. in American Studies (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/american-studies)
- M.A. in Folklore (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/american-studies)
- Graduate Minor in American Studies (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/american-studies)
- Graduate Minor in Folklore (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/american-studies)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the American studies program, students should be able to:

- Apply critical skills of analysis to a variety of primary historical sources and/or cultural expressions
- Exercise advanced writing skills that demonstrate clear articulation of ideas and effective expression of understanding
- Assess the value of interdisciplinary learning by engaging with a variety of disciplinary perspectives on the study of America within their major elective courses
- Interpret national traditions and ideals from different local, regional, transnational, and/or global situations and from diverse ideological and/or ethnic perspectives
- Report satisfaction with the American studies major and its value for their postgraduate academic and professional careers

Requirements

In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must

- attain a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.0
- complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC–Chapel Hill courses
- take at least half of their major course requirements (courses and credit hours) at UNC–Chapel Hill
- earn a minimum of 18 hours of C or better in the major core requirements (some majors require 21 hours).

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/general-education-curriculum-degree-requirements/#degreerequirementstext).

The concentration in global American studies consists of nine courses. Courses listed more than once can be counted for only one category. At least one course must be at the 300 level or above.

Core Requirements

| Introduction (one of the following): | 3 |
| AMST 101 The Emergence of Modern America | |
| AMST 102 Myth and History in American Memory | |
| AMST 334 Defining America I \(^H\) | |
| AMST 335 Defining America II \(^H\) | |
| AMST 201 Literary Approaches to American Studies | 3 |
| or AMST 202 Historical Approaches to American Studies | |
| América in the World (at least one from the list below) | 3-18 |
| The World in America (at least one from the list below) | 3-18 |

Total Hours 27
The World in America

Students may elect to complete up to four approved American culture courses taken at an American studies international partner institution or other UNC-approved study abroad program. These courses should deal primarily with the United States, or with the interaction between American culture and one or more other cultures, or with the impact within the United States of other cultures. Courses must be approved by the director of undergraduate studies prior to beginning the study abroad experience.

If fewer than four courses are taken abroad, the student should increase the number of courses taken at UNC–Chapel Hill from the World and The World in America lists above, to reach a total of nine courses taken at UNC–Chapel Hill from the United States of other cultures. Courses must be approved by the director of a faculty member. Students also will attend a weekly seminar at the discretion of the advisor. Students must maintain a 3.3 cumulative grade point average to be eligible. With the approval of the director of undergraduate studies, students may substitute courses for their honors requirement.

H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

The World in America

- AMST 258 Captivity and American Cultural Definition 3
- AMST 685 Literature of the Americas 3
- AAAD 278 Black Caribbeans in the United States 3

Special Opportunities in American Studies

Honors in American Studies

The American studies major offers a two-course honors program: AMST 691H in the fall semester and AMST 692H in the spring semester. Students must propose their thesis and contract with a faculty advisor during the semester prior to the beginning of their senior year. For each semester of honors work, thesis students must submit a signed learning contract to the Department of American Studies during the registration period. During the two semesters devoted to honors work, students conduct individual research and prepare an honors thesis under the supervision of a faculty member. Students also will attend a weekly seminar at the discretion of the advisor. Students must maintain a 3.3 cumulative grade point average to be eligible. With the approval of the director of undergraduate studies, students may substitute courses for their honors requirement.

H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

The World in America

- AMST 258 Captivity and American Cultural Definition 3
- AMST 685 Literature of the Americas 3
- AAAD 278 Black Caribbeans in the United States 3

AAAD 284 Contemporary Perspectives on the African Diaspora in the Americas 3
AAAD 286 The African Diaspora in the Colonial Americas, 1450-1800 3
AAAD 340 Diaspora Art and Cultural Politics 3
AAAD 385 Emancipation in the New World 3
AAAD 485 Black Atlantic Crosscurrents 3
AAAD 486/ ARTH 453 Africa in the American Imagination 3
ARTH 487 African Impulse in African American Art 3
ASIA 350 The Asian American Experience 3
EDUC 510 Mexican American and Chicana/o Experience in Education 3
ENGL 265 Literature and Race, Literature and Ethnicity H 3
ENGL 361 Asian American Women’s Writing 3
ENGL 364 Introduction to Latina/o Studies H 3
ENGL 365 Migration and Globalization H 3
GEOG 430 Global Migrations, Local Impacts: Urbanization and Migration in the United States 3
GEOG 452 Mobile Geographies: The Political Economy of Migration 3
HIST 241 History of Latinos in the United States 3
HIST 278 The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade H 3
HIST 574 Spanish Borderlands in North America 3
HIST/WGST 389 Maid in America, Made in China: Laboring Women in Global Perspective 3
PLCY 349 Immigration Policy in the 21st Century 3
PLCY 455 9/11 and Its Aftermath 3
POLI 450 Contemporary Inter-American Relations H 3
RELI 345 Black Atlantic Religions H 3
RELI 423 Ethnicity, Race, and Religion in America 3
RELI 445 Asian Religions in America 3
RELI 580 African American Islam 3
SLAV 469 Coming to America: The Slavic Immigrant Experience in Literature 3
WGST 211 Introduction to Latina Feminisms: Literature, Theory, and Activism 3
WGST 233 Introduction to Latina Literature 3
associate or the assistant dean for honors, students with a slightly lower average who have a reasonable expectation of meeting the requirement within one more semester may embark upon the honors thesis, understanding that if they do not attain the 3.3 standard they may continue the research project as independent study but are not eligible to graduate with honors or highest honors.

Experiential Education
The Department of American Studies offers a seminar on Service Learning in America (AMST 398) and offers credits for approved internship projects (AMST 493). Students have learned about American studies by serving the community in museums, schools, social agencies, and other cultural institutions.

Study Abroad
The Department of American Studies encourages students to consider a semester or more of study abroad and has developed close relations with several American studies programs in different countries. Studying American experience in international contexts is an integral part of understanding the place and influence of the United States in the world. Student learning is enhanced by the perspectives gained by examining how American subjects are taught in universities around the globe as well as by encountering the international students who enroll in American studies courses in Chapel Hill. Study abroad offers students of folklore the opportunity to understand the rich vernacular and traditional cultures of other parts of the world from both a local and a comparative perspective. Students can receive American studies major credit for selected study abroad programs and are encouraged to make study abroad part of their academic plans. Study abroad courses can count toward the international American studies major or minor. Students interested in this experience should consult with the director of undergraduate studies or with the Study Abroad Office about international exchange programs sponsored by UNC–Chapel Hill.

Undergraduate Awards
The department awards Julia Preston Brumley Travel Scholarships to help fund international travel and study abroad. The Peter C. Baxter Memorial Prize is awarded annually to the outstanding senior majoring in American studies.

Undergraduate Research
The department offers credit for AMST 396 and FOLK 495. Majors can develop a two-semester honors thesis project (AMST 691H and AMST 692H) in consultation with an advisor. Students have received summer undergraduate research fellowships, earned research support and travel awards, and presented their work at the Annual Celebration of Undergraduate Research each spring.