**AMERICAN STUDIES**

*Director:* Shelley Fisher Fishkin (on leave Winter, Spring)
*Program Coordinator:* Richard Gillam (Acting Director, Winter, Spring)

**Administrative Committee:** Barton J. Bernstein (History), David Brady (Political Science), Scott Bukatman (Art and Art History), Gordon H. Chang (History), Michele B. Elam (English), Estelle Freedman (History), Nicholas Jenkins (English), Gavin Jones (English), Doug McAdam (Sociology), Hilton Obenzinger (English), David Palumbo-Liu (Comparative Literature), Jack Rakove (History), Arnold Rampersad (English), Rob Reich (Political Science), Judith Richardson (English, on leave), Ramón Saldívar (English, Comparative Literature, on leave), Stephen Sohn (English), Fred Turner (Communication), Barry Weingast (Political Science), Caroline Winterer (History, on leave), Bryan Wolf (Art and Art History), Gavin Wright (Economics)

**Program Offices:** Building 240
**Mail Code:** 94305-2022
**Phone:** (650) 723-3413
**Email:** idstudies.moore@stanford.edu
**Web Site:** http://www.stanford.edu/group/HSP/AmStud

Courses offered by American Studies Program have the subject code AMSTUD, and are listed in the “American Studies (AMSTUD) Courses” section of this bulletin.

The American Studies Program is administered through the office of Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities.

**UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS IN AMERICAN STUDIES**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN AMERICAN STUDIES**

American Studies is an interdisciplinary undergraduate major that seeks to convey a broad understanding of American culture and society. Building on a foundation of courses in history and institutions, literature and the arts, and race and ethnicity, students bring a range of disciplines to bear on their efforts to analyze and interpret America’s past and present, forging fresh and creative syntheses along the way.

The core requirements illustrate how different disciplines approach the study and interpretation of American life and include three courses in each of two main areas: history and institutions; and literature, art, and culture. The required gateway seminar, AMSTUD 160, Perspectives on American Identity, explores the tensions between commonality and difference from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.

Beyond the core requirements of the major, American Studies expects students to define and pursue their own interests in interpreting important dimensions of American life. Accordingly, each student designs a thematic concentration of at least five courses drawn from fields such as history, literature, art, communication, theater, political science, African American studies, feminist studies, economics, anthropology, religious studies, Chicana/o studies, law, sociology, education, Native American studies, music, and film. At least one of the five courses in a student’s thematic concentration should be a small group seminar or a colloquium. With program approval, students may conclude the major with a capstone honors research project during their senior year.

Whether defined broadly or narrowly, the thematic focus or concentration should examine its subject from the vantage of multiple disciplines. Examples of concentrations include: race and the law in America; gender in American culture and society; technology in American life and thought; health policy in America; art and culture in 19th-century America; education in America: nature and the environment in American culture; politics and the media; religion in American life; borders and boundaries in American culture; the artist in American society, and civil rights in America.

Completion of the major thus normally requires 13 courses (totaling at least 60 units), all of which must be taken for a letter grade.

The course requirements for the American Studies major are:

1. **History and Institutions**—American Studies majors are required to complete three foundation courses in American History and Institutions. Specific requirements are:
   - HISTORY 150A. Colonial and Revolutionary America
   - HISTORY 150B. 19th-Century America
   - HISTORY 150C. The United States in the 20th Century

   The third course may be chosen from one of the following:
   - AMSTUD 179. Introduction to American Law
   - ECON 116. American Economic History
   - HISTORY 150C. The United States in the 20th Century
   - HISTORY 154. 19th-Century U.S. Cultural and Intellectual History 1790-1860 (not given 2008-09)
   - HISTORY 158. The United States since 1945 (not given 2008-09)
   - HISTORY 161. U.S. Women’s History, 1890s-1990s (not given 2008-09)
   - HISTORY 166. Introduction to African American History: The Modern African American Freedom Struggle
   - POLISCI 2. American National Government and Politics

2. **Literature, Art, and Culture**—Majors must take three gateway courses that, together, cover the broad range of the American experience. Specific requirements are:
   a. at least one course focusing on the period before the Civil War, normally AMSTUD 150, American Literature and Culture to 1855
   b. two additional courses, including at least one from Art or Drama. Choices include but are not limited to:
      - AMSTUD 138C. *Huckleberry Finn* and American Culture (not given 2008-09)
      - ARTHIST 132. American Art and Culture, 1528-1860 (not given 2008-09)
      - ARTHIST 133. American Art and Culture in the Gilded Age
      - ARTHIST 155. American Art Since 1945
      - AMSTUD 178. Ethnicity and Dissent in United States Art and Literature (not given 2008-09)
      - ARTHIST 234A. Harlem Renaissance
      - DRAMA 163. Performance and America (not given 2008-09)
      - DRAMA 219. Contemporary African American Drama: August Wilson, Suzan-Lori Parks, and Beyond
      - ENGLISH 121. Masterpieces of American Literature
      - ENGLISH 143. Introduction to African American Literature
      - ENGLISH 172E. Literature of the Americas
      - ENGLISH 186A. American Hauntings

3. **Comparative Race and Ethnicity**—Majors are required to take one course in Comparative Studies of Race and Ethnicity (CSRE) that focuses on comparative studies rather than a single racial or ethnic group (5 units).

Courses that satisfy this requirement include:
   - AMSTUD 114N. Visions of the 1960s
   - AMSTUD 183. Border Crossings and American Identity
   - AMSTUD 214. The American 1960s: Thought, Protest, and Culture
   - CASA 88. Theories of Race and Ethnicity
   - COMPLIT 148. Introduction to Asian American Cultures
   - COMPLIT 241. Comparative Fictions of Ethnicity (not given 2008-09)
   - CSRE 196C. Introduction to Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity
   - SOC 138/238. American Indians in Comparative Historical Perspective
   - SOC 148. Racial Identity
   - SOC 149. The Urban Underclass

If a CSRE course is appropriate for a student’s thematic focus, the course may be used to satisfy both this requirement and, in part, the unit requirement for the focus.

4. **Gateway Seminar**—Majors are required to take AMSTUD 160, Perspectives on American Identity (5 units), which is the Writing in the Major (WIM) course for American Studies.

5. **Thematic Concentration and Capstone Seminar**—Students
must design a thematic concentration of at least 5 courses. The courses, taken together, must give the student in-depth knowledge and understanding of a coherent topic in American cultures, history, and institutions. With the help of faculty advisers, students are required to design their own thematic concentrations, preferably by the end of registration period, Autumn Quarter of the junior year. Sample thematic concentrations and courses that allow a student to explore them are available in the American Studies Office in Building 240. Students may choose courses for their thematic concentration from the following list.

AFRICAAM 105. Introduction to African and African American Studies
AFRICAAM 152. W.E.B. DuBois as Writer and Philosopher
ANTHRO 82/282. Medical Anthropology
ANTHRO 179. Cultures of Disease: Cancer
ANTHRO 180. Science, Technology, and Gender
ARTHIST 160A. Twentieth Century African American Art
COMM 1A/211. Media Technologies, People, and Society
COMM 1B. Media, Culture, and Society
COMM 116. Journalism Law
COMM 117. Digital Journalism
COMM 120. Digital Media in Society
COMM 125. Perspectives on American Journalism
COMM 131. Media Ethics and Responsibilities
COMM 136. Democracy and the Communication of Consent
COMM 148. Hip-Hop and Don’t Stop: Introduction to Modern Speech Communities
COMM 160. The Press and the Political Process
COMM 162. Analysis of Political Campaigns
COMM 244. Democracy, Press, and Public Opinion
COMPLIT 41Q. Ethnicity and Literature
COMPLIT 142. The Literature of the Americas
COMPLIT 148. Introduction to Asian American Cultures
DRAM 110. Identity, Diversity, and Aesthetics: The Institute for Diversity in the Arts
DRAM 180Q. Noam Chomsky: The Drama of Resistance
ECON 153. Economics of the Internet
ECON 155. Environmental Economics and Policy
ECON 157. Imperfect Competition
ECON 158. Antitrust and Regulation
EDUC 102. Examining Social Structures, Power, and Educational Access
EDUC 112X/212X. Urban Education
EDUC 115Q. Identities, Race, and Culture in Urban Schools
EDUC 165/265. History of Higher Education in the U.S.
EDUC 177/277. Education of Immigrant Students: Psychological Perspectives
EDUC 201A. History of African American Education
EDUC 261X. Justice at Home and Abroad: Civil Rights in the 21st Century
ENGL 428/1428. The Films of Woody Allen
ENGLISH 42E/142E. The Films of the Coen Brothers
FEMST 101. Introduction to Feminist Studies
FEMST 188N. Imagining Women: Writers in Print and in Person
HISTORY 150C. The United States in the Twentieth Century
HISTORY 154A. Religion and American Society
HISTORY 163. A History of North American Wests
HISTORY 255. Writing Asian American History
HISTORY 268E. American Foreign Policy and International History, 1941-2009
HISP 156. History of Women and Medicine in the U.S.
HUMBIO 120. Health Care in America: The Organizations and Institutions that Shape the Health Care System
HUMBIO 120A. American Health Policy
HUMBIO 171. The Death Penalty: Human Biology, Law, and Policy
HUMBIO 172A. Children, Youth, and the Law
LINGUIST 65/265. African American Vernacular English
LINGUIST 156. Language and Gender
MUSIC 8A. Rock, Sex, and Rebellion
MUSIC 17Q. Perspectives in North American Taiko
MUSIC 18A. Jazz History: Ragtime to Bebop, 1900-1940
MUSIC 18B. Jazz History: Bebop to Present, 1940-Present
POLISCI 120B. Parties, Voting, the Media, and Elections
POLISCI 120C. American Political Institutions: Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Courts
POLISCI 123. Politics and Public Policy
POLISCI 124S. Judicial Politics and Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties
POLISCI 125V. Minority Representation and the Voting Rights Act
POLISCI 137R. Civil Rights at Home and Abroad
POLISCI 221. Tolerance and Democracy
POLISCI 223S. The Imperial Temptation: U. S. Foreign Policy in a Unipolar World
POLISCI 227R. Polarized Politics and Special Interest Groups
PUBLPOL 194. Technology Policy
SOC 118. Social Movements and Collective Action
SOC 119. Understanding Large-Scale Societal Change: The Case of the 1960s
SOC 138. American Indians in Comparative Historical Perspective
SOC 139. American Indians in Contemporary Society
SOC 142. Sociology of Gender
SOC 148. Racial Identity
SOC 149. The Urban Underclass
SOC 155. The Changing American Family
STS 101. Science, Technology, and Contemporary Society
STS 110. Ethics and Public Policy
STS 155. Society in the Age of Robots

At least one of these courses must be a capstone seminar or other group discussion course in the thematic concentration that requires a research paper. The American Studies Program office has a list of courses that satisfy the seminar requirement, but students are encouraged to propose others that fit better with their concentration area. An independent study course with a faculty member culminating in a research paper or an honors project may also fulfill this requirement, with the Director’s approval.

HONORS PROGRAM
To graduate with honors, American Studies majors must complete a senior thesis and have an overall grade point average of 3.5 in the major, or demonstrated academic competence. Students must apply to enter the honors program no later than the end of registration period in Autumn Quarter of their senior year, and must work in 10-15 units of AMSTUD 250, Senior Research, during the senior year. These units are in addition to the units required for the major. The application to enter the program must contain a one-page statement of the topic of the senior thesis, and must be signed by at least one faculty member who agrees to be the student’s honors adviser. The application must be submitted for evaluation and possible revision to the adviser no later than four weeks before graduation.

Students are encouraged to choose an honors topic and adviser during junior year. To assist students in this task, American Studies offers a pre-honors seminar in which students learn research skills, develop honors topics, and complete honors proposals. Students also may enroll in the American Studies Honors College during September before the senior year. American Studies also provides students the opportunity to work as paid research assistants for faculty members during the summer between junior and senior year, which includes participation in a research seminar. More information about American Studies honors is available from the program office.

MINOR IN AMERICAN STUDIES
To earn a minor in American Studies, students must complete at least 28 units of course work in the program. Because students may not count courses for both a major and a minor, the specific courses
that are used for an American Studies minor depend on the courses that are used to satisfy the major requirement.
A student must take the following:
1. at least 2 courses from category 1 (History and Institutions)
2. at least 2 courses from category 2 (Literature, Art, and Culture)
3. at least 1 course from category 3 (CSRE)
4. AMSTUD 160. Perspectives on American Identity
Courses used to satisfy these requirements must be taken for a letter grade.

AMERICAN STUDIES (AMSTUD) COURSES

For information on undergraduate programs in the American Studies Program, see the “American Studies” section of this bulletin.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES IN AMERICAN STUDIES

Movies and the fiction that inspires them; power dynamics behind production including historical events, artistic vision, politics, and racial stereotypes. What images of black and white does Hollywood produce to forge a national identity? How do films promote equality between the races? What is lost or gained in film adaptations of books? GER:EC-AmerCul
3-5 units, Win (Mesa, C)

AMSTUD 105. From Blues to Rap: Representing Music in African American Literature
The significance of music to African American literature and culture. Writers include James Baldwin, August Wilson, and Ralph Ellison. Texts include novels, short stories, plays, essays, musical and video clips, and online resources. Issues include assimilation, authenticity, the African American aesthetic, and music as protest. GER:EC-AmerCul
5 units, Win (Briggs, R)

AMSTUD 114N. Visions of the 1960s
Stanford Introductory Seminar; Preference to sophomores. Introduction to the ideas, sensibility, and, to a lesser degree, the politics of the American 60s. Topics: the early 60s vision of a beloved community; varieties of racial, generational, and feminist dissent; the meaning of the counterculture; and current interpretive perspectives on the 60s. Film, music, and articles and books. GER:DB-Hum, EC-AmerCul
5 units, Win (Briggs, R)

AMSTUD 137. Jefferson in Paris
Thomas Jefferson’s years in Paris (1784-1789). The historical, political, literary, aesthetic, domestic, romantic, and transformative aspects of the Paris sojourn, through an interdisciplinary approach to the facts and fictions Jefferson generated. Sources include letters, articles, books, histories, novels, and films.
3-5 units, Spr (Mesa, C)

AMSTUD 150. American Literature and Culture to 1855
(Same as ENGLISH 123.) Sources include histories, poetry, autobiography, captivity and slave narratives, drama, and fiction. Authors include Mather, Bradstreet, Rowlandson, Franklin, Brockden Brown, Emerson, Douglass, Hawthorne, and Melville. GER:DB-Hum, EC-AmerCul
5 units, Win (Jones, G)

AMSTUD 160. Perspectives on American Identity
5 units, Win (Gillam, R)

AMSTUD 179. Introduction to American Law
(Same as LAWGEN 106, POLISCI 122.) For undergraduates. The structure of the American legal system including the courts; American legal culture; the legal profession and its social role; the scope and reach of the legal system; the background and impact of legal regulation; criminal justice; civil rights and civil liberties; and the relationship between the American legal system and American society in general. GER:DB-SocSci
3-5 units, Aut (Friedman-L)

AMSTUD 183. Border Crossings and American Identities
(Same as ANTHRO 146A.) How novelists, filmmakers, and poets perceive racial, ethnic, gender, sexual preference, and class borders in the context of a national discussion about the place of Americans in the world. How Anna Deavere Smith, Sherman Alexie, or Michael Moore consider redrawing such lines so that center and margin, or self and other, do not remain fixed and divided. How linguistic borderlines within multilingual literature by Caribbean, Arab, and Asian Americans function. Can Anzaldúa’s conception of borderlands be constructed through the matrix of language, dreams, music, and cultural memories in these American narratives? Course includes examining one’s own identity. GER:DB-Hum, EC-AmerCul
5 units, Aut (Duffy, C)

AMSTUD 184. Cityscapes of the Imaginary: The Urban World in Literature and Film
Experiences of the modernizing urban world through narratives of novelists, poets, and filmmakers who have charted the interior spaces of life in the city from historical, cultural, geographical, or transnational perspectives. Texts include: Zola’s account of capitalist expansion in Second Empire Paris, The Delights of Ladies; Edward Said’s diasporic Palestinian Cairo memoir, Out of Place; Sinan Antón’s anti-imperialist poetry of Baghdad; Edwidge Danticat’s Haitian New York and Port-au-Prince bicultural novel, The Dew Breaker; Pakistani British filmmaker Hanif Kureishi’s vision of immigrant dislocation, My Son the Fanatic; and stories of Baltimore streets from the HBO series, Wire.
5 units, Spr (Duffy, C)

AMSTUD 185. American Studies Internship
Restricted to declared majors. Practical experience working in a field related to American Studies for six to ten weeks. Students make internship arrangements with a company or agency, under the guidance of a sponsoring faculty member, and with the consent of the director or a program coordinator of American Studies. Required paper focused on a topic related to the internship and the student’s studies. May be repeated for credit.
1-3 units, Aut (Staff), Win (Fishkin, S), Spr (Staff), Sum (Staff)

AMSTUD 195. Individual Work
1-5 units, Aut (Staff), Win (Staff), Spr (Staff), Sum (Staff)

AMSTUD 202. The History of American Families
The cultural, regional, and class diversity of family life in America from colonial times to present. Native American families encountered by English settlers, the Puritan family of colonial New England, and African American families in slavery and freedom. Diversity of family structures and traditions of immigrant groups to the U.S. in the 19th century from Asia, Mexico, and northern, southern and eastern Europe. Change in response to industrialization and urbanization in American life, including how diverse families approach work, gender roles, childrearing, sexuality, marriage and divorce. Frontiers of new reproductive technology and gay marriage in light of these histories.
3 units, Spr (Horn, M)

AMSTUD 203A. Children in American History
Children as a subject of historical inquiry. The experience of children, ideas about childhood, and policies and institutions for children from the late 18th century to the present. How were children perceived and cared for within families, and what was growing up like for children? Variations in childhood experience based on class, race, ethnicity, gender, and geographic location. Discourses on the nature of childhood developed by experts and society. How society defined its responsibility to children, and how it treated those dependent on public care or defined as social problems. GER:DB-SocSci
5 units, Win (Horn, M)
AMSTUD 214. The American 1960s: Thought, Protest, and Culture
The meaning of the American 60s emphasizing ideas, culture, protest, and the new sensibility that emerged. Topics: black protest, the new left, the counterculture, feminism, the new literature and journalism of the 60s, the role of the media in shaping dissent, and the legacy of 60s protest. Interpretive materials from film, music, articles, and books. GER:DB-Hum, EC-AmerCul
   5 units, Aut (Gillam, R)

AMSTUD 250. Senior Research
Research and writing of senior honors thesis under the supervision of a faculty member. The final grade for the thesis is assigned by the chair based on the evaluations of the primary thesis adviser and a second reader appointed by the program. Prerequisite: consent of chair.
   1-15 units, Aut (Staff), Win (Staff), Spr (Staff), Sum (Staff)