

## AMERICAN STUDIES AMS

## College of Arts and Letters

**150 The Entertainment Society**  
Fall, Spring. 4(4-0)

Entertainment popular culture in America. Social, cultural, and historical impact of major entertainment popular culture, including dime novels, pulp magazines, comic books, comic strips, blockbuster films, story radio, and video gaming culture.

**200 Introduction to American Studies**

Fall, Spring. 4(4-0) RB: Completion of Tier I Writing requirement

Overview of American studies theories and methodologies. Library and media research in American studies with extensive writing.

**210 American Popular Culture**

Fall. 4(4-0) P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement.

Significant social issues in American popular culture. American studies theory and methods employed to analyze thematic and historical cultural representations in popular culture.

**250 American Art**

Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with American Studies and History of Art. Administered by History of Art.

Major developments and themes in non-indigenous American art (painting, sculpture, architecture, material culture) from its colonial origins through the 20th century.

**261 Analyzing American Media Culture**

Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Writing, Rhetoric and American Cultures. Administered by American Studies. P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement.

American media culture. Analysis and interpretation of media texts and forms such as television, film, music, books, and newspapers. Role of media in American politics, society, and economy.

**265 Transcultural Perspectives**

Spring. 3(3-0) P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement.

Comparative study of contemporary and historical cultural discourses of and about the Americas and their place in the global commons. Implications of cultural identities, especially as shaped by age, race, ethnicity, gender and sexuality. Borders and tourism and the import and export of technologies, media and commodities.

**270 Comics and Animation in America**

Spring. 3(3-0) P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement. RB: AMS 210

Significant theories and methodologies in an American popular culture studies approach to comics and animation. Cultural, historical, and critical dimensions of the comic book and animation in film and television.

**280 Major Themes in American Studies**

Fall. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 9 credits in all enrollments for this course. P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement.

Major themes pertaining to the history, culture and study of the United States. Historiography and methods of the interdisciplinary study of the United States in relation to other cultures and countries.

**290 Independent Study**

Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 3 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: (AMS 265 or AMS 210) and AMS 280 and (HST 202 or HST 203) R: Approval of department.

Special projects, directed reading, and research arranged by an individual student and a faculty member in areas supplementing regular course offerings.

**300 Writing Media Cultures (W)**

Fall, Spring. 4(4-0) P: (AMS 200) and completion of Tier I writing requirement

Understanding of media and media production technologies. Understanding and critiquing media and culture. Writing and making of new media.

**310 Topics in American Studies**

Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. P: ((AMS 210 or AMS 265) or completion of Tier I writing requirement) and (AMS 280 or AMS 250)

Significant theoretical, methodological and bibliographical issues in American studies. Techniques for analyzing cultural texts such as literature, film, paintings, photographs, music and architecture.

**320 Gender and Popular Culture**

Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Women's Studies. Administered by American Studies. P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement. RB: AMS 261

Issues in gender and sexuality, power and agency, values and norms. Application of American Studies theories and methods.

**332 Technology and Culture (W)**

Fall, Spring. 4(4-0) Interdepartmental with Lyman Briggs. Administered by Lyman Briggs. P: (LB 133) or completion of Tier I writing requirement R: Open to students in the Lyman Briggs College or in the American Studies major or in the Science, Technology, Environment and Public Policy Specialization. SA: LBS 332

History of technology with special emphasis on the interaction of technical innovation and other elements of culture.

**335 The Natural Environment: Perceptions and Practices (W)**

Fall of even years, Spring. 4(4-0) Interdepartmental with Lyman Briggs. Administered by Lyman Briggs. P: (LB 133) or completion of Tier I writing requirement R: Open to students in the Lyman Briggs College or in the American Studies major or in the Science, Technology, Environment and Public Policy Specialization. SA: LBS 335

American attitudes toward the natural environment and related public and private institutions.

**451 American Art through 1875**

Spring of even years. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with History of Art. Administered by History of Art. P: (HA 120 or HA 121 or HA 250) and completion of Tier I writing requirement. SA: HA 438

Artistic production in North America from colonial times to 1875 in its cultural context.

**453 American Art, 1875-1940**

Fall of even years. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with History of Art. Administered by History of Art. P: (HA 120 or HA 121 or HA 250) and completion of Tier I writing requirement. SA: HA 458, HA 358

Artistic production in North America from 1875 to 1940, in its cultural context.

**470 American Radicalism**

Spring. 3(3-0) P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement.

Major currents of American radicalism from 1965 to present. American Studies theories and methods.

**490 Independent Study**

Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 3 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. P: (AMS 200 and AMS 300) and completion of Tier I writing requirement R: Open to seniors in the American Studies major. Approval of department.

Special project, directed reading and research supplementing regular course offerings.

**492 Seminar in American Studies**

Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: (AMS 265 or AMS 210) and (AMS 280 or AMS 250) and (AMS 310 and ENG 481 and HST 480 and HST 202 and HST 203) R: Open only to students in the American Studies major.

Selected topics in American studies emphasizing interdisciplinary approaches. Topics vary.

**855 Seminar in American Art**

Spring of odd years. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. Interdepartmental with History of Art. Administered by History of Art. R: Approval of department.

Intensive investigation of a topic in the history of American art.

**881 American Studies Theory, Methods, and Bibliography**

Fall. 3(3-0)

Methods and bibliographical sources of American Studies research. Interdisciplinary approaches to studying American culture.

**890 Independent Study**

Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 4 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 12 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Approval of college.

Special projects, directed reading, and research arranged by an individual graduate student and a faculty member in areas supplementing regular course offerings.

**891 Special Topics in American Studies**

Fall, Spring, Summer. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 12 credits in all enrollments for this course.

Special topics supplementing regular course offerings proposed by faculty for graduate students on a group study basis.

**899 Master's Thesis Research**

Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 6 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Approval of college.

Directed research leading to a master's thesis in partial fulfillment of Plan A master's degree requirements.

## American Studies—AMS

- 999 Doctoral Dissertation Research**  
Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 12 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 99 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Approval of college.  
Doctoral dissertation research.