

# Minor in American Studies

American Studies ~~is an internationally recognized academic field that~~ involves an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the ~~culture(s)~~ history, cultures, politics, and economy of the United States, its colonial antecedents, and its indigenous peoples. At UMSL, the minor enables students also to study the city and region of St. Louis, a quintessentially American city.

Students interested in this minor should contact the coordinator of American Studies for advice and information.

~~Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in the 18 credit hours required for the minor. Three hours of the minor may be taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Candidates wishing to take American Studies courses from the Honors College (see below) must be members of the Honors College or must have a 3.0 cumulative grade point average.~~

There are 18 hours required in the minor, and in completing these hours candidates must take courses from at least three disciplines. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in the minor. Three hours of the minor may be taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis, and a maximum of nine hours will be accepted in transfer. Candidates wishing to take American Studies courses in the Honors College do not need to be members of the Honors College but must register for the courses via the Honors College.

## Requirements for the Minor.

~~Completion of the American Studies minor requires at least 18 semester credit hours, including at least two courses (six hours) from Section A and at least two courses (six hours) from Section B. The other six hours may be chosen from Section A, B, and/or C. Please read the special requirements below.~~

- ~~1. Core courses in American Studies (all courses are three credits except where otherwise indicated).~~

~~At least two of the following core courses are required to qualify for the minor. Of this minimal requirement, one course must be chosen from either American Studies or English and the other from either History or Political Science. Students may take up to two additional courses from this group, and these may be chosen from any department or discipline.~~

Select at least two of the following:		6
<b>Anthropology</b>		
ANTHRO 2120	Native Peoples Of North America	
<b>Art and Art History</b>		
ART HS 1104	Indigenous Arts Of North America	
ART HS 2270	American Art To 1876	
ART HS 2279	American Architecture	
<b>English</b>		
ENGL 1170	American Literary Masterpieces	
ENGL 1710	Native American Literature	
ENGL 2710	American Literature Before 1865	
ENGL 2720	American Literature After 1865	
<b>History</b>		
HIST 1001	American Civilization To 1865	
HIST 1002	American Civilization 1865 To Present	
HIST 1003	African-American History	
HIST 1004	The History Of Women In The United States	
<b>Honors<sup>1</sup></b>		
HONORS 1230	American Traditions: Social And Behavioral Sciences	
HONORS 1310	Non-Western Traditions Series Humanities	
HONORS 1330	Non-Western Traditions Series Social Sciences	
<b>Music</b>		
M HLT 1060	Introduction To African-American Music	
M HLT 1070	Introduction To Jazz	

<b>Philosophy</b>		
PHIL 3307	American Philosophy	
<b>Political Science</b>		
POL SCI 1100	Introduction To American Politics	
POL SCI 2300	State Politics	
POL SCI 2350	Introduction To Urban Politics	
POL SCI 2650	American Political Thought	
POL SCI 2900	Studies In Political Science (when appropriate)	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>6</b>

2. ~~Optional courses in American Studies (all courses are 3 credits except where otherwise indicated).~~

~~To complete the American Studies minor, students must choose at least two courses from this group, from any department or discipline, and may choose up to four courses in this group. Courses chosen from this group must be chosen from at least two departments.~~

<del>Select at least two of the following:</del>		<del>6</del>
<b>Anthropology</b>		
<del>ANTHRO 3291</del>	<del>Current Issues In Anthropology (when appropriate)</del>	
<b>Art and Art History</b>		
<del>ART HS 3360</del>	<del>Photography And Society</del>	
<del>ART HS 4475</del>	<del>Topics In American Art</del>	
<del>ART HS 4481</del>	<del>Topics In Contemporary Art (when appropriate)</del>	
<b>Communication</b>		
<del>COMM 1050</del>	<del>Introduction To Mass Communication</del>	
<del>COMM 2243</del>	<del>Communication In American Politics<sup>3</sup></del>	

COMM 3352	Mass Media in Society	
<b>Economics</b>		
ECON/HIST 2800	History Of American Economic Development	
<b>English</b>		
ENGL 3800	Topics In Women And Literature (when appropriate)	
ENGL 4610	Selected Major American Writers I	
ENGL 4620	Selected Major American Writers II	
ENGL 4640	American Fiction To World War I	
ENGL 4650	Modern American Fiction	
ENGL/GS 4930	Studies In Gender And Literature (when appropriate)	
ENGL 4950	Special Topics In Literature (when appropriate)	
<b>History</b>		
HIST 2012	The Indian In American History	
HIST 2016	African American History: From Slavery to Civil Rights	
HIST 2017	African American History: From Civil Rights To Black Power	
HIST/CRIMIN 3043	History Of Crime And Justice	
HIST 2219	United States Labor History	
HIST/ECON 2800	History Of American Economic Development	
HIST 3000	Selected Topics In History (when appropriate)	
HIST/GS 3031	Modern Japan: From the Meiji Restoration to the Present	
HIST 4999	Senior Seminar (5 credits: when appropriate)	

<del>SEC ED 4013</del>	<del>United States History For The Secondary Classroom</del>	
<b><del>Honors College<sup>2</sup></del></b>		
<del>HONORS 2010</del>	<del>Inquiries In The Humanities</del>	
<del>HONORS 2020</del>	<del>Inquiries In The Fine And Performing Arts</del>	
<del>HONORS 2030</del>	<del>Inquiries In The Social And Behavioral Sciences</del>	
<del>HONORS 2070</del>	<del>Inquiries In Education</del>	
<del>HONORS 3010</del>	<del>Advanced Honors Seminar In The Humanities</del>	
<del>HONORS 3020</del>	<del>Advanced Honors Seminar In The Fine And Performing Arts</del>	
<del>HONORS 3030</del>	<del>Advanced Honors Seminar In The Social And Behavioral Sciences</del>	
<del>HONORS 3070</del>	<del>Advanced Honors Seminar in Education<sup>3</sup></del>	
<del>HONORS 3530</del>	<del>Research Seminar In The Social And Behavioral Sciences</del>	
<b><del>Philosophy</del></b>		
<del>PHIL 4410</del>	<del>Topics and Figures in the History of Philosophy (when appropriate)</del>	
<b><del>Political Science</del></b>		
<del>POL SCI 2280</del>	<del>Judicial Politics</del>	
<del>POL SCI 2320</del>	<del>African Americans And The Political System</del>	
<del>POL SCI/GS 2380</del>	<del>The Politics of Gender in the United States</del>	
<del>POL SCI 3200</del>	<del>Constitutional Law</del>	
<del>POL SCI 3210</del>	<del>Civil Liberties</del>	
<del>POL SCI 3300</del>	<del>The American Presidency</del>	
<del>POL SCI 3331</del>	<del>Congressional Politics</del>	
<del>POL SCI 3340</del>	<del>Politics And The Media</del>	

<del>POL SCI 3350</del>	<del>Political Parties and Elections</del>	
<del>POL SCI 3390</del>	<del>Studies In American Politics (when appropriate)</del>	
<b><del>Sociology</del></b>		
<del>SOC 1040</del>	<del>Social Problems</del>	
<del>SOC 2316</del>	<del>Power, Ideology And Social Movements</del>	
<del>SOC 3268</del>	<del>The Sociology Of Conflict</del>	
<del>SOC/GS 4360</del>	<del>Sociology Of Minority Groups</del>	
<del>SOC 4380</del>	<del>Advanced Topics in Sociology (when appropriate)</del>	

- ~~3. American Studies elective courses (courses are three credit hours unless otherwise indicated). Up to two courses from this group may be used for the American Studies minor. When two courses are chosen from this group, they must be chosen from different departments.~~

<del>Select up to two of the following:</del>		<del>6</del>
<b><del>Anthropology</del></b>		
<del>ANTHRO 2126</del>	<del>Archaeology Of Greater St Louis</del>	
<del>ANTHRO 2131</del>	<del>Archaeology Of Missouri</del>	
<del>ANTHRO 2132</del>	<del>Archaeology Of North America</del>	
<b><del>Art and Art History</del></b>		
<del>ART HS 2281</del>	<del>Art Since 1960</del>	
<b><del>Communication</del></b>		
<del>COMM 3332</del>	<del>Intercultural Communication</del>	
<b><del>Criminology and Criminal Justice</del></b>		
<del>CRIMIN 2240</del>	<del>Policing</del>	
<del>CRIMIN/SOC 4340</del>	<del>Race, Crime, And Justice</del>	
<b><del>English</del></b>		

ENGL 4060	Adolescent Literature	
ENGL 4740	Poetry Since World War II	
ENGL 4760	Modern Drama	
ENGL 4770	Modern Poetry	
<b>History</b>		
HIST 2001	Creating Early America: European Empires, Colonial Cultures, and Native Nations, 1565-1776	
HIST 2003	United States History: From Nation to Civil War	
HIST 2004	United States History: The Civil War Era, 1860-1900	
HIST 2005	The Modernization Of The United States	
HIST 2006	Recent United States History	
HIST 2024	US Foreign Relations and Military History Since 1900	
HIST 3031	Modern Japan: From the Meiji Restoration to the Present	
HIST 3041	Topics In American Constitutional History	
<b>Media Studies</b>		
MEDIA ST 3355	Media Law and Regulation	
<b>Political Science</b>		
POL SCI 2290	Gender And The Law	
POL SCI 2420	Introduction To Public Policy	
POL SCI 2820	United States Foreign Policy	
POL SCI 3330	Public Opinion and Political Participation	
POL SCI 3460	The Politics Of Poverty And Welfare	
<b>Social Work</b>		

SOC WK 2200	Social Welfare As A Social Institution	
SOC WK 3210	Social Issues And Social Policy Development	
<b>Sociology</b>		
SOC 1040	Social Problems	
SOC 2180	Alcohol, Drugs And Society	
SOC 2202	Urban Sociology	

\* ~~Admission to these Honors Seminars requires consent of the dean of the Honors College; note that depending on instructor and content, HONORS 1210 can fulfill the requirements from this group in literature/American Studies and HONORS 1230%7C can fulfill the History/Political Science requirement. HONORS 1310%7C HONORS 1330%7C can qualify as additional Group A choices when their focus is on Native American traditions. Please note that HONORS 1210 will not be offered in 2013-2014. Please contact the department for more information.~~

\* ~~When topics are appropriate, any of the seminars below can qualify as an "option" course for the American Studies minor. Admission to these courses requires the consent of the dean of the Honors College.~~

\* ~~The course will not be offered in 2014-2015. Please contact the department for more information.~~

~~In addition, courses with variable topics such as Topics in..., Studies in..., and seminars may be taken when the topics are appropriate. When in doubt, see the coordinator of American Studies; such courses must be approved for inclusion in your American Studies minor before the semester registration deadline.~~

Completion of the American Studies Minor requires at least 18 credit hours (6 courses) including an interdisciplinary introductory course. Of the remaining 15 hours, at least six hours must be taken from a small group of core courses designed to give students a foundation for further study and at least six hours from a larger group of elective courses which will broaden students' experience or enable them to specialize in specific areas. At least six hours must be taken from advanced level (3000 and 4000) undergraduate courses. Students are recommended to include in this advanced work an American Studies "capstone", an option that may be fulfilled in several ways, which are described below.



<b>Introductory Course</b>		
HIST 2160	Introduction to American Studies (must be taken in first 12 hours of the minor)	3
<b>Core Courses</b>		
Choose at least one of the following:		3
ENGL 2710	American Literature Before 1865	
ENGL 2720	American Literature After 1865	
Choose at least one of the following:		3
HIST 1001	American Civilization To 1865	
HIST 1002	American Civilization 1865 To Present	
POL SCI 1100	Introduction To American Politics	
HONORS 1230	American Traditions: Social And Behavioral Sciences	
<b>Elective Courses</b>		
Choose at least two courses from the following American Studies electives		6
Anthropology		
ANTHRO 1710	Native American Literature	
ANTHRO 2120	Native Peoples Of North America	
ANTHRO 2121	Native American Spirituality	
ANTHRO 2126	Archaeology Of Greater St Louis	
ANTHRO 2139	Shamans, Serpents, and Spirits: Archaeology of the Borderlands	
Art History		
ART HS 1104	Indigenous Arts Of North America	
ART HS 2270	American Art To 1876	
ART HS 2272	American Art Since 1876	

ART HS 2279	American Architecture
Criminology	
CRIMIN 1100	Introduction To Criminology And Criminal Justice
CRIMIN 1120	Criminal Law
CRIMIN 1150	Violence In America
CRIMIN 4300	Communities And Crime
CRIMIN 4325	Gender, Crime, And Justice
CRIMIN 4340	Race, Crime, And Justice
Economics	
ECON 2200	Monetary Policy in Historical Perspective
ECON 2800	History Of American Economic Development
English	
ENGL 4610	Selected Major American Writers I
ENGL 4620	Selected Major American Writers II
ENGL 4640	American Fiction To World War I
ENGL 4650	Modern American Fiction
History	
HIST 1004	The History Of Women In The United States
HIST 2005	The Modernization Of The United States
HIST 2008	History Of St. Louis
HIST 2015	Topics In African-American History
HIST 2020	History of Women and Social Movements
HIST 2028	Sex, Drugs, and Rock 'n Roll: The 1960s in Song, Fashion, Dating, and Protest
HIST 2800	History Of American Economic Development

HIST 3031	History Of Women In The United States
Gender Studies	
GS 1004	The History Of Women In The United States
GS 2020	History of Women and Social Movements
GS 2130	Gender and the Military
GS 2380	Politics of Gender in the United States
GS 3031	History Of Women In The United States
GS 3700	Diversity And Social Justice
GS 4325	Gender, Crime, And Justice
GS 4335	Gender and Body Image in Media and Culture
Honors	
HONORS 2010	Inquiries In The Humanities (topic must be approved by American Studies coordinator)
HONORS 2030	Inquiries In The Social And Behavioral Sciences (topic must be approved by American Studies coordinator)
HONORS 3010	Advanced Honors Seminar In The Humanities (topic must be approved by American Studies coordinator)
HONORS 3030	Advanced Honors Seminar In The Social And Behavioral Sciences (topic must be approved by American Studies coordinator)
Military and Veterans Studies	
MVS 2100	Veterans in America
MVS 2130	Gender and the Military
Music History	
M H L T 1003	History of Rock
M H L T 1060	Introduction To African-American Music
M H L T 1070	Introduction To Jazz

M H L T 1120	The American Musical Film
M H L T 1140	Popular Music in America
M H L T 1190	Musical Journey of the Native North American
M H L T 4280	American Music
Political Science	
POL SCI 2260	Law, Politics and Society
POL SCI 2320	African Americans And The Political System
POL SCI 2370	The Politics of Identity and Social Justice
POL SCI 2380	The Politics of Gender in the United States
POL SCI 2650	American Political Thought
POL SCI 3210	Civil Liberties
POL SCI 3300	The American Presidency
POL SCI 3330	Public Opinion and Political Participation
POL SCI 3460	The Politics Of Poverty And Welfare
Sociology	
SOC 1040	Social Problems
SOC 1999	The City
SOC 2170	Aging in America: Concepts & Controversies
SOC 2202	Urban Sociology
SOC 2316	Power, Ideology And Social Movements
SOC 4100	Introduction to Feminist and Gender Theory
SOC 4300	Communities And Crime
SOC 4312	Sociology Of Wealth And Poverty
SOC 4325	Gender, Crime, And Justice
SOC 4340	Race, Crime, And Justice

Student considering other elective choices must work with the American Studies faculty coordinator to obtain approval to apply these courses to the minor.

Capstone options:

Students are encouraged to complete a capstone for the American Studies minor. A capstone course can satisfy three credit hours of the 18 hour minor. Experiences that could serve as a capstone include appropriate departmental capstone courses, independent studies, research projects, and internships. Interested students should work with the coordinator of American Studies to have a capstone course approved.

Sign-offs from other departments affected by this proposal

None

Rationale

These changes in the requirements for the American Studies minor are proposed for four main reasons. First, the objective is to clarify and simplify minor requirements, in part by reducing the number of course options (and clarifying their “American Studies” classification). Secondly, the proposal enables students in the minor to capitalize on the options in many majors to undertake advanced work (capstones, internships, independent studies, etc.) as part of the ‘American Studies’ minor. Thirdly, the ‘interdisciplinary’ approach is now given a full outing in a new, required, “entry” course. Finally, like the new entry course itself, the minor welcomes student and faculty initiatives to take advantage of UMSL’s location in St. Louis, a remarkably “American” city.