

AMERICAN STUDIES MAJOR

Requirements

For a 30-credit major in American Studies, students complete the following:

Code	Title	Credits
Select one Gateway Course		3
AMST 2201	Roots of American Culture	3
AMST 3990	Independent Research Project	3
Select seven American Studies elective courses, including: ¹		21
At least one course housed in four different departments		
At least two courses at the 2000 level or higher ²		
Total Credits		30

¹ Five courses, selected in consultation with advisor, must be housed within a thematic concentration:

- America and the World
- Expression and Imagination in American Culture
- Gender in American Society
- Power, Politics, and Institutions in America
- Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration in American Society
- Values and Ethics in American Culture

² Majors may take AMST 3980 Internship as one of their 10 courses.

American Studies Program Learning Objectives

1. Students will engage the idea of America by framing questions for research and inquiry
2. Students will distinguish, summarize, and synthesize the idea of America through the intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religion, legal status, environment, and class.
3. Students will critically analyze and interpret cultural artifacts using interdisciplinary theories and methodologies, and discipline-specific knowledge.
4. Students will construct oral arguments and generate debate as they evaluate the processes that shape and reshape America and its identities.
5. Students will write informed, critical essays and larger research papers.
6. Students will examine and interpret their own places, engagement, and responsibilities in the unfolding narratives of America, within a global context.
7. Students will produce a final culminating project appropriate to the undergraduate and graduate curricula.

Fairfield University also offers a Master of Arts degree in American Studies. The 5000-level courses in that program are available to qualified senior undergraduate American Studies majors and minors with approval of the program director.

American Studies Electives

Gateway Courses

Code	Title	Credits
AHST 1164	American Art and Media Culture	3
AHST 1165	African-American Art	3
ENGL 1140	Caribbean Literature: History, Culture, and Identity	3
ENGL 1200	American Women Playwrights	3
ENGL 1210	American Literature and the Environment	3
ENGL 1220	The Frontier in American Literature	3
ENGL 1230	Ethnic American Literature	3
ENGL 1240	American Literature: Myths and Legends	3
ENGL 1250	American Drama	3
ENGL 1260	American Social Protest Literature	3
ENGL 1290	American Short Story	3
ENGL 1310	Contemporary Women Writers of Color	3
ENGL 1330	African American Literary Tradition	3
ENGL 1340	Democracy in Black and Indigenous Voices	3
ENGL 1700	Writing the Self: Autobiography	3
FTMA 1101	American Cinema History	3
FTMA 1102	American Television History	3
FTMA 2206	American Film: Decades	3
FTMA 2207	Film Genres (depending on genre)	3
HIST 2239	20th Century United States	3
HIST 2246	Women and Gender in U.S. History	3
HIST 2251	The American Century: The United States and the World Since 1900	3
HIST 2253	Early America to 1800	3
HIST 2257	Who Built America? Working People in America	3
ITLN 2290	Italian American Cinema	3
MUSC 1101	The History of Jazz	3
MUSC 1102	History and Development of Rock	3
MUSC 1112	Music of Black Americans	3
MUSC 1120	History of American Song	3
POLI 1101	Introduction to American Politics	3
POLI 2104	American Presidency	3
POLI 2120	Politics of Care	3
POLI 2331	Introduction to Peace and Justice	3
POLI 2333	American Political Thought	3
POLI 2334	Sex, Sexuality, and Gender	3
POLI 2336	Politics of Race, Class, and Gender	3
POLI 2476	United States Foreign Policy	3
RLST 1601	Religion in the United States	3
RLST 2660	I'm Spiritual, Not Religious: The American Spiritual Tradition	3
RLST 2665	Religion and Medicine in the United States	3
SOCI 1110	American Society	3
SOCI 1130	Feminism, Gender, and Everyday Life	3
SOCI 1135	Race, Gender, and Ethnic Relations	3
SOCI 2100	American Class Structure	3

THTR 1200	American Women Playwrights	3
THTR 1250	American Drama	3

Interdisciplinary Themes

Code	Title	Credits
Expression and Imagination in American Culture		
AHST 1164	American Art and Media Culture	3
AHST 1165	African-American Art	3
ENGL 1140	Caribbean Literature: History, Culture, and Identity	3
ENGL 1200	American Women Playwrights	3
ENGL 1210	American Literature and the Environment	3
ENGL 1220	The Frontier in American Literature	3
ENGL 1230	Ethnic American Literature	3
ENGL 1240	American Literature: Myths and Legends	3
ENGL 1250	American Drama	3
ENGL 2002	American Poetry	3
ENGL 2031	Early American Literature	3
ENGL 2033	American Women Writers of the 19th Century	3
ENGL 2043	American Literature: 20th Century to the Present	3
ENGL 2062	The Harlem Renaissance	3
ENGL 2063	African American Women Writers	3
ENGL 2064	African American Fiction, 1940 to Present	3
ENGL 2081	Native American Literature	3
ENGL 2082	Latinx Literature	3
ENGL 3032	American Romanticism	3
ENGL 3033	American Realism and Naturalism	3
ENGL 3034	American Modernism	3
ENGL 3035	Contemporary American Literature and Culture	3
ENGL 3074	The Woman Question: Early Feminism and 19th Century Transatlantic Literature	3
ENGL 3075	Caribbean Women Writers	3
ENGL 3077	Nonstop Metropolis: Literature and Culture in NYC	3
FTMA 1101	American Cinema History	3
FTMA 1102	American Television History	3
FTMA 2204	African American Cinema	3
FTMA 2206	American Film: Decades	3
FTMA 2207	Film Genres (depending on genre)	3
MUSC 1101	The History of Jazz	3
MUSC 1102	History and Development of Rock	3
MUSC 1120	History of American Song	3
MUSC 1132	Critical Issues in American Popular Music: Blues to Hip Hop	3
PHIL 2267	(De)Colonizing the Human	3
RLST 1667	Mormonism: An American Church	3
RLST 2660	I'm Spiritual, Not Religious: The American Spiritual Tradition	3
SOCI 1130	Feminism, Gender, and Everyday Life	3
SPAN 4353	Spanish-American Narrative	3
THTR 1200	American Women Playwrights	3

THTR 1250	American Drama	3
Power, Politics, and Institutions in America		
ENGL 1260	American Social Protest Literature	3
ENGL 1340	Democracy in Black and Indigenous Voices	3
HIST 2239	20th Century United States	3
HIST 2240	The Personal Is Political: Women's Activism in the 1960s	3
HIST 2242	Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in U.S. History	3
HIST 2244	American Constitutional and Legal History II: 1900 to Present	3
HIST 2251	The American Century: The United States and the World Since 1900	3
HIST 2253	Early America to 1800	3
HIST 2257	Who Built America? Working People in America	3
HIST 3331	American Revolution and the New Nation	3
HIST 3356	History of the Cold War	3
PHIL 2251	Ethical Theories in America	3
POLI 1101	Introduction to American Politics	3
POLI 2103	Public Administration	3
POLI 2104	American Presidency	3
POLI 2105	United States Congress	3
POLI 2106	Supreme Court I	3
POLI 2107	Supreme Court II	3
POLI 2108	Political Parties and Interest Groups	3
POLI 2109	American Public Policy	3
POLI 2112	United States Environmental Politics and Policy	3
POLI 2120	Politics of Care	3
POLI 2331	Introduction to Peace and Justice	3
POLI 2333	American Political Thought	3
POLI 2334	Sex, Sexuality, and Gender	3
POLI 2336	Politics of Race, Class, and Gender	3
POLI 2476	United States Foreign Policy	3
POLI 4301	The Battle Over Family Values in American Politics	3
POLI 4302	Seminar on Feminist Theory	3
RLST 1667	Mormonism: An American Church	3
RLST 2665	Religion and Medicine in the United States	3
SOCI 1110	American Society	3
SOCI 1135	Race, Gender, and Ethnic Relations	3
SOCI 1140	Urban/Suburban Sociology: NYC	3
SOCI 2100	American Class Structure	3
SOCI 2200	Criminology	3
SOCI 2210	Sociology of Law	3
SOCI 2215	Death Penalty in America	3
Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration in American Society		
AHST 1164	American Art and Media Culture	3
AHST 1165	African-American Art	3
BLST 1101	Black Lives Matter	3
ENGL 1220	The Frontier in American Literature	3
ENGL 1310	Contemporary Women Writers of Color	3

ENGL 2031	Early American Literature	3	FTMA 2207	Film Genres (depending on genre)	3
ENGL 1330	African American Literary Tradition	3	HIST 2240	The Personal Is Political: Women's Activism in the 1960s	3
ENGL 1340	Democracy in Black and Indigenous Voices	3	HIST 2245	Feminism in the United States	3
ENGL 2043	American Literature: 20th Century to the Present	3	HIST 2246	Women and Gender in U.S. History	3
ENGL 2062	The Harlem Renaissance	3	HIST 2247	Family and Sexuality in U.S. History	3
ENGL 2063	African American Women Writers	3	HIST 2257	Who Built America? Working People in America	3
ENGL 2064	African American Fiction, 1940 to Present	3	HIST 2264	African-American History, 1865 to Present	3
ENGL 2081	Native American Literature	3	MUSC 1101	The History of Jazz	3
ENGL 2082	Latinx Literature	3	POLI 2334	Sex, Sexuality, and Gender	3
ENGL 2083	Asian Diasporas: Challenges to Citizenship	3	POLI 2336	Politics of Race, Class, and Gender	3
ENGL 3034	American Modernism	3	POLI 4301	The Battle Over Family Values in American Politics	3
ENGL 3075	Caribbean Women Writers	3	POLI 4302	Seminar on Feminist Theory	3
FTMA 2204	African American Cinema	3	SOCI 1115	Sociology of the Family	3
HIST 2239	20th Century United States	3	SOCI 1130	Feminism, Gender, and Everyday Life	3
HIST 2242	Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in U.S. History	3	SOCI 1135	Race, Gender, and Ethnic Relations	3
HIST 2253	Early America to 1800	3	SOCI 2100	American Class Structure	3
HIST 2257	Who Built America? Working People in America	3	SOCI 2115	Women: Work and Sport	3
HIST 2262	African-American History, 1619 to 1865	3	SOCI 2410	History of Social Welfare	3
HIST 2263	Inventing Themselves: African-American Women in U.S. History	3	Values and Ethics in American Culture		
HIST 2264	African-American History, 1865 to Present	3	BLST 1101	Black Lives Matter	3
HIST 3331	American Revolution and the New Nation	3	ENGL 1210	American Literature and the Environment	3
HIST 3335	Civil War and Reconstruction	3	ENGL 1220	The Frontier in American Literature	3
ITLN 2290	Italian American Cinema	3	ENGL 1260	American Social Protest Literature	3
POLI 2336	Politics of Race, Class, and Gender	3	ENGL 1340	Democracy in Black and Indigenous Voices	3
MUSC 1101	The History of Jazz	3	HIST 2237	American Prophetic Tradition	3
MUSC 1112	Music of Black Americans	3	HIST 2257	Who Built America? Working People in America	3
MUSC 1132	Critical Issues in American Popular Music: Blues to Hip Hop	3	PHIL 2251	Ethical Theories in America	3
POLI 2334	Sex, Sexuality, and Gender	3	POLI 2112	United States Environmental Politics and Policy	3
POLI 2336	Politics of Race, Class, and Gender	3	POLI 2120	Politics of Care	3
RLST 1667	Mormonism: An American Church	3	POLI 2331	Introduction to Peace and Justice	3
RLST 2113	Jews and Judaism in America	3	POLI 2336	Politics of Race, Class, and Gender	3
RLST 2760	Islam in America	3	POLI 4301	The Battle Over Family Values in American Politics	3
SOCI 1110	American Society	3	RLST 1667	Mormonism: An American Church	3
SOCI 1135	Race, Gender, and Ethnic Relations	3	RLST 2113	Jews and Judaism in America	3
SOCI 2110	Race, Cities, and Poverty	3	RLST 2649	American Catholic Theologians	3
SOCI 2410	History of Social Welfare	3	RLST 2660	I'm Spiritual, Not Religious: The American Spiritual Tradition	3
Gender in American Society			RLST 2663	New Religious Movements in America	3
BLST 1101	Black Lives Matter	3	RLST 2665	Religion and Medicine in the United States	3
ENGL 1200	American Women Playwrights	3	SOCI 1115	Sociology of the Family	3
ENGL 1220	The Frontier in American Literature	3	SOCI 1125	Sociology of Religion	3
ENGL 1310	Contemporary Women Writers of Color	3	SOCI 2110	Race, Cities, and Poverty	3
ENGL 2033	American Women Writers of the 19th Century	3	SOCI 2210	Sociology of Law	3
ENGL 2063	African American Women Writers	3	SOCI 2215	Death Penalty in America	3
ENGL 2082	Latinx Literature	3	SOCI 2220	Criminal Justice System Seminar	3
ENGL 3074	The Woman Question: Early Feminism and 19th Century Transatlantic Literature	3	SOCI 2410	History of Social Welfare	3
ENGL 3075	Caribbean Women Writers	3	America and the World		

ENGL 1140	Caribbean Literature: History, Culture, and Identity	3
ENGL 1230	Ethnic American Literature	3
ENGL 2082	Latinx Literature	3
ENGL 2083	Asian Diasporas: Challenges to Citizenship	3
ENGL 3075	Caribbean Women Writers	3
HIST 2242	Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in U.S. History	3
HIST 2251	The American Century: The United States and the World Since 1900	3
HIST 2253	Early America to 1800	3
HIST 3367	East Asia in 20th-Century American Wars	3
POLI 2476	United States Foreign Policy	3
POLI 4302	Seminar on Feminist Theory	3
RLST 2760	Islam in America	3
SOCI 1125	Sociology of Religion	3
SOCI 1135	Race, Gender, and Ethnic Relations	3