

CAREERS WITH A DEGREE IN AMERICAN STUDIES

Because American Studies is broad and critical, it helps you develop key skills of value in many career paths, including the evaluation and interpretation of evidence; description, critique and analysis of complex ideas and facts; and clear communication through writing and discussion. Here are some key careers that follow nicely from a degree in American Studies (some might require additional education): law, civil service & government, non-profit and advocacy work, community organizing, social work, professional writing and journalism, business and marketing, teaching and education, and scholarly careers.



American Studies Faculty (alphabetical)

Sean Connelly, Lecturer
gender, youth culture, American literature
Maura Daly, Ph.D., Lecturer
technology, gender, & pop culture
Karen English, Ph.D., Lecturer
19th century American literature, Transcendentalism
Joel Franks, Ph.D., Lecturer
Asian-American studies, sports
Judith Georges, Ph.D., Lecturer
American religious culture & women in religion
Scot Guenter, Ph.D., Program Coordinator
pop culture, cross-cultural communication, vexillology
Jeanine Pfeiffer, Ph.D., Lecturer
environmental studies and history
Todd Ormsbee, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
sexuality & LGBT studies, mass culture, theory
Gail Sansbury, Ph.D., Lecturer
urban history & planning, gender, labor
Stan Underdal, Ph.D., Lecturer
minority, Native American, & diplomatic history
Dan Williamson, Ph.D., Lecturer
ethics, philosophy of the individual in the U.S.
Marilyn Wyman, Ph.D., Lecturer
American, modern, and African art

For more information contact:

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Please visit our website at:

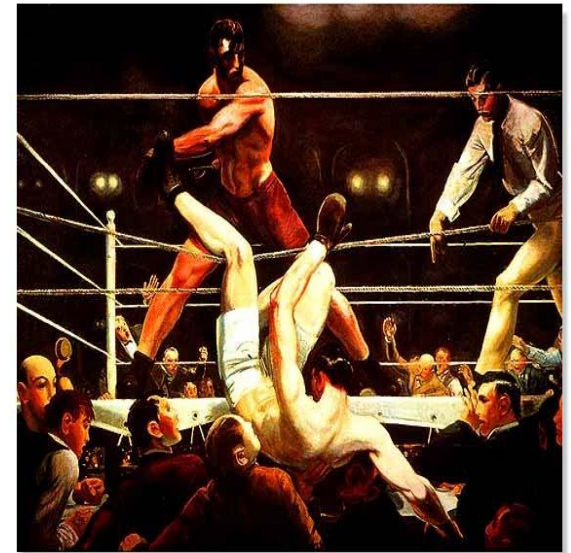
<http://www.sjsu.edu/americanstudies>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=29260064778>

Myspace: <http://www.myspace.com/416189619>

AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM



George Bellows, *Dempsey & Firpo*, 1922



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Ft6What is American Studies?

American Studies seeks to understand the depth and complexity of the society and culture of the United States. Even in saying that, we notice that the United States contains many different cultures that are simultaneously different from each other, and yet tied together by history, experience, and cultural blending. Studying American culture and society, then, in all its diversity, often raises questions that require the perspectives of many different scholarly disciplines to answer them. This interdisciplinary approach can include a wide range of methods from history, sociology, anthropology, psychology, art history, literature, musicology, critical legal studies, political science, cultural studies, religious studies, urban planning, philosophy, and even the natural sciences. American Studies takes a critical stance to American culture, meaning that it seeks to explain how and why American culture is what it has been, is, and may become; and to understand the inequalities and injustice alongside the triumphs and successes of the American story. This also includes seeing the United States as one nation among many, with global influence, power, and connections in the modern world. Exploring the breadth of American culture in this way can help students grow into critical and complex thinkers, well-prepared for various careers and to be responsible and aware citizens.

MAJOR IN AMERICAN STUDIES

39 Credits total:

Required courses (24 units):

AMS 159 Nature and World Cultures

AMS 160 Contemporary Topics in American Studies

AMS 169 American Dream

AMS 179 American Popular Culture

AMS 190 Senior Seminar in American Studies

HUM 120A Interdisciplinary Studies of the Renaissance and Baroque Eras

HUM 120B Interdisciplinary Studies of the Enlightenment and Romantic Eras

HUM 128 Perspectives on the Twentieth Century: The West in Global Context

Electives (15 units):

Students choose courses from across the university from a list of approved courses, including at least one from each of the following categories: Values and Ideas, Arts and Popular culture, Politics and Society, and Gender and Ethnicity. For details and to choose classes right for you, see an American Studies Advisor.

MINOR IN AMERICAN STUDIES

Students have two tracks to choose from, depending on whether or not they took the

AMS1A/1B sequence:

Track 1:

AMS 1A American Civilization I

AMS 1B American Civilization II

AMS 169 American Dream

AMS 179 American Popular Culture

AMS 190 Senior Seminar

Track 2:

AMS 159 Nature and World Cultures

AMS 160 Contemporary Issues

AMS 169 American Dream

AMS 179 American Popular Culture

AMS 190 Senior Seminar

