

AMERICAN STUDIES (ASTD)

ASTD 1000 - Intro to American Culture: Movements, Myths, and Methods Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits

What does it mean to be American? Is it citizenship or geographical location? Political ideals or shared culture? How does it change over time? This course introduces interdisciplinary methods to answer such questions, including analysis of images, literature, music, popular entertainment, and diverse experiences of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and nation.

Attributes: UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Identities in Context, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 1930 - Special Topics

Credit(s): 1-4 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

Attributes: American Studies Electives

ASTD 1980 - Independent Study

Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

Attributes: American Studies Electives

ASTD 2100 - Studies in American Photography

Credit(s): 3 Credits

This course introduces students to methodologies for studying American photography. Using foundational texts about photography and American Studies approaches to visual culture, we examine the cultural and political work that photographs perform at particular historical moments. We explore how photographs shape ideas about race, gender, class, nation, and citizenship.

Attributes: American Studies Practices, American Studies Electives, Fine Arts Requirement (CAS)

ASTD 2200 - American Homefronts, Global Wars

Credit(s): 3 Credits

Most of the 21st century has seen the United States embroiled in a series of global wars. This course uses the lens of American involvement in international conflict to focus on the social experiences and cultural impacts countries at war have experienced on the homefront and in the aftermath of war. Scheduled readings will focus on five major periods: WWI, WWII, Cold War, Vietnam, and the post-9/11 War on Terrorism. Issues covered include transnational public support or resistance to the war, meanings of patriotism, images of the enemy, perceptions of soldiers, post-war memorials and cultural memories, and post-war experiences of veterans, migrants or refugees, and homefront citizens whose lives were impacted by war. While the U.S. involvement in war defines the four periods, our readings and other class materials includes attention to many other nations both during and after the war.

Restrictions:

Students in the Madrid, Spain campus may **not** enroll.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Electives, Global Citizenship (CAS), UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Global Interdependence

ASTD 2300 - Americans Abroad

Credit(s): 3 Credits

This course explores the history of the modern United States' changing relationship with the world by tracing American activities on the global stage: as travelers, consumers, teachers, students, missionaries, soldiers, and workers. Students will examine global encounters and exchanges through a variety of primary sources, including film, photography, and memoir.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Electives, Global Citizenship (CAS)

ASTD 2400 - Immigration in U.S. History and Culture

Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits

This class will introduce students to U.S. immigration history, focusing on immigration flows, policies, and debates from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. We will take an interdisciplinary approach to the study of immigration in U.S. culture, using a variety of sources—including photography, film, poetry, memoir, and a board game—to examine how ideas, policies, and practices regarding immigration have been tied to key concepts such as race, gender, sexuality, disease, and empire. Students will read scholarly essays and primary sources, and conclude with a short, primary-source-based independent research project.

Attributes: American Studies Identities, Educ American History, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Global Interdependence, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 2500 - American Identities

Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable up to 9 credits)

Scholars and observers have long noted the important roles that apparently marginalized or “outsider” groups play in creating an American nation and culture. Whether looking at religious outsiders, racial and ethnic minorities, or other social categories of difference and identity that define American experience, this course asks we consider this often complicated and even misleading dynamic between margin and center, community and nation, insider and outsider.

Attributes: American Studies Identities, American Studies Minor, American Studies Electives, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Identities in Context, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 2600 - American Places

Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits (Repeatable up to 9 credits)

Through interdisciplinary analysis, research, and writing, this course examines the role of place in shaping American culture, including race and ethnicity, gender, and class. Places may include regions (like the South, Midwest, or West), cities or suburbs, sites like internment camps or reservations, or conceptual places like frontiers and borderlands.

Attributes: Accounting Minor Elective, American Studies Contexts, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Identities in Context, Urban Poverty-Introduction, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 2650 - American Metropolis: Place, Policy, & Power in the US City, 1945–Present

Credit(s): 3 Credits

Interdisciplinary investigation of the dramatic, wrenching, yet occasionally heartening ways that American urban and suburban areas have been reconfigured from WWII to today. Participants examine urban changes in realms such as culture, politics, planning, demographics, and geography. They consider approaches developed by policymakers, social activists, and ordinary residents to address urban challenges, as well as how Americans make sense of changing urban landscapes through art, literature, popular culture, and social criticism. Throughout, the class emphasizes how processes of marginalization along lines of race and class, as well as resistance to those processes, shape the nation's urban past and present.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Electives, Educ American History, UUC:Dignity, Ethics & Just Soc, UUC:Social & Behavioral Sci

ASTD 2700 - Gender, Race, and Social Justice**Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits**

This course the intersection of gender and race with other categories of analysis (class, religion, sexuality, nation) in historical and contemporary social justice movements in the United States. Topics include role of race in movements for gender equality, as well as the impact of gender on movements for racial justice.

Attributes: American Studies Identities, American Studies Electives, UUC:Dignity, Ethics & Just Soc, Urban Poverty - General, UUC:Social & Behavioral Sci, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 2800 - Sports in American Culture**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

What can watching a Cardinals game teach us about American culture? How do recreational facilities reflect or shape their local environments? Should celebrated athletes speak out on American politics? Are sports leisure or business? How have sporting contests functioned as allegories for national crises over race or gender? These questions and more form the center to this course, which uses sports as a lens to examine the diversity of American culture in terms of race, gender, sexuality, ability, and more.

Attributes: American Studies Practices, American Studies Electives, Nutrition, Health, Well Elective, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 2880 - Race and Citizenship in St. Louis History and Culture**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

A major urban center since the late 19th century, St. Louis sits on the geographic and cultural borders between Midwest, West, South, and North. This course examines St. Louis history and recent events through the lenses of race and citizenship, within its regional and national contexts. We will pay particular attention to African American experiences, and to social protest in the 20th century. Readings that focus on St. Louis and its surrounding area will occasionally be supplemented with materials that bring national movements and contexts into our discussion.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Minor, American Studies Electives, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Identities in Context

ASTD 2930 - Special Topics**Credit(s): 1-3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

Attributes: American Studies Identities, American Studies Electives

ASTD 2980 - Independent Study**Credit(s): 1-3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

Attributes: American Studies Electives

ASTD 3000 - American Decades**Credit(s): 3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

Close examination of a brief span of time in America as a way to reflect on intertwining currents in social, political, and intellectual life. Students explore changes and continuities in religion, philosophy, consumption, popular culture, architecture, and daily life. Course provides intensive focus on primary sources and their interpretation.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Electives, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 3020 - American Mosaic: Literature & Diversity**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course presents a broad spectrum of ethnic American literature, using narrative and other literary forms as a way to put U.S. ethnic experiences into comparative dialogues.

Attributes: American Studies Practices, American Studies Electives, Literature BA Requirement(CAS), Literature BS Requirement(CAS), Urban Poverty - Cycles Exclusrn, Diversity in the US (A&S), Women's & Gender Studies

ASTD 3030 - History and Fiction**Credit(s): 3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

This course interrogates the boundary between history and fiction; it considers literary questions of 'historical' texts, and historical questions of 'literature' for the purpose of deepening our understanding of both history and fiction.

Attributes: American Studies Practices, American Studies Electives, Literature BA Requirement(CAS), Literature BS Requirement(CAS), UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture

ASTD 3040 - Religion and U.S. Global Activism**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This class explores the American history of faith and international activism. We will analyze the aims, experiences, and ethical frameworks of U.S. missionaries, reformers, and relief workers. Case studies include Christian missionaries in nineteenth-century China, Jewish relief programs in World-War-I Europe, and current debates about global feminist advocacy.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, Global Citizenship (CAS), Law, Religion and Politics

ASTD 3050 - American Soundscapes**Credit(s): 3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

This course explores the role of popular music in American culture, examining how genres like the blues, jazz, country, rock, and hip-hop have provided far more than simple entertainment; indeed, for artists, fans, and critics, music has been an important mode of cultural and political expression, and meaning-making about race, gender, sexuality, and nation. Course may be repeated for credit with different subtitles.

Attributes: American Studies Practices, American Studies Electives, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Identities in Context, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 3100 - Making the American City**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Course examines the cultural history of the U.S. city, 1880s-present. Using numerous primary sources, students will learn how urban cultures and representational practices are shaped by the changing city environment.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Electives, Global Local Justice-Domestic, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, Urban Poverty - Applied, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 3200 - The Urban Crisis**Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits**

This course examines the roots and dimensions of the urban crisis that has transformed American metropolitan areas since World War II. Students investigate major urban problems such as racial segregation and poverty, white flight and suburban sprawl, public housing and urban renewal, riots and insurrections, job loss, and industrial change.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Electives, Global Local Justice-Domestic, Social Science Req (A&S), Urban Poverty - Applied, Urban Poverty- Introduction, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 3300 - Workshop in the City**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Provides unique opportunity to study urban environments up close. The metropolitan region of St. Louis is an excellent case study, with its complex interplay of people, processes, neighborhoods, geographies, and natural features. Students will undertake individual and group projects, tours, and fieldwork exercises in consultation with the instructor.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Electives, Global Local Justice-Domestic, Urban Poverty - Applied

ASTD 3400 - American Incarceration**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course uses history, literature, theory, and popular cultural sources to explore incarceration in the United States. Topics may include religion, disability, juvenile justice, race, class, sexuality, and gender. Using history, social theory, film, fiction and autobiography, the course surveys the cultural history of incarceration in America, and examines the place of incarceration in American culture.

Attributes: American Studies Identities, American Studies Minor, Global Local Justice-Domestic, Urban Poverty - Cycles Exclun, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 3500 - Religion & American Culture**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course uses historical, literary, and popular culture sources to explore the relationship between diverse religious beliefs, values, and practices and American cultural formation. Topics may include church and state, social questions, and lived religious experience.

Attributes: American Studies Identities, American Studies Electives, Global Local Justice-Elective, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Identities in Context

ASTD 3550 - Introduction to Museum Studies**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

In this class, we will study the history, politics, and design of museums. We will trace museums' development from private cabinets of curiosity to public educational institutions in the twentieth-first century. We will especially focus on the politics of display, that is, controversies over how museum interpret cultures and nature.

Attributes: American Studies Practices, American Studies Electives

ASTD 3600 - American Food and Cultures**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course investigates American foodways through the lens of agriculture, labor, landscape, festival, the body, ethnicity, ethics, and gender. Its goals are to teach students about the meaning of food and how the simple act of eating can reveal interconnections among so many diverse aspects of society and the environment.

Attributes: American Studies Practices, American Studies Electives, Nutrition, Health, Well Elective, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Identities in Context, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 3700 - America in the Global Age**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course examines America's role in the era of rapid globalization, from the late 19th century to the present. It also considers the impact of major global events and processes on American society and culture, such as labor and capital mobility, third world insurgency, technological and environmental change.

Attributes: American Studies Contexts, American Studies Electives, Global Citizenship (CAS), Global Local Justice-Global

ASTD 3800 - Women's Lives**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Examines the historical experiences and literary productions of women from diverse racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Topics and sources considered may include: novels, diaries, letter-writing, temperance, abolition, suffrage, and political leadership.

Attributes: American Studies Identities, American Studies Electives, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 3900 - Multiracial America**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Despite popular images of American as a 'melting' both of races and ethnicities, our institutions, values, and practices have often tried to create or maintain spatial and social distance between groups defined as racially different. This course will explore that ways in which Americans have transgressed those boundaries or found other ways of interacting across cultural lines, primarily in the 19th and 20th centuries. We will examine popular cultural perceptions of people of mixed ancestry, their social experiences, the development of various mixed-ancestry communities, and historical attempts to limit interracial socializing, relationships, and marriage.

Attributes: American Studies Identities, American Studies Electives, Global Local Justice-Domestic, UUC:Aesthetics, Hist & Culture, UUC:Identities in Context, Diversity in the US (A&S)

ASTD 3910 - Internship in American Studies**Credit(s): 1-3 Credits**

Designed to enable students to make intellectual connections between American Studies academic training and its applications in workplace, community, and institutional settings. Students work with local non-profit organizations, public history and arts institutions, government agencies, activist and neighborhood groups, media outlets, and foundations. They develop projects consistent with American Studies concerns and methods of reflection, while preparing final reports that position them to apply their skills in related areas following graduation. Internships may be paid or unpaid.

Restrictions:

Enrollment is limited to students with a program in American Studies.

Attributes: American Studies Electives, UUC:Reflection-in-Action

ASTD 3930 - Special Topics

Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

ASTD 3980 - Independent Study

Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

Attributes: American Studies Electives

ASTD 4930 - Special Topics

Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable up to 12 credits)

Attributes: American Studies Electives

ASTD 4960 - Senior Workshop: Crafting the American Studies Thesis**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

The finale of the American Studies major comes with the Senior Workshop. Under close faculty guidance, students apply a diverse range of American Studies methods while crafting a significant piece of scholarship exploring their main areas of passion and interest. Junior-level ASTD majors by instructor permission.

Prerequisite(s): Minimum Earned Credits of 90

Restrictions:

Enrollment limited to students with a classification of Senior.

Enrollment is limited to students with a program in American Studies.

ASTD 4980 - Advanced Independent Study**Credit(s): 0-3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)**Attributes:** American Studies Electives**ASTD 5000 - Perspectives in American Studies****Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Survey of theoretical frameworks for the interpretation of American culture over time. Examines the intersection of history and theory in the interdisciplinary study of the American experience from colonial encounters to the present. Critical readings in Marxism, feminism, semiotics, post-structuralism, post-colonialism, race theory, and queer theory. Offered every year.

ASTD 5010 - African American Politics, Culture & Identity**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This interdisciplinary seminar explores politics, culture, and identity in African American experiences and public movements. Covering the mid-nineteenth century to the present, we will focus on activism, representation, and the multiple strategies within a diverse community, paying attention to issues of gender, class, religion, region, and national identity.

ASTD 5020 - Frontiers & Borderlands: Contact & Conquest in the American Imagination**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Examines the diverse meanings of the 'frontier' in American culture: as a physical and metaphorical site of cultural exchange, ambiguity, and conflict. The course focuses on the interactions between European explorers, traders and settlers, Native Americans, and African migrants to North America.

ASTD 5050 - Public Humanities**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course addresses the theory and practice of public humanities. We will learn what scholars have said about the public and its willingness to engage with history and culture, discuss the possibilities and limits of sharing authority with the public, and explore projects like museums, house museums, digital exhibits, oral history, documentaries, and others. We will also engage with the public through projects that take us into the community. We will leave class with a deeper understanding of public humanities and how the lessons learned from public humanities can be applied both inside and outside academia.

ASTD 5700 - Metropolitan America**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Introduction to the study of American urban and suburban life. Course examines American cities, their cultures, and their built environments as these change over time. Students engage scholarship, develop visual literacy for 'reading' the metropolis, and analyze the ways in which built environments shape and reflect American cultural meaning.

ASTD 5900 - Practice of American Studies**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Facilitates sound professional development to accompany graduate work in American Studies. Students analyze universities as diverse social institutions, review key aspects of academic labor, examine the purposes and stages of graduate training, and survey the broad range of professional options available with the M.A. and the Ph.D.

ASTD 5910 - Graduate Internship**Credit(s): 3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

Specific requirements vary depending on the site of the internship and the individual contract for that internship. Grading is the same as for a seminar.

ASTD 5930 - Special Topics**Credit(s): 3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

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ASTD 5980 - Graduate Reading Course**Credit(s): 1-3 Credits**

Graded as a seminar course.

ASTD 5990 - Thesis Research**Credit(s): 0-6 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

6 hours for students writing a Master's thesis. Required while students are working on their research and writing. Students must meet with advisor at least once per semester when taking thesis hours. Grade is either IP or U, except for the semester in which the student graduates, when the grade is S. Students aren't always enrolled in 5990 in the semester when they graduate, but normally they would be.

ASTD 6015 - Many Midwesterns: Race and Citizenship in the Heartland**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

The Mid-West as a region has received relatively little attention in the historical and cultural study of race, citizenship, and civil rights. Much work has been done that focuses on these issues in Midwestern locations, but little of it considers the heartland as a region. What happens when we bring a regional focus into research on race and rights? We examine studies that theorize Midwestern regionality as a geographic and cultural entity with ambiguous borders, local studies of developing race relations, civil rights movements, and other struggles around citizenship in specific Mid-Western cities and states.

ASTD 6020 - American Political Thought**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course focuses on selected ideas, issues, and institutions that have been central to the U.S. Constitution and the practice of American constitutionalism, from the founding era to the present. Readings emphasize seminal works in American political thought, which are supplemented by historical accounts, illustrative literature, and contemporary analyses. Offered every year.

ASTD 6100 - Dissertation Colloquium**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course is designed to facilitate the dissertation-writing process. Seminar discussions will focus on peer review of student generated works-in-progress. Required of all Ph.D. students. May be repeated for credit at adviser's discretion.

ASTD 6200 - Visual Culture Theory**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Introduction to the theoretical models and questions that inform the wide-ranging critical practices of visual culture studies. Course examines foundational texts in visual theory as well as many different cultural forms available to visual cultural analysis such as vision itself, material culture, museums, photographs, films, and television. Offered every other year.

ASTD 6250 - The Cultural Studies Movement: Origins and Contemporary Practice**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Seminar covers the rise of cultural studies and its influence on American Studies and related disciplines. After examining the development of British cultural studies as an intellectual movement, participants explore theoretical approaches characterizing distinct phases of cultural studies research, while engaging with American Studies works that continue or challenge this tradition. Offered occasionally.

ASTD 6400 - Transnational America**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This graduate course introduces students to the history, the intellectual trajectories, and the institutional impact of the 'transnational turn' in American Studies and related scholarship. Focusing on 19th- 20th-century cultural, economic, political, and religious encounters in Africa, Asia, and Europe, we will investigate the varied manifestations of U.S. global engagement in the world.

ASTD 6500 - Visions of U.S. Empire**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This course will familiarize students with theoretical approaches to, and key studies of, empire and imperialism in U.S. history and culture from the nineteenth century to the present. We will explore the imperial at home and abroad, and pay particular attention to literature, gender, policy, and visual culture.

ASTD 6650 - Civil Rights, Activism, and Cultural Memory**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

Recent historical and cultural studies scholarship has challenged almost every aspect of our collective narrative of the civil rights movement. Continuing debates over the roles of women, gender, class, race, religion, and region bring new interpretations to the strategies of activists and the multiple levels of campaigns against segregation and discrimination. The Civil Rights movement is now Long, or is it still short: was it New, or was it a direct development from activism in the early twentieth-century, was a Southern phenomenon or also a Northern one? Did men lead and women organize?.

ASTD 6700 - Cold War Cultural Politics and the "American Century"**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This graduate seminar explores the culture of the Cold War era in the United States from 1947 to 1963. In particular, we will examine the ways in which political and international forms of conflict shaped American society in areas ranging from shifting gender configurations to new forms of youth culture, artistic ideologies to the transformation of urban a suburban space, evolving racial formations to the politics of mass culture.

ASTD 6800 - American Food & Culture**Credit(s): 3 Credits**

This class studies food production and consumption through themes such as labor, environment, gender, ethnicity, globalization, identity, and power. The course's goal is to learn about the meaning of food and how the simple act of eating can reveal interconnections among so many diverse aspects of society and the environment.

ASTD 6910 - Graduate Internship**Credit(s): 1-6 Credits (Repeatable for credit)**

Specific requirements vary depending on the site of the internship and the individual contract for that internship. Grading is the same as for a seminar.

ASTD 6930 - Special Topics**Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)****ASTD 6980 - Graduate Reading Course****Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)**

Graded as a seminar course.

ASTD 6990 - Dissertation Research**Credit(s): 0-9 Credits (Repeatable for credit)**

12 hours for students writing a dissertation. Required while students are working on their research and writing. Students must meet with advisor at least once per semester when taking dissertation hours.

Attributes: Special Approval Required