

American Studies Program

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The Faculty

Program Coordinator: John Brenkman - English

Committee Members:

- Ruth Adler - Modern Languages and Comparative Literature
- Tuzyline Allan - English
- Louis Bolce - Political Science
- Gerald DeMaio - Political Science
- Elizabeth Gareis - Communication Studies
- Thomas Heinrich - History
- Gail Levin - Fine and Performing Arts

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Field Description

American studies offers students the opportunity to investigate the content and meaning of American culture from multidisciplinary perspectives in the humanities and social sciences. To minor in American studies, students are required to take two courses at the 3000 level or above from the following four areas: Culture and Society, Myths and Identities in the American Context, The Political Sphere, and Urban Studies. Students must also take [AMS 4900](#) Capstone Course in American Studies.

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The Minor

The minor in American studies is a multidisciplinary program that investigates the content and meaning of American culture within the United States.

Required Course [AMS 4900](#) Capstone Course in American Studies

Electives

Choose any two additional related courses from one or more of the four categories of electives: Culture and Society, Myths and Identities in the American Context, The Political Sphere, and Urban Studies. Students must select those courses from at least two different departments.

- [Culture and Society](#)
- [Myths and Identities in the American Context](#)
- [The Political Sphere](#)
- [Urban Studies](#)

Culture and Society

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| ART 3250 | Art of the United States | 3 credits |
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|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| BLS 3013 | Mass Media and the Black American | 3 credits |
| COM 3060 | Media Analysis and Criticism | 3 credits |
| COM 3062 | Studies in Electronic Media | 3 credits |
| COM 3067 | American Television Programming | 3 credits |
| ENG 3020 | Survey of American Literature I | 3 credits |
| ENG 3025 | Survey of American Literature II | 3 credits |
| ENG 4500 | Main Currents of Literary Expression in Contemporary America | 3 credits |
| ENG 4510 | The American Novel | 3 credits |
| HIS 3455 | Science and Technology in American Life | 3 credits |
| LTT 4900 | Hispanic Writers in New York City | 3 credits |
| MSC 3022 | Popular Song in America | 3 credits |
| MSC 3024 | Jazz: From Its Origins to the Present | 3 credits |
| MSC 3036 | Commercial Music and the Media | 3 credits |
| POL 3008 | Religion and Politics in the United States | 3 credits |
| <i>or</i> | | |
| HIS 3008 | Religion and Politics in the United States | 3 credits |
| <i>or</i> | | |
| REL 3008 | Religion and Politics in the United States | 3 credits |
| POL 3310 | Public Opinion | 3 credits |
| PSY 4051 | Psychology of the Family | 3 credits |
| PSY 4064 | Psychological Analysis of American Culture | 3 credits |

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Myths and Identities in the American Context

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| BLS 3011 | The Black Family | 3 credits |
| BLS 3024 | Women of Color | 3 credits |
| ENG 3032 | Ethnic Literature | 3 credits |
| ENG 3034 | Survey of African American Literature | 3 credits |
| ENG 3830 | Tradition and Influence in African American Literature | 3 credits |
| ENG 3835 | Black Women Writers | 3 credits |

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|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| HIS 3550 | The Immigrant in American History | 3 credits |
| HIS 3650 | Women in America | 3 credits |
| SOC 3125 | Race and Ethnic Relations | 3 credits |
| SOC 3141 | Sociology of Religion | 3 credits |
| SOC 3159 | Social Change in the Black Community | 3 credits |
| THE 3043 | Theatre of Color in the United States | 3 credits |

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The Political Sphere

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| BLS 3014 | Civil Rights Legislation and Litigation | 3 credits |
| HIS 3044 | The Civil War and Reconstruction: 1850--1880 | 3 credits |
| HIS 3410 | History of American Business Enterprise | 3 credits |
| HIS 3450 | History of American Medicine | 3 credits |
| HIS 3460 | Topics in American History | 3 credits |
| HIS 3552 | The Great Depression, 1929-1940 | 3 credits |
| POL 2332 | American Political Thought | 3 credits |
| POL 3005 | Social Welfare Policy | 3 credits |
| POL 3102 | American Conservatism: Origins, Development, and Contemporary Controversies | 3 credits |
| POL 3311 | Political Parties and Elections | 3 credits |
| POL 3314 | Civil Liberties | 3 credits |
| POL 3315 | Government and the American Economy | 3 credits |
| SOC 3136 | Social Welfare Institutions | 3 credits |

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Urban Studies

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| ART 3254 | Architecture and the City | 3 credits |
| BLS 3015 | Black Economic Development: 1860 to the Present | 3 credits |
| HIS 3472 | American Urban History | 3 credits |
| HIS 3551 | History of the People of the City of New York | 3 credits |
| HSP 3000 | The Puerto Rican Child in His Urban Setting | 3 credits |

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|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------|
| POL 3323 | Politics and Government of New York City | 3 credits |
| POL 3422 | Urban Public Policy | 3 credits |
| SOC 3155 | Urban Sociology | 3 credits |

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Courses

Courses in American Studies

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| AMS 4900 | Topics in American Studies | 3 hours; 3 credits |
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