



American Culture

One of the top American Studies departments in the world, the Program in American Culture offers Michigan students a chance to explore a range of topics from American history and literature to ethnic studies to pop culture. Flexible, engaging, and interdisciplinary, American Culture offers undergraduates and graduate students alike an opportunity to participate in a unique program and learn from some of the nation's top faculty in a personal, vibrant academic community.

American Culture is home to Latino/a Studies, Native American Studies, Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies, and an emerging Arab American Studies Program. At the leading edge of Ethnic Studies scholarship, these programs move easily across traditional boundaries, and frequently connect with our partners in the Center for Afroamerican and African Studies. Here, you'll find faculty members considering African/Native American histories, the mix of boundary setting and crossing characteristic of national borders, Asian and African American relations in

Los Angeles, indigenous worlds spanning the globe, moving "island cultures" in the Caribbean and Pacific, experiences of Muslims in America post 9/11, the intertwined literary production of contemporaries in Latina/o, Native American, and African American contexts and much, much more.

The Program offers students a quick thinking, fast moving, culturally sophisticated, multi-world education. We emphasize a new brand of ethnic studies, one rooted in global migration and movement, transnational identities, and unexpected juxtapositions. We put those insights into play with the world of cultural production and consumption: new media, music, technology, film. And we underpin the whole thing with an appreciation for the history, literature, and art that has been and continues to be produced from American centers and margins. We support excellent and committed teaching and advising, and our generally small class sizes allow students to enjoy close relations with our talented faculty.

OCCUPATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The interdisciplinary nature of American Culture enables students to develop their abilities in areas that range from critical analysis to group coordination and facilitation. American Culture training promotes problem-solving qualities, combined with communication skills that allow

proposing and accomplishing changes and innovation. It promotes an open an objective intellectual approach to knowledge, supporting the qualities necessary to confront new situations in our complex world. Possible career opportunities include:

Culture Industries

- Publishing
- Journalism
- Television and film
- Criticism
- Media
- Sports

Public and Civic Service

- Law and politics
- Social activism
- Local, state, and federal government
- Primary, secondary, and post-secondary education
- Public arts organizations
- Public history and museum work

Social Change

- Labor organizing
- Non-governmental organizations
- Teach for America
- The Peace Corps
- Non-profit organizations

The Career Center

The University of Michigan Division of Student Affairs

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Credit Hours

Minimum of 28 credits (does not include concentration prerequisite)

Concentration Prerequisite (3 credits)

One 200-level AC course (either completed or enrolled in at the time concentration is declared)

Required Courses (16 credits)

AC 335: Arts and Culture in American Life (3 credits)

AC 345: American Politics and Society (3 credits)

AC 399: Race, Racism, and Ethnicity (4 credits)

AC 350: Approaches to American Culture (3 credits)

AC 496 or 498: Senior Capstone Seminar (3 credits; must have completed AC 350 prior to enrolling in Capstone)

Electives (12 credits)

Four additional AC courses, at least two of which must be at the 300 level or above; with at least one of these at the 400 level. Students may take an additional 496 or 498 topics course not being counted toward the senior seminar requirement. Upper division electives should cohere around a theme of each student's own choosing, in consultation with the AC undergraduate advisor.

Breadth Requirements

Among electives within AC, at least one course at the 200 level or above must fall into each of the following areas (one course may count toward more than one area; required courses cannot fulfill breadth requirements):

Pre-20th Century United States

Transnationalism, Diaspora, and/or Empire

Women, Gender, and/or Sexuality

Ethnic and/or Indigenous Studies

Substitutions

When necessary, an appropriate course listed in another department may substitute for a required or elective course with permission of the AC undergraduate advisor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information about choosing a career, about graduate/professional school, internships, or job descriptions; and for library resources:

The Career Center
3200 Student Activities Building
(734) 764-7460
www.careercenter.umich.edu

For information about choosing a major and about concentration and degree requirements:

LS&A Academic Advising Center
1255 Angell Hall
(734) 764-0332

American Culture Program
3700 Haven Hall
(734) 763-1460
www.lsa.umich.edu/ac