

MINOR IN AMERICAN STUDIES

Program Director

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American Studies offers students the opportunity to examine the central themes and issues in American life using material and approaches from a variety of disciplines. Students gain awareness of the broad outlines of American history and culture as well as an understanding of important theories of culture and ways of studying American life.

The University offers a minor in American Studies with the advice and approval of the chair of the department in which the student is majoring. The minor requires completion of 18 hours. For information about the American Studies minor, contact the director.

In addition to offering a minor in American Studies, YSU offers a Master of Arts in American Studies. For more information, consult the Graduate Catalog.

COURSE	TITLE	S.H.
AMER 2601	American Identity	3
AMER 3701	Approaches to American Studies	3
Four additional upper division courses, selected from the American Studies list of approved courses, from at least two departments other than the department in which the students' major is housed, and subject to consultation with an American Studies advisor.		12
Total Semester Hours		18

AMER 2601 American Identity 3 s.h.

Study of American Identity through historical, literary, artistic, material, media and other sources. Emphasis on American pluralism and cultural debates over the meaning of American identity.

Gen Ed: Domestic Diversity, Social Science, Social and Personal Awareness.

AMER 2605 Turning Points in United States History 1 3 s.h.

Key episodes in the social, economic, political, and cultural developments of the United States to 1877, exploring how diverse peoples shaped the growing nation.

Cross-listed: HIST 2605.

Gen Ed: Social Science.

AMER 2606 Turning Points in United States History 2 3 s.h.

Key episodes in the social, economic, political, and cultural developments of the United States since 1877, exploring how diverse peoples shaped the growing nation.

Cross-listed: HIST 2606.

Gen Ed: Domestic Diversity, Social Science, Social and Personal Awareness.

AMER 2610 Work and Class in American Culture 3 s.h.

Interdisciplinary thematic exploration of work and class in American culture with emphasis on the Mahoning Valley. Includes the impact of social movements, technological developments, and new ideas and knowledge.

Examines the relationship of class to such social categories as race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, and place.

Prereq.: Placement in ENGL 1550.

Gen Ed: Social Science.

AMER 3700 Minority Groups 3 s.h.

Survey of the origins and characteristics of ethnic and racial minority groups, with emphasis on the significance of membership in such a group for in-group, out-group, and community solidarity.

Prereq.: SOC 1500.

Cross-listed: SOC 3700.

AMER 3701 Approaches to American Studies 3 s.h.

Survey of central issues and themes in American cultural studies, with emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches and cultural diversity. May focus on a theme chosen by the instructor, such as nature and culture, work, or class in America. May be repeated once with a different topic.

AMER 3705 Cultural Anthropology 3 s.h.

A cross-cultural comparison of the cultural norms that regulate society, emphasizing the functional prerequisites for the existence of society and individual demands on society.

Prereq.: ANTH 2602.

Cross-listed: ANTH 3705.

AMER 3720 Applied Sociology 3 s.h.

Uses of sociology in practical affairs, providing theory and data for public policy, institutional reform, social action programs, and social inventions. Contributions to architectural design, industrial engineering, community planning, and innovative legislation.

Prereq.: SOC 1500.

Cross-listed: SOC 3720.

AMER 3770 American Literature in Historical Perspective 3 s.h.

Poetry, prose, drama, and other forms of literary expression examined within the context of a specific aspect of American social, intellectual, and cultural history. May be repeated once with different topic.

Prereq.: ENGL 3701 or ENGL 3702.

Cross-listed: ENGL 3770.

AMER 4801 American Studies Research Seminar 3 s.h.

Capstone seminar. Focuses on development and implementation of research proposal and current American studies research related to topics chosen by students for their senior projects.

Prereq.: AMER 3701 and approval of Program Coordinator.

AMER 4810 Independent Project in American Culture 1-3 s.h.

Work with faculty advisor on senior projects. A total of 3 s.h. is required for completion of the major. May be repeated with permission of coordinator.

Prereq.: AMER 4801 and approval of Program Coordinator.

Gen Ed: Capstone.

AMER 4815 American Material Culture 3 s.h.

A discussion and analysis of the use and importance of material artifacts as texts for the recovery of the American past. Emphasis on sources not traditionally utilized by historians. Examples include the contextual analysis of children's books, foodways, and sacred spaces.

Prereq.: HIST 2605 and HIST 2606, or AMER 2601 and AMER 3701.

Cross-listed: HIST 4815.

AMER 5845 Work in America 3 s.h.

Examines the changing characteristics, expectations, and representations of work in America. Includes the exploration of demographic, historic, economic, technological, sociological, religious, ethical, popular, and poetic perspectives on work.

Prereq.: junior standing.

Cross-listed: MGT 5845.

AMER 5850 Class and Culture 3 s.h.

Theories of social class structure and formation, relationships between class and culture, representations of class and work, intersections of class with other aspects of cultural identity (race, gender, sexuality, place), and theories and methods of working-class studies.

Prereq.: graduate standing or AMER 3701.

AMER 6900 Approaches to American Studies 3 s.h.

Introduction to American studies with emphasis on history of the field, interdisciplinary approaches, and cultural diversity.

AMER 6910 Introduction to Working-Class Studies 3 s.h.

Introduction to developments, approaches, and issues in new working-class studies, including intersections of class with other categories of identity, disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives, representations of the working class in the arts and media, and political and economic constructions of class.

AMER 6930 Humanities in the Community 3 s.h.

Opportunities, challenges, and strategies for developing, promoting, and implementing public humanities projects in various settings, including community development and organizing, community-based adult education, and programs in museums and other public humanities organizations.

Prereq.: AMER 6900.

AMER 6970 Teaching Working-Class Studies 3 s.h.

Interdisciplinary teaching strategies focused on incorporating attention to work, class, diversity, and local history and culture into K-12 and college courses.

AMER 6975 Interdisciplinary Teaching 3 s.h.

Introduction to interdisciplinarity and its application in the classroom with emphasis on integration of humanities and social sciences.

AMER 6980 Public Humanities Internship 3 s.h.

Supervised work-and-learning experience in American studies under the direction of an American studies core faculty member and an employee of a participating organization.

AMER 6982 Special Topics 3 s.h.

Specialized topics selected by the staff. May be repeated once with a different topic.

Prereq.: Permission of the American studies program coordinator and instructor.

AMER 6985 Independent Study 3 s.h.

Individual study in American studies or a related discipline under the supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated once.

Prereq.: Permission of the American studies program coordinator and instructor.

AMER 6990 Independent Project 1-3 s.h.

Completion of individual project in a community or school setting. May be repeated for a maximum of three semester hours.

Prereq.: Proposal and review meeting with committee.