American Studies at KU

Revised Undergraduate Requirements
(for students who enroll in KU Spring 2008 and after)

I. American Studies Core Courses (9 hours)
   A. AMS 100: Introduction to American Studies (3) OR
      AMS 101: Introduction to American Studies, Honors (3)
   B. AMS 110: American Identities (3) OR
      AMS 112: American Identities, Honors (3)
   C. AMS 332: United States in Global Context (same as SOC 332) (3)

II. Theory and Method (6 hours)
   A. AMS 360: Theory and Method (3)
      An introduction through a topical theme to theories and methods currently
      used in American Studies. Prerequisites: Completion of AMS 100, AMS
      110 and AMS 332 or their equivalent or consent of instructor.
   B. One additional course that explores methodological and theoretical
      approaches used in American Studies from a list of approved courses
      maintained by the program. Examples of courses that may fulfill this
      requirement include:
      
      AAAS 560/WS 560: Race Gender and Postcolonial Discourse
      ANTH 361: Third World Anthro Approaches
      ANTH 460: Theory in Anthropology
      HIST 396: Historical Methods
      POLS 301: Introduction to Political Theory
      POLS 306: Political Science Methods of Inquiry
      POLS 320: Introduction to Public Policy
      POLS 600/WS 600: Contemporary Feminist Political Theory
      HIST 649/WS 549: History of Feminist Theory
      ENGL 508: Contemporary Literary Theory
      POLS 609: Topics in Political Theory
      PSYC 300: Statistics in Psych. Research
      PSYC 310: Research Methods in Psychology
      SOC 310: Introduction to Social Research
      SOC 500: Sociological Theory
      SOC 510: Elementary Statistics and Data Analysis
      SOC 601: Introduction to Feminist Social Theory
      TH&F 583: Film Theory
      TH&F 584: Film Theory and Criticism, 1960-pres
      WS 468/PSYC 468: Psychology of Women
III. Concentration (12 hours)

Students must select one of seven Special Emphasis Concentrations: Each Concentration consists of four courses that cohere around a common theme. At least nine hours must be at the junior/senior level. Some examples of courses that may count are listed below. Students have the option of self-designing a concentration, but the entire self-designed concentration must be approved by an American Studies advisor and the Undergraduate Studies Director prior to implementation.

Race and Ethnicity

A. One 300-level course from Group A (AAAS, AMS, ENGL, HIST)
   Group A: Examples include:
   AAAS 306: The Black Experience
   AAAS 440: The Afro-American Family
   AAAS 460: Topics in AfAf Am Studies
   AMS 522: American Racial/Ethnic Relations
   AMS 534: Comp Racial/Ethnic Relations
   ENGL 336: Jewish American Lit & Cult
   ENGL 337: Intro to US Latino/a Lit
   ENGL 338: Intro to African American Lit
   ENGL 339: Topics in US Ethnic Lit
   ENGL 571: American Indian Literature
   HIST 353: Indigenous Peoples/N. America
   HIST 574: Slavery in the New World
   HIST 631: The Contemporary African American Exp

B. One 300-level course from Group B (ANTH, PSYC, SOC)
   Group B: Examples include:
   ANTH 308: Intro to Cult Anthropology
   ANTH 360: Varieties of Hum Exp
   ANTH 378: Contemporary North Am Indians
   ANTH 563: Cultural Diversity in US
   PSYC 465: Stereotyping/Prejudice Across Cultures
   SOC 341: Urban Sociology
   SOC 522: American Race/Ethnic Relations
   SOC 534: Comp Racial/Ethnic Relations
   SOC 536: Ethnicity in America
   PSYC 440: The Afro-American Family

C. Two electives, at least one at the 300-level, from the following related to race and ethnicity: AAAS, AMS, ANTH, ENGL, HIST, POLS, SOC, WS
**Visual Culture**

Four courses, from at least two different departments, at least three at the 300-level, from the following: AMS, ANTH, HA, TH&F.

Examples include:

AMS 580: American Art
ANTH 586: Visual Anthropology
HA 300: Introduction to Art History
HA 370: American Art
HA 565: Art Since 1945
HA 581: American Art, Col to Civil War
HA 582: American Art, 1860-1900
TH&F: 283: Introduction to Film Medium
TH&F 327: African-American Theater/Drama
TH&F: History of Silent Film
TH&F 382: History of the American Sound Film
TH&F 384: History of African American Images
TH&F: 429: Postcolonial Theater/Drama
TH&F 450: Race, Class/Gender in Visual Culture

**Local and Global**

A. One 300-level course from Group A (AMS, ENGL, HIST, GEOG, SOC)

Group A: Examples include:

AMS 534: Comparative Race/Ethnic Rel.
ENGL 339: Intro to Caribbean Lit
ENGL 526: African Literature
ENGL 536: Readings in the Holocaust
GEOG 350: Physical Geography of Africa
GEOG 396: China’s Geography
GEOG 591: Geography of Latin America
GEOG 593: Middle American Geography
HIST 300: Modern African History
HIST 331: Atlantic Societies
HIST 343: The Holocaust in History
HIST 350: The Korean War, 1950-1953
HIST 365: Invention of the Tropics
HIST 371: Cultural History of Modern Lat. Am.
HIST 397: China’s Red Revolution
HIST 398: Introduction to History of Japan
HIST 574: Slavery in the New World
HIST 581: Topics in Third World History
SOC 350: Sociology of Transnational Migration
SOC 536: Gender in Global Context
SOC 621: Cross-Cultural Sociology
SOC 630: Latin American Society
B. One 300-level course from Group B (EALC, LAA, AAAS)
   Group B: Examples Include
   EALC 306: Living Religions of the East
   EALC 332: Asian Lit in Translation.
   EALC 527: Asian Theater and Film
   EALC 563: Cultural Traditions in Japan
   EALC 590: Topics in East Asian Lit/Cult.
   LAA 503: Race/Gender/Ethnicity/Nation. in Lat. Am.
   LAA 505: US Lat.-Lat. Am. Film and Lit
   AAAS 302: Contemporary Haiti
   AAAS 310: Women of Africa Today
   AAAS 320: African Studies in:
   AAAS 360: Intro to African History
   AAAS 433: Islamic Literatures
   AAAS 349: Islam

C. Two electives, at least one at 300-level, from the following: AMS, ENGL, HA, HIST, POLS, GEOG, SOC, EALC, LAA, SPAN, AAAS

**Popular Culture**
Four courses, from at least two different departments (at least three at the 300-level), from the following: AMS, EALC, ENGL, HIST, SOC, TH&F, WS
Examples include:
AMS 344: Case Study in American Stud.
EALC 365: Japanese People Through Film
ENGL 325: Recent Popular Literature
ENGL 506: Science Fiction
HIST 310: American Culture, 1600-1876
HIST 312: American Culture, 1877-present
HIST 313: Conspiracies in American Hist.
HIST 470: Popular Culture in Lat. Am and Africa
SOC 364: Society, Popular Culture/Media
SOC 610: Sociology of Sport
SOC 634: Sociology of Culture
TH&F 380: American Pop Culture of:
WS 513: Mod. Am. Women in Film/Lit.

**Jazz Studies**
Four courses, from at least two different departments (at least three at the 300-level).
Examples include:
AAAS 306: AfAm Exp Since Emancipation
AMS 650: Jazz in American Culture
AMS 696: Studies in Jazz Autobiography
AMS 696: Studies in Jazz Narrative
AMS 696: Studies in Jazz Roots to 1955
MUS 298: Intro to Jazz
MUS 337: History of AF Am Music
AMS 696: Studies in Jazz, 1955 to present
ENGL 574: Survey of Af Am Poetry
ENGL 590: Studies in Jazz Autobiography
ENGL 590: Studies in Jazz Narrative
TH&F: 380: American Pop Culture: The 1930s
TH&F 380: American Pop Culture: Jazz in Film

**Gender And Sexuality**
Four courses, from at least two different departments (at least three at the 300-level).
Examples include:
WS 389/ANTH 389: Anthro of Gender
WS 468/PSYC 468: Psychology of Women
WS 562/POLS 562: Women and Politics
WS 653/POLS 653: Gender, War and Peace
WS 660/ANTH 660: Human Reproduction
SOC 617: Women and Health Care
ANTH 359: Anthropology of Sex
PSYC 410: Intimate Relationships
PHIL 504: Philosophy of Sex and Love
REL 374: Religious Perspectives on Sexuality
HIST 324: History of Women and the Body
SOC 352: Sociology of Sex Roles

**Religion**
Four courses, from at least two different departments (at least three at the 300-level).
Examples include:
AAAS 300: African Traditional Religion
AAAS 522: African and Af Am Religion
AMS 290: Religion in American Society
ANTH 484: Magic, Science, and Religion
ANTH 666: Anthropology of Religion
HIST 360: Science and Religion
HIST 373: Supreme Ct and Religion in US
PHIL 350: Philosophical Issues in Religion
PSYC 581: Psychology of Religion
REL 330: Native American Religions
IV. Advanced Course (3 hours)
AMS 550: Research Seminar in: __________ (3)

Double Majors
American studies majors are encouraged to take a second major in a related field, such as history, English, political science, sociology, anthropology, religious studies, African and African-American studies, economics, or art history. Because the major is interdisciplinary, a second major is relatively easy to achieve during the usual four years of undergraduate study.

Honors
An honors program allows seniors with overall grade-point averages of 3.25 to do independent work under faculty direction. Enrollment in AMS 553 is required. By special arrangement, students may design independent study programs to meet concentration requirements. Graduation with honors is awarded to students who meet College honors requirements.

Opportunities for Original Projects
By application, advanced students may pursue a focused project of research or service under the supervision of a faculty member. AMS 551-2-3 function as independent research and service project electives (by application) for advanced students in AMS.

Career Opportunities
Graduates have prepared for occupations in federal, state, and local government, law, medicine, politics, journalism, business, and education. Many have entered graduate work in American studies or disciplines in their concentrations. See an adviser for a list of American studies courses that may meet teacher licensure requirements in history and social sciences.