



American Studies

American Studies at the University of Kansas

A Handbook for Graduate Students

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This handbook is for informational purposes and does not constitute a contract. Policies currently in force appear in the KU graduate catalog under the American Studies entry, and in resources provided by the College Office of Graduate Affairs:

<http://catalog.ku.edu/201314>
<http://coga.ku.edu>.

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Introduction

American Studies at the University of Kansas is an interdisciplinary program offering opportunities for graduate study on the American experience – past, present, and in global context. We believe that the subject of American Studies is the multiplicity of institutional and cultural forms and meanings involved in conceptualizing America. American Studies at the University of Kansas seeks to accommodate a wide variety of scholarly, career, and personal objectives. The program's flexibility grows logically from our view that American Studies can legitimately include analysis of any aspect of the American experience. We do, however, encourage graduate students to engage in critical analysis of the meanings of such concepts as “American,” “experience,” “culture,” “society,” and “identity” that have formed an integral part of American Studies scholarship. We provide training in the study of American culture and society and in the broad range of methodological and conceptual approaches appropriate to such study.

Given our recognition of the critical impact of difference and power in American life, we insist that a student's program of study consider the profound interaction of diversity (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality, region, and religion) and differential power structures in American life. Given the broad definition of our mandate, the program requires students to define their own fields of concentration and to draw from all of the appropriate university resources in developing them. Students must demonstrate coherence in their course plans and contextualize the significance of their areas of specialization for the broader understanding of American culture and society.

Graduate students have contributed much to the development of the program, especially since the formation of the Graduate Student Organization in 1969. Their elected representatives participate as full voting members in departmental meetings, except for matters of personnel, and are therefore active in formulating administrative procedures, curricular developments, and policies on student admissions.

About Lawrence, Kansas

Lawrence boasts a rich heritage, beginning in 1854, when the Kansas Territory was opened to settlement. Settlers, according to the “popular sovereignty” concept, could decide whether to admit Kansas as a free or slave state. In an effort to keep the territory from becoming pro-slavery, New England abolitionists rushed to what is now Lawrence. They were met with staunch opposition from pro-slavery forces, and the bloody clashes culminated in the town being sacked by Quantrill and his raiders. The Eldridge Hotel, one of Lawrence’s signature historic buildings, was twice burned by pro-slavery forces from Missouri in Lawrence’s early years. The city seal reflects this history, depicting a Phoenix rising from burning buildings, as does the common use of “Free State” in names of businesses, schools, and other locations.

Today, Lawrence offers a more peaceful existence. In northeast Kansas, Lawrence is in forested, rolling country, 30 minutes from Topeka and 40 minutes from Kansas City. The University sits atop a hill (Mt. Oread) overlooking two river valleys—the Kansas and the Wakarusa. Concerts, plays, lectures, and films can be found on campus as well as in

locations around the community. Lawrence's vibrant downtown shopping, dining, and entertainment districts rival any in the Midwest. Recreational activities abound, with numerous hiking and biking trails, grassy neighborhood parks, and nearby lakes. Winters are cold and summers are hot, but both are relatively short, and the fall and spring seasons are long and pleasant.

Application and Admission

Because we believe that our faculty and graduate students are the most critical resources in defining the quality of our graduate program, potential applicants are encouraged to correspond with the Director of Graduate Studies and, especially, to visit the campus to discuss their interests and the program with faculty and students.

The program is designed to begin in the fall semester, but candidates may be admitted at any time. To be considered for any fellowships, awards, or assistantships, all application materials must be received in the American Studies office by **December 1**. Applications received by this deadline will also have priority in the admissions process. The final deadline for fall admission is May 1 but in exceptional cases, candidates may be considered after that date.

The admissions process is rigorous and requires a competitive application to be successful. A complete application must include:

1. A statement of academic interest and objectives describing the student's intellectual development, previous academic training, motivating research questions, and the type of work s/he would like to pursue. This statement is the core of the application (two-page maximum).
2. A resume or curriculum vitae summarizing the student's academic background and relevant work experience.
3. Three letters of recommendation from people familiar with the student's academic abilities and potential (use the letter of recommendation form).
4. A completed application form, on-line (<http://graduate.ku.edu>).
5. A non-refundable application fee: \$55 on-line application for domestic students; \$65 on-line application for international students
6. One official transcript from all colleges attended
7. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test scores.
8. A sample of the applicant's written academic work. This should be a research paper or article of no more than 35 pages that represents the student's best work to date. Students who have completed a thesis may submit the introduction.

In addition, international students must submit:

1. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores.
2. Proof of financial support.

The admissions committee places great weight on the statement of academic interest and objectives. The statement should make it clear why the student is pursuing graduate study in American Studies, and what kind of work s/he hopes to prepare for through a rigorous, interdisciplinary program. The most effective statements often identify an existing intellectual conversation or problem to which the student wishes to contribute original work. The statement need not describe an entire research agenda, but

ought to give a good idea of the kinds of questions and topics that the student will pursue. The quality of this statement is an especially important factor in the decisions of our admissions committee.

Students must have at least a 3.0 grade point average in their previous academic work to be admitted to regular graduate student status. In exceptional cases, students with less than a 3.0 grade point average are admitted to the program on either a provisional or a probationary basis. For further information concerning admission status, see the University's graduate catalog.

The application, application fee, transcripts and other materials must be submitted to the Office of Research and Graduate Studies online. To begin this process, visit the graduate admissions website at <http://www.graduate.ku.edu> and click “Admissions.”

Departmental Structure and Procedure

Operations and Governance

The Department is headed by a Chairperson, currently Professor **Henry Bial**. Major departmental decisions are made by meetings of the voting members of the department, including the core faculty and student representatives. The decisions of these “Voting Department Meetings” are executed by other departmental committees, including the Executive Committee, which comprises the Chair, the Director of Undergraduate Studies, the Director of Graduate Studies, and a student representative.

The first contact for most procedural matters related to a student’s program of study is Graduate Coordinator **Kay Isbell**. As part of the new Shared Service Center on campus, Kay’s office is now in Bailey Hall 203D. For matters of the content and direction of a student’s individualized program of study, the student’s advisor should be consulted (see “Advising” below). For issues and concerns not addressed by the Graduate Secretary or the advisor, students may seek assistance from the Director of Graduate Studies, currently Professor **Ben Chappell**.

Core Faculty

Henry Bial (Ph.D. New York University, 2001) Associate Professor of Theatre and Chair of American Studies. Performance studies, religious performance, Jewish popular culture and theatre history/ historiography.

Ben Chappell (Ph.D. University of Texas at Austin, 2003) Associate Professor of American Studies and Director of Graduate Studies. Ethnography, cultural studies, Mexican America, lowriders, recreational softball, performance, space, cultural politics, race and class, materiality.

Jacob Dorman (Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles, 2004) Assistant Professor of History and American Studies. African American history, black religion, and 1920’s Harlem.

Ruben Flores (Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, 2006) Assistant Professor of American Studies. Latin American migration to the United States, comparative histories of Mexico and the U.S., the development of the social sciences during industrialization, sociological approaches to politics and culture, the competing foundations of truth offered by science and religion, and the transformation of North America's rural communities.

Jennifer Hamer (Ph.D. University of Texas at Austin 1995) Professor of American Studies. Sociological study of families, especially those within the United States; African American fathers, mothers, and families, especially those that are urban, low-income and working class.

Tanya Hart (Ph.D. Yale University, 2006) Assistant Professor of American Studies and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Women's studies, African-American studies, public health, and medicine in the history of the United States.

Randal Jelks (Ph.D. Michigan State University, 1999) Associate Professor of American Studies and African and African American Studies, and Director of Undergraduate Studies. African American religious, urban, and civil rights history.

Cheryl Lester (Ph.D. State University of New York, Buffalo, 1987) Associate Professor of American Studies and English. 20th-century American literature and culture, cultural theory, and William Faulkner.

Ray Pence (Ph.D. University of Kansas, 2006) Lecturer in American Studies. Disability studies and civil rights.

Sherrie Tucker (Ph.D. University of California, Santa Cruz, 1999) Professor of American Studies. Popular culture during World War II, theories of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, and nation; cultural studies, oral history, and jazz studies.

Emeritus Faculty

Dennis Domer (Ph.D. University of Kansas, 1980) Associate Professor Emeritus of American Studies; Associate Dean Emeritus of the School of Architecture, Design, and Planning; and Acting Director of Museum Studies. American architectural history, material culture, regional and local history, and Germany.

David M. Katzman (Ph.D. University of Michigan, 1969) Professor Emeritus of American Studies. Race and ethnicity, work culture, migration, and social history.

William M. Tuttle, Jr. (Ph.D. University of Wisconsin, 1967) Professor Emeritus of American Studies. Recent U.S. social, political, and cultural history, childhood and family, and African-American history.

Norman R. Yetman (Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania, 1969) Chancellors Club Teaching Professor Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of American Studies and Sociology. American racial and ethnic relations, sports in American culture, and American religion.

Advisors

The graduate director normally advises entering graduate students. In the first year of graduate study, each student will ask a faculty member to serve as his/her advisor. If the faculty member's advising slate is already full, the student may need to approach another member. When a faculty member has agreed to serve in this capacity, the student should notify the Graduate Coordinator, and the advisor will be noted in the student's file. The faculty advisor will work closely with the student to develop a coherent plan of study. This plan may be recorded on one of the degree checklists attached to this handbook. Students should maintain an updated checklist, indicating the planned and completed components of the degree program, in their departmental files with the Graduate Coordinator.

At the comprehensive examination stage, the student's advisor serves as chair of the examination committee. At the dissertation stage, the advisor serves as chair of the dissertation committee. Since students' interests often change throughout their graduate careers, students should feel free to change advisors, as long as all parties involved are kept informed. Such a change must be communicated to the Graduate Coordinator so that it can be recorded in the student's file in the American Studies office.

Annual Review/Evaluation of Student Progress

Every student in the program is evaluated annually. By the first day of each spring semester, students submit materials for evaluation that reflect their efforts in the previous calendar year. Instructions and forms for this evaluation are attached to this handbook. After the faculty assess the quality of the student's work, professionalization, and progress toward their degree, the student receives a letter from the program explaining that assessment, and if necessary, describing any required changes. A student who disagrees with his/her evaluation letter in a given year may submit a response. All filed evaluation documents may be reviewed to establish the student's standing in the program.

American Studies Association of Graduate Students (ASAGS)

Graduate students in American Studies automatically belong to the American Studies Association of Graduate Students at the University of Kansas. This organization meets on a regular basis, operates on behalf of students in association with the American Studies Program and selects three representatives for the Voting Department Meetings. One of these representatives also sits on each of the Executive Committee, the Graduate Studies Committee, and the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

Funding

The American Studies Department competes with other units across campus for the opportunity to offer graduate fellowships. Students are also encouraged to actively apply for funding from external sources, as a routine professional activity. Support for graduate students in seeking funding is available from the Hall Center Grant Development Office and other KU facilities. The Director of Graduate Studies maintains a file of successful funding applications to be consulted as models.

American Studies Assistantships

Currently, the American Studies Program has a limited number of teaching assistantships and other awards available. Each spring, students may apply for Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) positions. GTAs serve as discussion leaders for the large lecture course AMS 110 – American Identities, and teach their own sections of AMS 100 – Introduction to American Studies. A teaching assistantship provides tuition and a stipend, according to the collective contract, called the Memorandum of Agreement.

Additional positions are sometimes available for working with the journals supported by the department. For example, Managing Editor and Assistant Editor positions, which may be held for multiple years, are available with *American Studies*, a journal sponsored by the Mid-America American Studies Association and the University of Kansas. AMS students have also held editorial positions at the University Press of Kansas.

Assistantships in Other Departments

Many of our graduate students hold teaching assistantships in Humanities and Western Civilization, and in the past American Studies graduate students have also done so in the departments of English, Sociology, Radio-TV-Film, Political Science, Foreign Languages, and History, as well as in the schools of Architecture, Design, and Planning and Journalism. If you are interested in applying for positions in one of these cooperating departments, you should first discuss your interest with the American Studies graduate director and inquire to the specific department to which you wish to apply.

The hiring department may need to receive copies of the application materials you submitted for admission to AMS, such as copies of your Graduate Record Examination scores, your transcripts, and your letters of recommendation. You may want to solicit extra recommendations that attest to your ability to teach or to your background in the field in which you want to teach. For example, if you want an assistantship in Western Civilization, and have taken courses in Philosophy or European History, recommendations from the professors of those courses might strengthen your case in the eyes of the Western Civilization chairperson.

University Regulations

Students enrolled in the AMS graduate program are bound by regulations of the University as well as departmental expectations. Many of these are summarized in the online graduate catalog, which may be accessed at <http://www.ku.edu/academics/catalogs/>. Click on the catalog for the first academic year of your graduate studies, then on the academic unit <Office of Graduate Studies> and <General Regulations>. Students remain bound to the regulations described in the catalog in force when they begin their studies, unless they petition to change to a newer catalog.

Time to Degree

Students must complete their graduate degree within a specified time after their *initial* enrollment in the graduate program.

- Students pursuing the M.A. must complete all requirements within **seven years** of their initial enrollment in the graduate program.
- Students pursuing the Ph.D. who hold a master's degree from an accredited university must complete all requirements within **eight years** of their initial enrollment in the doctoral program.
- Students pursuing the Ph.D. who began at KU without a master's degree must complete all requirements within **ten years** of their initial enrollment in master's studies at KU.

This policy is stated in detail at <http://policy.ku.edu>. Click <Academic>, <Academic Work and Evaluations>, <Graduation & Degrees>.

Leaves of Absence

Ph.D. students may petition the Office of Graduate Studies through the American Studies Program for a leave of absence, which typically will be granted for one year. This may be appropriate if a student secures outside funding, such as a research fellowship, that does not require continual enrollment. It may also be necessary if progress toward the degree is disrupted by health issues or other life changes. After an absence of five years, whether approved or otherwise, masters and doctoral students lose status and must reapply to the program.

Human Subjects

All research on living human subjects must be approved by the KU institutional review board, which is known as the Human Subjects Committee of Lawrence (HSC-L). An HSC-L review process is required before beginning any research involving methods such as participant observation, interviews, surveys, and others. Such a review is not usually required before using historical documents, archaeological materials, artifacts, and similar sources of information not involving living subjects. Review by the HSC-L is one

of the measures intended to ensure that research conducted at KU is ethical, and that the rights of those under study are protected. Failure to secure HSC-L approval when it is required can lead to the rejection of a thesis or dissertation.

Some research studies may qualify for expedited review, or may be exempt from HSC-L oversight, but this is a decision of the HSC-L. Students planning to conduct research involving living subjects, along with their advisors, must complete a tutorial on the protection of human subjects, and submit an application for review of their projects before beginning the research.

The HSC-L website is <http://www.rcr.ku.edu/h scl/>.

Application for Degree

Early in the semester in which they expect to complete degree requirements, students must complete an Application For Degree online through the Enroll and Pay website. Additional paperwork must also be submitted according to a uniform series of guidelines. At least one semester before they intend to graduate, students should study all requirements and procedures outlined at <http://www.graduate.ku.edu>: click on <Graduating Students>.

Core Courses

There are four courses in the AMS graduate core. They are taken by both master's and doctoral students, and are offered every year.

AMS 801

Introduction to American Studies: An introduction to the field of American Studies through an examination of some of the classic and innovative works, issues, debates, and controversies in the history and the literature of American Studies in written and oral form. As an outcome, students should be able to draw on these debates and situate their work in the field of American Studies. This course includes the development of responsible scholarship awareness of the protection of human subjects, conflicts of interest, data management, mentor/student responsibilities, and appropriate research conduct and research misconduct.

AMS 802

Theorizing America: Drawing from a broad range of perspectives, this course will introduce students to current theoretical debates in American Studies and the concepts that inform them. As an outcome, students should be able to develop research questions grounded in an awareness of these theoretical debates and to articulate this in written and oral form.

AMS 803

Research Methods in American Studies: An introduction to the range of interdisciplinary research methods in American Studies. Students will develop an understanding of the assumptions, logics, and procedures involved in various approaches to understanding American society and culture, enabling them to write and orally present a research proposal that uses these tools. This course includes the development of responsible scholarship awareness of collaborative research, authorship, publication, plagiarism, copyright, peer review, professional practices, and maintenance of confidentiality.

AMS 804

Research Seminar: This seminar focuses on the writing required to ready an article for a peer-reviewed journal or a thesis proposal and provides a forum grounded in interdisciplinary research that facilitates a dialogue among students working on different projects with varied theories and methods in American Studies. Students will set clear goals for the completion of their writing project, learn how to manage time, develop a habit of writing every day, and undertake the writing, research, and analytical skills needed to write and publish a peer-reviewed journal article or thesis. AMS 808 meets with AMS 804.

The Master of Arts in American Studies

The Master of Arts in American Studies is a free-standing degree. Students admitted to the M.A. program may hold bachelor's degrees in any field and will be considered for admission based on the merit of their application. Some, but not all graduates of the M.A. program, plan to apply to a doctoral program, either at KU or another university.

The Department also supports an American Studies Track in Museum Studies, and a joint Master's program in American Studies and Urban Planning. Further information on these programs is available from the partner departments and the Director of Graduate Studies.

M.A. students are required to select an advisor by the beginning of their second semester. See "Advisors" above under Departmental Structure and Procedures.

M.A. requirements (30 hours total)

I. Core Courses- AMS 801, 802, 803, 804 (12 credit hours)

The AMS graduate core is a three-semester sequence: first-year students should take 801 and 802 during the fall semester of their first year of graduate work, and 803 in the spring semester of their first year of graduate work. Students should take 804 in the fall semester of their second year of graduate work, working on the master's thesis or a publishable article.

II. Elective Courses (12 hours total)

A. Elective Methods (3 hours)

One course selected by the student and advisor provides methodological support for the student's project, leading to an article ready for peer review in an academic journal or to a thesis. The methods elective should be taken in the first year in order to enable research in the following summer.

B. Elective Topics (9 hours)

Three courses that constitute a coherent subject concentration, including historical depth in the subject that prepares the student for either the master's thesis or publishable article. Courses should be selected in consultation with the advisor, and should be numbered 500 or above. If courses are intended to count later for the seminar requirement at the Ph.D. level, they must be numbered 700 or above.

III. Thesis Hours- AMS 899 (at least 6 hours)

In the fourth semester of M.A. coursework, students are expected to enroll in at least six hours of thesis or article writing and preparation. Students will continue to enroll in thesis hours until their article or thesis is accepted by their committee and defended. Advisors are free to set deadlines over and above those established by the Department and Graduate Studies. The advisor evaluates progress achieved in the thesis hours with a letter grade. Students should discuss expectations and criteria for these grades with their advisors at the time of enrollment.

IV. Research Project and Defense.

Students will complete a project of original research, resulting in a thesis or scholarly article. The project will be evaluated by a faculty committee and the student will provide an oral defense, as detailed below.

The Committee

In consultation with their advisors, Master's candidates will select a committee comprising two additional faculty members to oversee and evaluate the master's research. The advisor will act as chairperson and will, among other tasks, ensure that the student and all members of the committee share a common understanding of the objectives, substance, and methods of the project throughout its course. In order to complete the degree in two years, students should develop their subject area during their first year in the program, and should formulate their article or thesis topic with their advisor before the third semester. It is the responsibility of the student to confer with the committee chairperson to determine a process and establish a timeline for the completion of the article or thesis.

Master's Article Option

A student who intends to continue work on the research project into the doctoral program may write a scholarly article for the Master's project. The article is an original piece of research and ranges from 20 to 30 pages. It should be written and formatted for submission to a professional, peer-reviewed journal relevant to the topic and approach of the research. Successful completion of the article option requires that the paper be deemed by the committee to be ready to submit to such a journal, and likely to be granted at least the opportunity to revise and resubmit. The article does not have to be accepted for publication before the student may graduate.

The student will orally defend the article following its submission to all three committee members. Assessment of the article can be Pass, Fail, or Pass with Distinction. After completion of this oral presentation, the article shall be considered completed upon the approval of a majority of the committee members. This defense shall constitute the M.A. examination. Students must deliver copies of the final draft of the article, after all required revisions, to the advisor and to the Graduate Secretary. If the article is published, the student should send copies to replace these final drafts.

Master's Thesis Option:

Students who are completing their studies with the Master's degree should write a thesis. The thesis is an original piece of research and a contribution to the scholarly literature. It is distinguished from the doctoral dissertation by time required to completion—ideally two semesters—in contrast with the six or more semesters required for the dissertation. Theses typically range in length from 100 to 180 pages, and are typically available to the public through the granting institution's library or through the ProQuest Thesis and Dissertation database. During the first year, students are expected to consult examples of successful theses, which can be found in the American Studies conference room in 213 Bailey and in ProQuest through the KU libraries website. This review of other theses is meant to help the student identify the range of projects that can satisfy the thesis requirement as well as one or more theses that can serve as models. Students should also thoroughly discuss expectations with their advisors by the third semester in the program.

The student will orally defend the thesis following its submission to all three committee members. Assessment of the thesis can be Pass, Fail, or Pass with Distinction. After completion of this oral presentation, the thesis shall be considered completed upon the approval of a majority of the committee members. To complete the M.A. degree, an electronic copy of the thesis must be submitted to the Office of Research and Graduate Studies following the procedure outlined at <http://www.graduate.ku.edu/~etd/>. Additionally, two bound copies, one for the thesis chair and one for the program, must be submitted to the American Studies Department before graduation.

Graduation requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 30 hours of course work, including all required courses listed above, with a grade point average of 3.0 (B) or better. After a master's degree student has finished the required coursework, he or she must be continuously enrolled in thesis hours (AMS 899) during the fall and spring semesters.

Students must be enrolled during the semester in which they defend their thesis or article, and during the semester in which they graduate. The American Studies Department must be notified of a student's intention to defend by the beginning of the semester. Defenses must be scheduled three weeks in advance of the defense date.

Students must observe and meet all deadlines established by the Office of Graduate Studies and the University Registrar, including the deadline to request to graduate. While the Department offers support in meeting these deadlines, they are the responsibility of each student. Please note that participation in graduation ceremonies, such as hooding, requires additional deadlines, often in March for the spring semester. See these offices' web resources:

<http://graduate.ku.edu/graduation>

<http://www.registrar.ku.edu/graduation>

Transition to the doctorate

M.A. students interested in pursuing doctoral studies at KU must apply to the Ph.D. program by December 1 to be considered a doctoral student in the following fall semester. To apply for admission to the Ph.D. program, M.A. students must submit a request letter (no more than 2 pages), including a research statement that details the student's goals and accomplishments to date. Students also must request a brief recommendation to continue from the M.A. advisor or an AMS core faculty member who is willing to serve as the doctoral advisor. These materials will be considered by the Graduate Studies Committee, along with the contents of the student's departmental file. Students may be admitted to the doctoral program contingent on the completion of the M.A. requirements in the spring semester. Students will be notified of the result of their application by April 1.

Suggested Timeline for Two Year Completion

Year	Fall	Spring
First	AMS 801 3 hrs. AMS 802 3 hrs. Elective topic 3 hrs.	AMS 803 3 hrs. Elective methods 3 hrs. Elective topic 3 hrs.
	SUMMER	RESEARCH
Second	AMS 804 3 hrs. Elective topic 3 hrs. AMS 899 3 hrs. (Thesis)	AMS 899 3 hrs. AMS 899 3 hrs. AMS 899 3 hrs.

The Doctor of Philosophy in American Studies

The Ph.D. is the terminal degree in our field. In the program of study leading to the Ph.D., we seek to train, mentor, and place future academic and research leaders in American Studies and related fields, both inside and outside of the academy. We do this by providing advanced education in interdisciplinary research as well as by fostering an intellectual community of students and faculty within the program and across the wider University. We emphasize the development of independent programs of study while directing and enabling students' professionalization as scholars and teachers.

Although the University of Kansas does not prescribe a minimum number of hours for the doctorate, the Ph.D. degree normally requires a minimum of 57 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree: 27 hours of required coursework, 12 hours of exam preparation, and 18 dissertation hours to complete the continual enrollment requirement. All qualifying courses taken at KU for the M.A. program in AMS may count for Ph.D. requirements. In the application process or during the first year of study at KU, students who have completed a closely related M.A. at another institution may petition the Director of Graduate Studies to recognize prior courses as meeting KU requirements—this is known as a “reduction of hours.”

Ph.D. Requirements

I. Required Courses (27 credit hours).

A. Core Courses- AMS 801, 802, 803, 804 (12 credit hours)

These courses constitute a two-semester sequence. Students completing the M.A. in American Studies will complete the sequence at that stage. Students entering the doctoral program with an M.A. should take 801 and 803 during the fall semester of their first year of doctoral work, 803 in the spring semester, and 804 in the fall semester of the second year.

B. Two graduate seminars (6 credit hours).

In consultation with the advisors, students should select graduate seminars from any department on campus on broad general topic areas related to American Studies (e.g., race and ethnicity; gender; sexuality; class; religion; political economy; material culture; popular culture; social and cultural theory; visual arts). Given the program's recognition of and commitment to the critical examination of difference and power in American life, students are strongly encouraged to include among these two seminars at least one that focuses on issues of race and ethnicity, gender, class, or sexuality. Graduate seminars must be numbered at 700 or above.

C. Two Elective Courses (6 credit hours).

In consultation with the advisors, students should select additional courses to develop working relationships with faculty and ensure preparation in the concentration areas (described below). Elective courses must be numbered at 500 or above.

D. Research Skills requirement (3 credit hours).

Students are required to complete training in research skills. In AMS, this is met with an elective research methods course. Students select the course in consultation with the advisors, in order to support the planned program of research. When the research skills requirement has been met, the Department will notify the Graduate Division of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Research skills for the doctorate must be completed by the time the comprehensive exam is scheduled.

Examples of courses that have satisfied the elective research methods course include:

AMS 998: Seminar in Oral History and Ethnography

AMS 998: Seminar in U.S. Ethnography

ANTH 783: Doing Ethnography

SOC 910: Qualitative Research

Other options may be considered for approval by the advisor.

II. Exam Preparation (12 credit hours or more)

While completing coursework, students should already be developing concentration areas and discussing potential committee members with their advisors. When required coursework is complete, students enroll in AMS 996 to prepare for the comprehensive examination.

The advisor evaluates progress achieved in the exam hours with a letter grade. Advisors are free to set deadlines over and above those established by the Department and Graduate Studies. Students should discuss expectations and criteria for these grades with their advisors at the time of enrollment.

III. Dissertation (18 credit hours or more)

After passing the Comprehensive Exam, students enroll in AMS 999 to prepare the prospectus, and research and write the dissertation. This enrollment must satisfy the continuous enrollment requirement described below. The completion and defense of the dissertation satisfies all requirements for dissertation hours.

The advisor evaluates progress achieved in the exam hours with a letter grade. Advisors are free to set deadlines over and above those established by the Department and Graduate Studies. Students should discuss expectations and criteria for these grades with their advisors at the time of enrollment.

Doctoral Residency (*Not In-state Residency*)

The University requires that Ph.D. students must spend at least two semesters involved full-time in academic pursuit, located at the University of Kansas. For purposes of this requirement, a full-time semester is defined as one of the following:

- at least 9 credit hours taken during a fall or spring semester.
- at least 6 credit hours taken during a summer session.
- at least 6 credit hours taken while holding a 50% research or teaching appointment, such as a GTA appointment.
- at least 3 credit hours taken while holding a 50% research or teaching appointment, such as a GTA appointment.

Any combination of two of the above-described semesters taken while in residence at the University of Kansas satisfies the requirement. Students may petition to use employment outside of the university to fulfill the residency requirement if it pertains directly to dissertation research.

Concentration Fields

Ph.D. candidates are required to develop three concentrations in broadly defined and coherent fields of study. Students develop concentrations in part by taking courses taught by core and affiliated faculty. Examples of concentration fields include, but are not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, community, religion, political life, literature, architecture, Great Plains culture, family life, art, music, popular culture, trans-nationalism, migration, the U.S. in global context, and cultural, and social theory.

Taken together, the concentration fields should provide a coherent range of topical, methodological, and theoretical expertise. They define the literatures that will inform students' planned research, and the audiences it is intended to reach. Students should select fields that will enable the planned research project, establishing their credibility as researchers, and preparing students to teach and publish in the chosen fields.

Students should begin the process of identifying their concentration fields as early as the time of application to ensure that their interests are compatible with those of the American Studies core and affiliated faculty at the University of Kansas. The advisor will assist students in defining their concentration fields and selecting additional committee members who can support the development of expertise in each. Students will be asked to define their concentration fields as part of the annual student evaluation, and review, assess, and revise this definition at least annually.

The Comprehensive Examination

Upon completion of the necessary coursework, students may stand for the comprehensive examination, which, other than the dissertation, is the most important component of a student's doctoral program. The objective of the comprehensive examination is to provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate breadth and depth of knowledge in their program concentration fields. The comprehensive examination has two components: a written examination, which is required by the Department, and an oral examination, which is required by the Office of Graduate Studies.

I. The Written Examination

The written examination, also known as the preliminary paper, is one of the most important and distinctive features of the KU American Studies doctoral program. The written examination provides the most detailed representation of the concentration fields, and situates the student's own research interest and agenda within them.

In an interdisciplinary program, an essential skill is to be able to define a field and identify the key concepts and debates in its scholarly literature. This is a crucial step in the research process for the dissertation and beyond. The preliminary paper is meant to focus on the development of this skill.

The preliminary paper coherently defines a student's concentration fields and provides a literature review of current scholarship in each. This should cover the major research and moments of contention; the principal theoretical, conceptual, and methodological approaches represented; and the direction that intellectual discourse in the field is taking. In the paper, students should not only report on subject areas but respond to the issues that they raise and take a position on them. Thus the paper should reflect not only mastery of a subject area but also engagement with these fields as a scholar prepared to join them. Successful preliminary papers typically range from 75-150 pages total for all areas combined.

The student's faculty advisor oversees the preparation of the written examination and serves as chair of the examining committee. In consultation with their advisor, the student will select three additional committee members with expertise in one or more of the areas of concentration. At least one committee member other than the advisor shall be a member of the American Studies core faculty.

The completed written examination paper is evaluated by the four committee members. A favorable vote of three members is required for passing the written examination. Students are advised to consult copies of successful exams that are kept in the American Studies office; these offer a range of possible models which students can discuss with their advisor as they plan their own preliminary papers.

II. The Oral Examination

The oral examination will be scheduled when the written examination has been approved by a majority of the committee. The oral part of the comprehensive examination shall be given not less than two or more than four weeks after the completion of the written examination paper. It shall be conducted by a committee normally made up of the four members who have evaluated the written examination, and a faculty member from outside of AMS who represents the Office of Graduate Studies. The outside member is chosen by the student with the advice and consent of the student's advisor.

The oral examination shall last not more than two hours. The committee's questions will be guided by, but not necessarily confined to, issues raised in the student's written examination paper. At the conclusion of the oral exam, the committee designates the combined written and oral examinations as unsatisfactory, satisfactory, or honors. A favorable vote of four members of the committee shall be required for passing the oral examination. If the student fails to pass the oral examination, it may be repeated after a period of at least ninety days. The examination may be repeated once. Students who voluntarily discontinue their studies, then return to resume work on the doctorate must re-take the comprehensive exam after five years.

Post-Comprehensive Continuous Enrollment

After passing the comprehensive oral examination for the doctorate, the student becomes a doctoral candidate. The Office of Graduate Studies requires that doctoral candidates must be continuously enrolled in at least six hours each fall or spring semester, and three hours each summer session, until 18 hours have been completed or until graduation, whichever comes first. After the 18 hours are completed, the student must enroll in at least one hour per semester/summer session until all requirements for the degree are met. Post-comprehensive enrollment may include enrollment during the semester or summer session in which the comprehensive oral examination has been passed provided that the exam is taken before the first day of the term's final exam period.

The Dissertation

I. The Dissertation Committee

The dissertation committee must be composed of five members of the faculty who have Graduate Faculty status. The chair must be a tenured member of the American Studies core faculty. Students may request that a member of the Graduate Faculty from outside the department serve as co-chair. One other member must be from a department outside the Department who is selected by the student and the student's advisor and who serves on behalf of the Office of Graduate Studies—this is the “outside member.” When a student's project is best served by the participation of a prominent scholar from outside KU, s/he may

request recognition of this scholar as a “special member” of the Graduate Faculty. The committee may be the same as that which conducted the oral examination, though its composition may also change.

II. The Prospectus

After completion of the Ph.D. comprehensive examination, students will prepare a written prospectus of the dissertation within six to twelve months. The prospectus should be of sufficient length to provide a detailed statement of the basic objectives of the proposed dissertation, its scope and limitations, its conceptual underpinnings and framework, the methods and procedures by which the student proposes to proceed, and the assumptions underlying both the methodology and research objectives. The prospectus should include a detailed plan of work. It must certify that any planned research involving human subjects has been approved by the HSC-L. The prospectus should be 15-30 pages in length, exclusive of a bibliography including all cited sources and sources that the student anticipates consulting in the research.

The prospectus will be reviewed by all members of the committee. When the prospectus is prepared, the committee meets with the student to discuss it. If any member of the committee judges that the student's background, in relation to some major aspect of the dissertation, is deficient (e.g., insufficient knowledge of the relevant historical period), that member may ask the student to correct such a deficiency through further study, whether through formal course work or individually directed study. Such a requirement imposed by a committee member must be submitted as a written recommendation to the chair of the student's dissertation committee who makes a recommendation to the Director of Graduate Studies for approval or disapproval.

By approving the prospectus, committee members agree that the resulting dissertation will be acceptable if the student's completed work meets the committee's standard of quality. Approval indicates that the research described has been found feasible and that the topic, focus, and approach are acceptable. It does not suggest that the written dissertation will necessarily be satisfactory.

After the prospectus meeting, the student must submit a copy of the prospectus to the American Studies office to be placed in the student's permanent file. The dissertation supervisor will provide a letter for the student's file that reviews the prospectus meeting and specifies any changes in the prospectus agreed to by the committee and student. Following acceptance of the prospectus, changes in the composition of the dissertation committee may be made only by the mutual consent of the student, the chair of the committee, and the faculty members involved.

The dissertation prospectus should be defended within six months of successful

completion of the oral exam. The student must petition the graduate committee for an exception to this rule.

III. Research and Writing

Following the prospectus meeting, the student conducts research independently. If at any time during the research, a student wants to introduce major modifications to the study outlined in the prospectus, s/he is required to notify and obtain written approval of the four regular members of the committee, not including the fifth outside member. It is the student's responsibility to consult with the committee to clarify ambiguities or conflicts that might arise from the critiques of committee members. Copies of correspondence pertaining to such changes should be placed on file in the American Studies office.

With the guidance of the advisor, the student must submit a complete draft of the dissertation to all four regular members of the dissertation committee, who must approve the dissertation before a final draft is prepared for the oral defense. A final draft of the dissertation must be submitted to each committee member at least **three weeks** prior to the time scheduled for its oral defense. Students should consult the Office of Research and Graduate Studies calendar to ensure that the date of the dissertation defense occurs before the deadline established for each semester by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies.

IV. The Defense

A final examination on the dissertation is required by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, and is known as the dissertation defense.

A. Scheduling

Students should provide written notice of their intention to defend to their advisors and the American Studies office at least **six weeks** in advance of the defense date. A defense early in the fall semester should be arranged late in the previous spring. Five copies of the complete draft dissertation must be submitted to committee members at least **three weeks** prior to the scheduled defense.

B. Evaluation

The grade (“Satisfactory” or “Unsatisfactory”) for the defense is determined by majority vote of the five-member dissertation committee. A student may be recommended for the honors designation in American Studies if the student’s performance in all aspects of the graduate program is judged as outstanding. Such a designation will be recorded on the form that is submitted following the dissertation defense.

V. Final Disposition of Dissertation

When the final examination has been passed and the dissertation has been signed by members of the dissertation committee, the student must follow the procedures for filing described in the Office of Graduate Studies Electronic Thesis and Dissertation instructions (http://www.graduate.ku.edu/04-02_etd.shtml). Additionally, the student must deposit two hardbound copies with the American Studies department, one of which is for the chair of the dissertation committee. The department cannot approve a student for graduation until the hardbound copies of the dissertation have been received by the American Studies office.

Suggested Timeline for the Ph.D.: for students without an M.A. from KU

Year	Fall	Spring
First	AMS 801 3 hrs. AMS 802 3 hrs. Elective 3 hrs.	AMS 803 3 hrs. Elective methods 3 hrs. Seminar 3 hrs.
Second	AMS 804 3 hrs. Elective 3 hrs. AMS 899 3 hrs.	AMS 899 9 hrs. (Thesis hours: defend the thesis or article)
Third	AMS 996 6 hrs. (Exam preparation; additional electives may also inform the exam) Seminar 3 hrs.	AMS 996 9 hrs. (Schedule and complete the exam) <i>[summer hours may be required for post-comprehensive enrollment]</i>
Fourth	AMS 999 9 hrs. (Submit the prospectus; begin research)	AMS 999 9 hrs. (Dissertation research)
Fifth	AMS 999 9 hrs. (Write the dissertation)	AMS 999 9 hrs. (Defend and file)

Resources

Campus Libraries and Institutes

The University of Kansas library system, with more than two million volumes, has several libraries of major importance to research in American Studies.

Watson Library on the Lawrence campus houses the humanities and social science collections. With subscriptions to the major scholarly journals and micro-reproduction series (e.g., *The American Periodical Series I and II, 1741-1850*, and the *History of Women*) and its book collection, the library is a major research center in the Midwest. In addition to the standard bibliographic reference services offered to graduate students, the libraries offer computer-assisted information retrieval in such fields as history, sociology, and education.

Because the University of Kansas is a Federal Depository Library, Government Documents in the **Anschutz Science Library** contains copies of the voluminous publications of the federal and state governments, including legislative hearings and reports, studies by executive branch agencies, and extensive economic and demographic data.

The **Kenneth Spencer Research Library**, also located on the main campus, was completed in the fall of 1968. It houses the Department of Special Collections, the University of Kansas Archives, and the Kansas Collection and provides an outstanding environment for graduate research. The Department of Special Collections includes about 160,000 volumes and many thousands of manuscripts in the humanities, the social sciences, and the history of science and technology. In the social sciences, the strongest concentration is in economic history, with significant holdings in radical politics, political theory, and the women's suffrage movement. The Kansas Collection, concerned with the social, political, cultural, and economic history of Kansas and the surrounding region, includes about 78,000 volumes and about three million manuscript pieces.

The Spencer Museum of Art houses the University's **Art & Architecture Library**, with extensive holdings related to American visual history.

The 28,000-square-foot **Dole Institute of Politics** (<http://www.doleinstitute.org/>) on the University of Kansas' west campus, a non-partisan center for politics and the media, houses Senator Robert Dole's papers, state-of-the-art exhibits, broadcast facilities capable of facilitating conferences, lectures, debates, and other programs on a global scale, and meeting rooms capable of hosting nationally significant programs. The 4,000 boxes of Dole's papers comprise the largest congressional collection in the world. The Dole Lecture Series, held each November on successive Sunday evenings, features the nation's top presidential scholars, historians, journalists, former presidents, cabinet members and white house members. Each April, the Dole Lecture features a nationally prominent figure who will address aspects of contemporary politics or policy. The institute is a great resource for students of 20th century government and politics.

Other branch libraries on campus include the **Maps Library**, the **Music Library**, the **Law Library**, and the **Engineering Library**.

Regional Libraries

Lawrence is within a two-hour drive of many libraries of use to American Studies scholars. In downtown Lawrence, the **Watkins Community Museum** contains material on local topics.

The **Harry S. Truman Library** in Independence, Missouri (one hour away), is a branch of the National Archives. It offers quick and easy access to all types of documents, and a large and permanent collection of its own, especially strong in matters relating to the history of American diplomacy.

The **Library of the Kansas State Historical Society** in Topeka, Kansas (30 minutes away), has extensive manuscript and newspaper collections. The Society's museum is especially rich in material culture resources.

The **Dwight D. Eisenhower Library** in Abilene, Kansas (two hours away), is open to research scholars interested in studies of the Eisenhower Administration and the military aspects of World War II. The library's holdings consist of the papers of President Eisenhower, the papers of many of his associates while he was both general and president, and selected microfilms of official records of his commands during World War II.

The **Central Plains Regional Branch of the National Archives and Records Service** in Kansas City, Missouri (45 minutes away), is the depository for the records of the Federal Courts of this region (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska), the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Army Field Establishment, which was created during World War II and the Korean War.

The **Logan Clendening Library** at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas (45 minutes away), has large and well-selected holdings in the history of medicine and the basic medical sciences.

The **Linda Hall Library of Science** in Kansas City, Missouri (one hour away), contains an excellent collection of materials in the history of science with major emphasis on the physical sciences. The library includes an outstanding group of rare editions in early and modern science and an unusually complete set of periodicals of the learned scientific societies of the world.

The **Western Historical Manuscript Collection** at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, is a joint collection of the University of Missouri and the State Historical Society of Missouri. It contains more than 12,000 cubic feet of primary source documents relating to the history and culture of Kansas City, western Missouri, and the Midwest.

The **Marr Sound Archives**, at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, hold almost 250,000 sound recordings focusing on the American experience as reflected in recorded sound. Recordings date from the beginning of recorded sound in the 1890s up to 1980.

Museums

Important holdings in American art can be found throughout the region. The **Spencer Museum of Art**, on the Lawrence campus, provides a facility that is widely recognized as one of the foremost teaching museums in the United States. The new building's ten galleries and central court include 29,000 square feet of exhibition space; its collections number more than 25,000 objects. American materials in the museum include 19th- and 20th-century paintings, prints, and photographs; illustrations and materials from the popular press (e.g., *Esquire*); and decorative arts, particularly textiles (quilts), paintings, sculpture, graphics, photography, and holdings in material culture. The **Wichita Art Museum** contains an important collection of American paintings; the **Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art** in Kansas City has extensive and significant American material, as does the **Gilcrease Museum** in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The **Sheldon Gallery** in Lincoln, Nebraska, has a collection strong in modern American paintings. The region contains, moreover, a number of important architectural monuments dating from territorial days to the present.

The area also has significant resources on the social and cultural experience of American Indians, such as the Native American collections at the Spencer Museum and at **Haskell Indian Nations University**, in Lawrence. For the jazz enthusiast, the **American Jazz Museum**, in Kansas City, Missouri, tells the story of jazz and its greatest performers in one of the most interactive museums in the country. Also in Kansas City, the **Negro Leagues Baseball Museum** features a 10,000 square foot multi-media exhibit. Its "Field of Legends" features 12 life-sized bronze cast sculptures of the most important players in Negro Leagues history.

Journals

The AMS department is involved in the publication of two scholarly journals.

American Studies, a leading interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal devoted to scholarly studies of American thought, life, culture, and history, is sponsored by the Mid-America American Studies Association and the University of Kansas, and is currently edited by KU AMS faculty members Dr. Sherrie Tucker and Dr. Randal Jelks. The journal provides opportunities for graduate students to participate in the publishing process. The online home of *American Studies* is <http://journals.ku.edu/index.php/amerstud/>.

Women, Gender, and Families of Color is a new multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal that encourages critical thought and research on U.S. racialized women, gender, and families (Black, Latina/Latino, Native American, and Asian American) as well as transnational comparative work. The journal is sponsored by the AMS department, the

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the University of Kansas, and is published twice a year by the University of Illinois Press. The journal is edited by KU AMS faculty member Dr. Jennifer Hamer and offers graduate student and intern opportunities. The journal's website is <http://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/wgfc.html>.

Hall Center Seminars

Graduate students are welcome to participate in seminars at the Hall Center for the Humanities. Organized around a variety of topics, the Hall Center seminars host a series of working paper presentations and discussions from KU faculty and visiting scholars from around the world. View seminar descriptions at <http://www.hallcenter.ku.edu/scholarly/seminars/>.

Internships

Students may wish to integrate internships into their graduate programs. The American Studies Program will seek to ensure that such experiences are relevant to an individual's formal training and examination structure. A student wishing to pursue an internship should write a proposal and submit it to the Director of Graduate Studies for approval. The proposal must outline the goals to be achieved through the internship and must describe the agreed-upon academic and work activities that will be undertaken to complete the internship. The student is responsible for identifying an appropriate faculty sponsor, who will help determine the necessary reading and writing requirements for the academic component. In addition, the student must negotiate with an on-site internship supervisor the actual work activities to be performed at the internship site. In evaluating the work component of the internship, the student's on-site supervisor will submit an evaluation of the student's performance to the faculty sponsor. If the internship has been taken for credit, the faculty member will then use this evaluation, in conjunction with the student's academic work related to the internship, as the basis for an appropriate grade. Above all, the internship experience should be a critical component of the student's total program and be incorporated into the student's definition of program concentration.

Certificates

KU awards graduate certificates to students completing requirements outside the department of their degree program. Many of these certificates may be of interest to American Studies students, such as Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Indigenous Studies; Peace and Conflict Studies; and others. For a complete list of certificates, visit <http://www.graduate.ku.edu/find-graduate-program>, select "Certificates" and search. For information on a specific certificate, contact the host department.

American Studies Affiliated Faculty

African and African-American Studies

Alexander, Shawn (Ph.D., Massachusetts, Amherst) Assistant Professor of African and African-American Studies and Interim Director of Langston Hughes Center: African-American social and intellectual history of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Bolden, Anthony (Ph.D., Louisiana State) Associate Professor of African and African-American Studies: African-American music, African-American culture studies, popular culture, African literature, and ethnic-American literature.

Gordon, Jacob U. (L.L.D. and D.D., Baptist Union Seminary) Associate Professor Emeritus of African and African-American Studies: African-American leadership and African-American males.

Pennington, Dorthy (Ph.D., Kansas) Associate Professor of African and African-American Studies and Communication Studies: African-American women, and communications.

Anthropology

Hanson, F. Allan (Ph.D., Chicago) Professor of Anthropology: social anthropology, semiotics, world view, social theory, Polynesia, and contemporary U.S.

Stull, Donald D. (Ph.D., Colorado) Professor of Anthropology: applied policy studies, ethnic relations, rapid-growth communities, North American Indians, and contemporary Great Plains.

Economics

Rosenbloom, Joshua (Ph.D., Stanford) Professor of Economics: American economic history

Weiss, Thomas J. (Ph.D., North Carolina) Adjunct Professor of Economics: American economic history

English

Anatol, Giselle (Ph.D., Pennsylvania) Associate Professor of English: Caribbean literature, literature of the African diaspora, women's writing, and children's literature.

Atkins, G. Douglas (Ph.D., Virginia) Professor of English: creative non-fiction.

Barnard, Philip H. (Ph.D., Buffalo) Conger-Gabel Teaching Professor of English and Professor of English: early American and 19th-century American literature, Charles Brockden Brown, theory and history of the novel, poststructuralism to cultural studies, translation theory, and comparative literature.

Caminero-Santangelo, Marta (Ph.D., California, Irvine) Professor of English and Chairperson of the Department of English: U.S. Latino/a literature, 20th-century American women's writing; feminist theory; 20th-century American literature; African-American literature.

Carothers, James B. (Ph.D., Virginia) Professor of English: modern fiction, American humorists, baseball in American literature, and William Faulkner.

- Fischer, Iris Smith** (Ph.D., Indiana) Associate Professor of English: semiotics, comparative literature, Pierce studies, modern and contemporary literary and performance theory, cultural studies, drama, and the avant garde.
- Fitzgerald, Stephanie** (Ph.D., Claremont) Assistant Professor of English and Global Indigenous Nations Studies: American Indian and world indigenous literatures, American ethnic literature, and American literature.
- Fowler, Doreen** (Ph.D., Brown) Professor of English: twentieth-century American literature, literature of the American South, Faulkner studies, race studies, literary applications of psychoanalytic theory.
- Graham, Maryemma** (Ph.D., Cornell) Professor of English: vernacular theories, history of the book, women's writings, African American and American literature, literary history, autobiography, and biographical criticism.
- Harrington, Joseph** (Ph.D., Berkeley) Associate Professor of English: American culture; 20th-century poetry and poetics, U.S. literatures, and globalization.
- Harris, Susan K.** (Ph.D., Cornell) Hall Distinguished Professor of American Literature and Culture: American women writers, Mark Twain, 19th-century American literature and culture, early twentieth-century American literature, historical and cultural criticism, biography, immigrant literature, and American regionalism.
- Harris, William J.** (Ph.D., Stanford) Associate Professor of English: American literature, African American literature, jazz studies, American poetry, and creative writing.
- Hartman, James** (Ph.D., Michigan) Professor of English: lexicography, American dialects, and American English.
- Hemenway, Robert** (Ph.D., Kent State) Professor of English: American literature.
- McLendon, M.J.** (Ph.D., Kansas) Assistant Professor of English: the Holocaust.
- Mielke, Laura** (Ph.D., North Carolina) Assistant Professor of English: 19th-century American literature and culture, early American literature, American Indian literature, and American studies.
- Sharistanian, Janet M.** (Ph.D., Brown) Associate Professor of English: women's literature.
- Tidwell, J. Edgar** (Ph.D., Minnesota) Professor of English: African American and American literatures.

Film and Media Studies

- Berg, Charles M.** (Ph.D., Iowa) Professor of Theatre and Film: film, popular culture, and jazz.
- Preston, Catherine** (Ph.D., Pennsylvania) Associate Professor of Theatre and Film: film history and theory, and visual culture.

Geography

- Johnson, Jay T.** (Ph.D., Hawaii, Manoa) Assistant Professor of Geography and Courtesy Professor of Indigenous Nations Studies: Indigenous people, resource management, political activism.
- Shortridge, Barbara** (Ph.D., Kansas) Lecturer of Geography, food and culture (regional and ethnic), and urban geography.

Shortridge, James R. (Ph.D., Kansas) Professor of Geography: American cultural geography, and the Midwest.
Warf, Barney (Ph.D., Washington) Professor of Geography: economics, political and social geography.

History

Brooks, Karl (Ph.D., Kansas) Associate Professor of History and Environmental Studies and Courtesy Professor of Law: environmental law and policy history in North America, American social and political history since 1945
Earle, Jonathan (Ph.D., Princeton) Associate Professor of History and Associate Director of the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics: American culture
Imber, Michael (Ph.D., Stanford) Professor of Teaching and Leadership and History: educational law and policy, and role of education in American society
Jahanbani, Sheyda (Ph.D., Brown) Assistant Professor of History: U.S. foreign relations history, the U.S. and the world, and modern U.S. history (post-1945)
Kelton, Paul (Ph.D., Oklahoma) Associate Professor and Chairperson of History: indigenous peoples, and early America
Kuznesof, Elizabeth (Ph.D., Professor of History: colonial Latin American social and family history, colonial Brazil, and slavery
Lewis, Adrian (Ph.D., Chicago) Professor of History and director of KU/Ft. Leavenworth Program: Military history
Moran, Jeffrey (Ph.D., Harvard) Associate Professor of History: modern U.S.; cultural and intellectual history, history of sexuality, history of education, and history of science
Napier, Rita (Ph.D., American) Associate Professor of History: social history of the American West, Native American history, and history of Kansas
Warren, Kim (Ph.D., Stanford) Associate Professor of History: 19th century U.S. women's history
Weber, Jennifer (Ph.D., Princeton) Assistant Professor of History: civil war, and political, social, and military history
Wilson, Theodore A. (Ph.D., Indiana) Professor of History: diplomatic and military history, and the Atlantic world
Worster, Donald E. (Ph.D., Yale) Hall Family foundation Distinguished Professor of American History: environmental history and the West.

History of Art

Cateforis, David C. (Ph.D., Stanford) Professor of History of Art: American art
Eldredge, Charles C. (Ph.D., Minnesota) Hall Family Foundation Distinguished Professor of American Art History and Culture: American art
Pultz, John (Ph.D., New York) Associate Professor of History of Art: photography, and modern art

Political Science

Bejarano, Christina (Ph.D., Iowa) Assistant Professor of Political Science: American Politics: Latino Politics, Women and Politics and Minority Political Behavior.

Cigler, Allen J. (Ph.D., Indiana) Chancellors Club Teaching Professor of Political Science: contemporary political systems, political behavior, and agriculture.

Joslyn, Mark (Ph.D., Washington, St. Louis) Associate Professor of Political Science: American politics, voting behavior, public opinion, and research methods.

Loomis, Burdett A. (Ph.D., Wisconsin) Professor of Political Science: political institutions.

O'Brien, Sharon (Ph.D., Oregon) Associate Professor of Political Science and Indigenous Nations Studies: international relations, international law, federal Indian law, tribal government.

Religious Studies

Miller, Timothy (Ph.D., Kansas) Professor of Religious Studies: religion in America, past and present, new religious movements, and American communal societies.

Shelton, Robert L. (Ph.D., Boston) Associate Professor of Religious Studies: social ethics, and communication religion.

Sociology

Antonio, Robert J. (Ph.D., Notre Dame) Chancellors Club Teaching Professor and Professor of Sociology: social theory and American political economy.

Chong, Kelly H. (Ph.D., Chicago) Associate Professor of Sociology: gender, race and ethnicity, East Asian studies, and social theory.

Davidman, Lynn (Ph.D., Brandeis) Professor of Sociology and Religious Studies: disciplines of sociology, religious studies, Jewish studies, women and gender studies, and race, religion, and ethnicity.

Donovan, Brian (Ph.D., Northwestern) Associate Professor of Sociology: the role of moral reform movements in shaping forms of social inequality.

Ekerdt, David (Ph.D., Boston) Professor of Sociology and Director of the Gerontology Center: aging, work and organizations, medical sociology, and family.

Hanley, Eric (Ph.D., California, Los Angeles) Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of Graduate Studies: political and economic sociology, sociology of organizations, social stratification, globalization, and post-communist societies.

Hill, Shirley (Ph.D., Kansas) Professor of Sociology: family, medical systems, and social inequality.

Nagel, Joane P. (Ph.D., Stanford) University Distinguished Professor of Sociology: race, ethnicity, nationalism, sexuality, culture, social movements, and comparative-historical.

Smith, David (Ph.D., Wisconsin-Madison) Professor of Sociology: social theory, race and ethnicity, political and economic sociology, and comparative and historical sociology.

Sprague, Joey (Ph.D., Wisconsin) Professor of Sociology: sex and gender, cultural sociology, and social theory.

Staples, William G. (Ph.D., Southern California) Professor and Chair of Sociology: comparative and historical medical and legal systems, political sociology, theory, work and organizations.

Spanish and Portuguese

Anderson, Danny (Ph.D., Kansas) Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, Dean of College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Mexican literary and cultural studies, including U.S.-Mexico border and Mexican immigration to the United States, contemporary literary and social theories related to the Americas.

Arias, Santa (Ph.D., Wisconsin-Madison) Associate Professor and Chair of Graduate Studies of Spanish and Portuguese: Colonial Latin, American Discourses: colonial and post colonial theory, and interdisciplinary approaches to the study of literature and culture.

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Ajayi-Soyinka, Omofolabo (Ph.D., Ife, Nigeria) Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: feminist criticism, post-modern theory and criticism in theatre, and African-American literature.

Schofield, Ann (Ph.D., SUNY, Binghamton, 1980) Professor of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies: U.S. women's history, U.S. Social and Cultural history, biographical narratives, gender, and work (on leave 2009-2012).

Other Departments

Fawcett, Stephen B. (Ph.D., Kansas) Kansas Health Foundation Distinguished Professor of Human Development and Family Life: American community development

Hardy, Saralyn Reece (M.A., Kansas) Director of Spencer Museum of Art.

Hayes, Michelle Heffner (Ph.D., California, Riverside) Professor of Dance: modern dance, improvisation, choreography, dance, history, and flamenco.

Kautsch, Michael A. (Ph.D., Iowa) Professor of Law: reporting, and law of communications.

Major, Judith (Ph.D., Pennsylvania) Professor of Architecture: 19th-century American landscape architecture.

Mayo, James M. (Ph.D., Oklahoma State) Professor and Chair of Urban Planning: American landscape and planning.

Parson, Donn W (Ph.D., University of Minnesota) Professor Communication Studies: Argument, Problems of Tropes, Kenneth Burke.

Persley, Nicole Hodges (Ph.D., Southern California) Assistant Professor of Theatre: impact of racial and ethnic identity on performance practices in theatre and film

Schwartz, Roberta Freund (Ph.D., Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) Associate Professor and Division Director of Musicology: early music of Spain, musical patronage, the history of recorded sound, transnational interpretations of African-American music, the blues, and rock and roll.

Skrtic, Thomas M. (Ph.D., Iowa) Professor of Special Education: educational policy, institutional analysis.

Spano, Richard N. (Ph.D., Minnesota) Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Social Welfare: social work practice and ethics.

Woelfel, James E. (Ph.D., St. Andrews) Professor of Humanities and Western Civilization and Philosophy: philosophy of religion.

Zimmerman, Mary K. (Ph.D., Minnesota) Associate Professor of Health Policy and Management: gender, medical sociology, and methodology.

