



2003-2005 Course Catalog

American Studies

Professor Stock, *director*

The Major in American Studies

American Studies is an interdisciplinary approach to the study of society and culture in the United States. Students are expected to adopt and think critically about approaches from literature, the study of the arts, history, and the social sciences. Emphasis on questions of multiculturalism and diversity in the United States and the role of American culture in the world. Since 1999, the American Studies major has been affiliated with Unity House, the multicultural center at Connecticut College. The major also stresses the importance of experiential learning; community service, an internship, or fieldwork is required for successful completion of the major.

The major consists of at least 10 courses. Students must complete American Studies/History 201; American Studies/History 493Q or 494Q; and one course in the art, ethnography, literature, history, economics, or politics of Latin America. Students are required to complete a minimum of seven additional courses in an area of concentration, in consultation with the faculty adviser. Students are required to complete a community service, internship, or fieldwork component (30 hours minimum) by the second semester of the senior year.

The Concentration in Multicultural America

This concentration brings together coursework on race and ethnicity in the United States from a wide variety of departments. It focuses on the special challenges and opportunities presented by a pluralist, multicultural society and asks whether the various traditions that Americans embrace have combined to make a common culture.

Multicultural America concentrators are required to complete a minimum of seven courses from at least two departments from the following:

Anthropology 202, 320; Art History 356, 262, 325, 493R, 494R; Dance 433, 434; English 225, 226A, 226B, 301C, 337, 342, 348; Film Studies 202, 203; Hispanic Studies 250; History 213, 256, 273, 493F or 494F, 493O or 494O, 493S or 494S; Human Development 304, 321; Music 117; Religious Studies 310, 350; Sociology 214, 223, 264, 410, 493A, Theater 241

The Concentration in American Arts: Representation and Creativity

This concentration explores art, music, dance, literary texts, and theater with a focus on the various ways people in the United States have created meaning through the arts. The courses in this concentration focus on the generation and development of cultural conventions in a wide range of media.

American Arts concentrators are required to complete a minimum of seven courses from at least two different departments from the following:

Art History 217, 232, 234, 240, 262, 325, 493R or 494R, 493C or 494C; Dance 433, 434; English 201, 213A, 221, 225, 301C, 305B, 321, 322, 342, 493B 494B, Film Studies, 203, 311; Music 117; Philosophy 207; Theater 231, 339D or 340D (Eugene O'Neill and His America)

The Concentration in Individuals and Institutions in the United States

This concentration explores the ways in which individuals and institutions intersect the United States. Students gain an understanding of the resources and constraints which direct the decisions of each person, as well as an awareness of the ways in which institutions represent and impose patterns of behavior upon those persons.

Individuals and Institutions in the United States concentrators are required to complete a minimum of seven courses from at least two departments from the following:

Anthropology 202, 320; Government 212, 216, 221, 252, 260, 262, 313, 493K or 494K, 493M or 494M, 493Q or 494Q; History 208, 493O or 494O, 493S or 494S; Human Development 304, 321, 325; Philosophy 207; Psychology 206, 318,

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323; Religious Studies 310, 346, 350; Sociology 214, 223, 264, 325, 410.

The Concentration in Popular Culture in the United States

This concentration encourages students to understand all aspects of contemporary vernacular, across the spectrum of modern American society.

Popular Culture concentrators are required to take seven courses from at least two departments from the following:

Art History 231, 232, 234, 240, 326, 493R or 494R, 493C or 494C; Comparative Studies in Culture 311; English 216B, 225, 226A, 301C, 305B, 342, 348; Film Studies 203, 311; German 311; History 213, 433Z, 434Z, Music 117; Religious Studies 269 310, 346.

The Minor in American Studies

The minor consists of American Studies/History 201 and at least four other American Studies or American Studies cross-listed courses. These courses must come from one area of concentration and at least two different departments.

Recommended Courses in Latin America

Anthropology 234; Economics 207, 234, 237; Government 206, 322; Hispanic Studies 228, 250; History 114, 310; Sociology 207.

Courses

AMERICAN STUDIES 103 AMERICAN MUSIC This is the same course as Music 103. Refer to the Music listing for a course description.

AMERICAN STUDIES 110 INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL STUDIES: VISIONS OF THE UNITED STATES This is the same course as Comparative Studies in Culture 110. Refer to the Comparative Studies in Culture listing for a course description.

AMERICAN STUDIES 201 INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN STUDIES A multi-disciplinary approach to the study of society and culture in the United States organized around three questions: Who is an American? Where is "America"? and What do Americans believe? Discussions of history and methodology of American Studies with guest faculty in the field. This is the same course as History 201.

Prerequisite: History 105 and one of the following: American Studies/History 100H; American Studies/Comparative Studies in Culture 110; Anthropology 104; Art History 122; English 100C, 100D, 100P; American Studies/English 100G; Film Studies/Comparative Studies in Culture 101; Gender and Women's Studies 103; Government 110, 111; Human Development 103, 111; Music 102, 103, 117; Religious Studies 101; Sociology 100T, 102, 103. Enrollment limited to 40 students. *C. Stock and Staff*

AMERICAN STUDIES 204 AFRICAN AMERICAN FILM This is the same course as Film Studies 204. Refer to the Film Studies listing for a course description.

AMERICAN STUDIES 225 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY 1865 – PRESENT This is the same course as History 225. Refer to the History listing for a course description.

AMERICAN STUDIES 227 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY 1619-1865 This is the same course as History 227. Refer to the History listing for a course description.

AMERICAN STUDIES 433H, 434H LATIN AMERICA IMMIGRATION AND MIGRATION This is the same course as History 433H, 434H. Refer to the History listing for a course description.

AMERICAN STUDIES 433O, 434O 19TH CENTURY AFRICAN AMERICAN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL THOUGHT This is the same course as History 433O, 434O. Refer to the History listing for a course description.

AMERICAN STUDIES 493A, 494A CULTURE, POLITICS AND THE ENVIRONMENT Examination of the impact of culture on environmental policy-making. An exploration of the ways in which present-day decisions about environmental policies have been reflective of cultural presumptions (whose culture?) about the environment, human settlement and economic development, and social values and power. Classes focus on such diverse issues as water resources, cultural resources, nuclear waste storage, and urban development and suburban sprawl. This is the same course as Environmental Studies 493G, 494G/Government 493A, 494A.