



American Studies 2013-2014

American Studies is an interdisciplinary program combining Social Science, Fine Arts and Language Arts perspectives on American Society. The courses provide a broad background for the transfer student who wants a greater understanding of historical and cultural features of the United States. Many universities now offer degrees in American Studies that expand the student's frame of reference beyond traditional majors concentrating on U.S. History. The major is composed of courses designed to satisfy general education requirements and prepare students for upper-division college work in history, pre-law, journalism or other mass media communication programs, and political science.

Program Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to compare and contrast the relationships between modern life in the U.S. and major historical and cultural events in our history.
- Students will be able to identify and analyze connections between their own lives and academic experiences by comparing them to the American Experience in literature and contemporary nonfiction.

Career Opportunities:

The American Studies program is a solid base for related careers in government services, law, journalism, television and radio writing and reporting, advertising, marketing, sales, management and teaching in the related fields. Corporations recruit applicants who possess the skills and knowledge offered by the American Studies program. Courses in business principles and computer science should be taken as electives to increase marketability of the graduate to potential employers.

Units required for Major: 33

Associate Degree Requirements:

- English proficiency: ENGL 1A, 1AH, 1S & 1T, ESLL 26 or equivalent.
- Mathematics proficiency: MATH 57, 105, 108 or equivalent.

A minimum of 90 units is required* to include:

- All Foothill General Education requirements (30 Units)
- Core courses (25 Units)
- Support courses (8 Units)

*Additional elective course work may be necessary to meet the 90-unit minimum requirement for the associate degree.

NOTE: All courses pertaining to the major must be taken for a letter grade. In addition, a GPA of 2.0 or higher is required in all core and support courses for the degree.

Program Type:

AA = Associate in Arts Degree.

Additional Information:

NOTE: Students having difficulty attaining an Associate in Arts degree because of timing or availability of classes should consult with a counselor to submit a petition for course substitution.

Core Courses: 25 Unit(s)

ENGL 41 Literature of Multicultural America (4 units)
HIST 17A History of the United States to 1816 (4 units)
HIST 17B History of the United States from 1812 to 1914 (4 units)
HIST 17C History of the United States from 1900 to the Present (4 units)
MUS 8 Music of Multicultural America (4 units)
or MUS 8H Honors Music of Multicultural America (4 units)
POLI 1 Political Science: Introduction to American Government & Politics (5 units)

Support Courses: 8 Unit(s)

ANTH 4 First Peoples of North America (4 units)
HIST 10 History of California: The Multicultural State (4 units)
PSYC 22 Psychology of Prejudice (4 units)
SOC 15 Law & Society (4 units)
WMN 5 Introduction to Women's Studies (4 units)