Program
BA in American Studies
Minor in American Studies

American Studies is a multidisciplinary major that examines the American experience in all its rich diversity. It includes the study of American history, literature, and arts and the country's social, economic, political, and philosophical development. As an interdisciplinary major, it crosses the boundaries of several disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, yet depends on the subject matter, insights, and techniques from those disciplines to help students understand the complex social, political, and cultural American experience.

American Studies offers students, in consultation with an adviser, the opportunity to design an individual course of study which is clearly coordinated with their future plans. The major requires 24 units of core courses in American literature, history, and cultural study. The core courses are followed by 12 units, chosen by the student, for in-depth study of themes, areas, or aspects of American culture.

Because of the multidisciplinary character of American Studies, most students easily complete at least one minor in one of the allied disciplines, and many graduate with a double major. For example, previous students have double-majored in history or political science or have minored in English, history, or anthropology. Students also use electives to pick up courses in communications, computer science, and business. Upper-division majors have the opportunity of gaining on-the-job experience by applying for internships in such fields as journalism, radio and television, historical research, and public relations. This flexibility is one of the advantages of American Studies. The goals and career plans of our students are diverse.

Faculty
American studies faculty are chosen from the academic departments participating in the program. These faculty, selected for their understanding of American culture, will help you widen your interdisciplinary perspectives. Because American Studies is an interdepartmental major, you have the opportunity of studying with top scholars from across campus.

Career Outlook
American Studies graduates have a number of advantages in the job market. In addition to having a broadly based liberal education, they read and think critically, synthesize information insightfully, and write fluently. These are qualities that every employer looks for in job applicants. Moreover, with their broad background, American Studies graduates are also flexible and versatile, so they find jobs everywhere. Our graduates have gone into business and banking, industry, teaching, government, museum work, law, public services, and the media.

Although you may not apply your American Studies course work directly on the job, you will have the advantage of a humanities/social science background and rigorous intellectual training. In every career, knowledge of American society will be of use.

As you think about choice of a major, remember that your college degree should be more than a vocational certificate. In a few years you may well be working in a career that is just being created today. You’ll learn work skills on the job, but you’ll get your intellectual experience here.

American Studies
College of Humanities and Fine Arts
Dean: Sarah Blackstone
American Studies Program
Trinity 216
530-898-6404
e-mail: amst@csuchico.edu
http://www.csuchico.edu/amst/
Coordinator: Susan M. Green
## THE BACHELOR OF ARTS
### IN AMERICAN STUDIES

#### Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree: 120 units

See “Requirements for the Bachelor’s Degree” in The University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division.

The department has prepared a suggested Four Year Advising Plan to help students meet all graduation requirements within four years. Please request a plan from your major adviser or view it and other current advising information on the CSU, Chico Web.

#### General Education Requirements: 48 units

See “General Education Requirements” in The University Catalog and The Class Schedule for the most current information on General Education Requirements and course offerings. The course requirements marked below with an asterisk (*) may also be applied toward General Education.

#### Cultural Diversity Course Requirements: 6 units

See “Cultural Diversity” in The University Catalog. Most courses used to satisfy these requirements may also apply to General Education.

#### American Institutions Requirement: 6 units

See the “American Institutions Requirement” under “Bachelor’s Degree Requirements.” This requirement is normally fulfilled by completing HIST 050 and POLS 053. Courses used to satisfy this requirement do not apply to General Education.

#### Literacy Requirement:

See “Mathematics and Writing Requirements” in The University Catalog. Writing proficiency in the major is a graduation requirement and must be demonstrated through satisfactory completion of a course in your major which has been designated as the Writing Proficiency (WP) course for the semester in which you take the course. Students who earn below a C- are required to repeat the course and earn a C- or better to receive WP credit. See The Class Schedule for the designated WP courses for each semester. You must pass ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a C- or better before you may register for a WP course.

#### Course Requirements for the Major: 36 units

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this degree.

### DEGREE CORE PROGRAM: 24 units

5 courses required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMST 050</td>
<td>Intro to American Studies</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMST 135</td>
<td>American Popular Culture</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMST 145</td>
<td>American Lives</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMST 165</td>
<td>American Folklore</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMST 170</td>
<td>Amer Ethic/Regional Writers</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>*Eth</td>
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</table>

2 courses selected from:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMST 146</td>
<td>Religion and American Society</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMST 235</td>
<td>Historical Geography North Amer</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1 course selected from:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 157A</td>
<td>Survey of American Literature</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 157B</td>
<td>Survey of American Literature</td>
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### ELECTIVES: 12 units

4 courses selected from:

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<th>Units</th>
<th>Semester</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH</td>
<td>Survey of American Film</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 238</td>
<td>Modern Poetry</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 248</td>
<td>Modern Drama</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 256</td>
<td>The American Novel</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
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#### DEGREE CORE PROGRAM: 24 units

5 courses required:

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 257B</td>
<td>American Literature: 1850s-1945</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 257C</td>
<td>American Literature: 1945-Present</td>
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<td>FS</td>
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<td>ENGL 265</td>
<td>Study in Major American Authors</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 297A</td>
<td>American Literary Topics</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
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### COMMUNICATION/JOURNALISM

CMST 217 **Advanced Study of Public Address**

CMST 224 **Public Opinion and Propaganda**

This course is the same as JOUR 224 and POLS 224 which may be substituted.

JOUR 110 **Entertain/Media/Amer Culture**

JOUR 111 **Women/Men/Media**

This course is the same as WMST 111 which may be substituted.

JOUR 221 **History of American Journalism**

#### MULTICULTURAL AND GENDER STUDIES

AIST 188 **Worldviews of American Indians**

This course is the same as RS 188 which may be substituted.

AFAM 155 **Sociology of African Americans**

This course is the same as SO CI 155 which may be substituted.

CHST 158 **Chicanos Contemporary Society**

This course is the same as SO CI 158 which may be substituted.

MCDS 127 **Politics of Race/Ethnicity in US**

This course is the same as POLS 127 which may be substituted.

#### FINE ARTS

ART 240 **American Art History**

ART 247 **American Indian Art**

ART 255 **California Art**

MUS 191 **American Music**

MUS 193 **History of Jazz**

MUS 196 **African American Music**

#### HISTORY

HIST 130 **The American Indian**

HIST 134 **American Ethnic Origins**

HIST 136 **Women/Gender in Amer History**

HIST 137 **Mexican Heritage to 1848**

HIST 138 **Working in America**

HIST 144 **America’s Vietnam Experience**

HIST 150 **American Environment**

HIST 154 **America in the 1960s**

HIST 155 **Technology & Science in America**

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

See “Requirements for the Bachelor’s Degree” in The University Catalog for complete details on community service requirements. At least 20 hours of service must be completed annually for the first two years of attendance and may be applied toward General Education.

#### AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS REQUIREMENT: 6 UNITS

See the “American Institutions Requirement” under “Bachelor’s Degree Requirements.” This requirement is normally fulfilled by completing HIST 050 and POLS 053. Courses used to satisfy this requirement do not apply to General Education.

#### WRITING PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT: 1 SEMESTER

Students must pass ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a C- or better before they may register for a Writing Proficiency (WP) course.

#### LITERACY REQUIREMENT:

See “Mathematics and Writing Requirements” in The University Catalog. Writing proficiency in the major is a graduation requirement and must be demonstrated through satisfactory completion of a course in your major which has been designated as the Writing Proficiency (WP) course for the semester in which you take the course. Students who earn below a C- are required to repeat the course and earn a C- or better to receive WP credit. See The Class Schedule for the designated WP courses for each semester. You must pass ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a C- or better before you may register for a WP course.

#### CULTURAL DIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS: 6 UNITS

See “Cultural Diversity” in The University Catalog. Most courses used to satisfy these requirements may also apply to General Education.

#### AMERICAN STUDIES

See the “American Studies” section for a list of courses required for this major.
American Studies

Course Requirements for the Minor: 21 units

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this minor.

1 course required:
AMST 050 Intro to American Studies 3.0 FS *

2 courses selected from:
AMST 135 American Popular Culture 3.0 FS *
AMST 145 American Lives 3.0 FA *
AMST 165 American Folklore 3.0 FA
Prerequisites: ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher.

1 course selected from:
ENGL 157A Survey of American Literature 3.0 FS
ENGL 157B Survey of American Literature 3.0 FS

3 courses selected from:
The approved list of courses for the major. These courses must be selected in consultation with the American Studies adviser, developing a common problem or theme for study.
American Studies

AMST 235 Historical Geography of North America 3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: Faculty permission.
A regional and topical description of North America at selected time periods, including cultural groups, land tenure systems, settlement patterns, agriculture, exploration and mapping, resource use, urbanization, population and migrations, and present-day results.
This course is the same as GEOG 235 which may be substituted.

AMST 240 American Thought and Character 3.0 Inquire
Significant ideas in American history, 1607 to present; the influence of Puritanism, the Enlightenment, Romanticism, and modern science upon American character and society.
This course is the same as HIST 240 which may be substituted.

AMST 298 Special Topics 1.0-3.0 Fa/Spr
This course is for special topics offered as 298A-C for 1.0 to 3.0 units respectively. Typically the topic is offered on a one-time-only basis and may vary from term to term and be different for different sections. See The Class Schedule for the specific topic being offered.