Introduction to American Studies

American Studies 10 Introduction to American Studies: Frontiers in American History and Culture

T Th 11:00-12:30
C. Palmer/M. Brilliant
50 Birge
Units (4) CC:#02003

Sec. 101: CC# 02006 Tu 01:00-02:00, 2 Evans
Sec. 102: CC# 02009 Tu 02:00-03:00, 7 Evans
Sec. 103: CC# 02012 W 12:00-01:00, 81 Evans
Sec. 104: CC# 02015 W 01:00-02:00, 385 LeConte

Few, if any, concepts in American history and culture resonate more powerfully and reverberate more persistently than the "frontier." This course will explore multiple manifestations of the frontier in United States history and culture, from the nineteenth century western frontier, to the early … read more [+]

American Studies 10AC Introduction to American Studies - Staging California

MWF 2:00-3:00
S. Steen
4 LeConte
Units (4) CC:#02018

Sec. 101: CC# 02021 F 09:00-10:00, 156 Dwinelle
Sec. 102: CC# 02024 F 10:00-11:00, 156 Dwinelle
Sec. 103: CC# 02027 F 11:00-12:00, 2038 VLSB
Sec. 104: CC# 02030 F 10:00-11:00, 5 Evans
Sec. 105: CC# 02033 F 09:00-10:00, 2032 VLSB
Sec. 106: CC# 02036 F 10:00-11:00, 118 Barrows

This course takes our home state of California as the site through which to introduce students to the interdisciplinary field of American Studies. We will consider the role of a range of performance forms - theater, film, pageants, political protests - have played in shaping California's unique … read more [+]

"Time" Courses

American Studies 101 Sec. 1 - The Birth of Consumer Society in the U.S.

MW 2:00-4:00
K. Moran
106 Stanley
Units (4) CC:#02045

This course will examine the period beginning in the 1880's until WWI when "modern consumer society" emerged in the US. We will also engage the theoretical debate about the usefulness of the concept of consumerism to a contemporary understanding of the politics of consumption as a modernizing force… read more [+]
American Studies 101 - American Culture and the Information Age

This course will examine the history, politics, and culture of the United States from the mid-1970s until the present, an era often identified as the "Information Age." Commonly associated with technological developments that have facilitated a greater flow of information, notably personal... 

"Place" Courses

American Studies 102 - Cultures of Place: California Food Spaces

In this course we will examine the political geography of food in California from farming to processing to advertising/marketing to consuming. Our primary text will be Richard Walker's The Conquest of Bread: 150 years of Agribusiness in California. Our focus will be on food "spaces" including urban... 

*NOTE: (Class entry code needed.)

American Studies H110 - American Studies Honors Seminar - Chicano/Latino Art/Literature in its Place: Los Angeles, Albuquerque, New York

We will carry out a cross-country, cross-genre, cross-cultural journey across three Chicano/Latino regions. We will read novels, short stories, poetry - together with visual art/film - to seek a cohering understanding of different aesthetic traditions, different histories and different modernities. ... 

*NOTE: (Faculty advisor approval needed.)

American Studies C112A - American Built Environment: 1600-1900

This course introduces ways of seeing and interpreting American histories and cultures, as revealed in everyday built surroundings: homes, highways, farms, factories, stores, recreation areas, small towns, city districts, and regions. The course encourages students to read landscapes as records of... 

American Studies C171 - The American Designed Landscape Since 1850

This course is cross-listed with Landscape Architecture C171. This course surveys the history of American designed landscapes since 1850 including the rise of the public parks movement, the development of park...
systems, the establishment of the national parks, the landscape of the Progressive Era, … read more [+]

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**Honors Seminar**

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We will carry out a cross-country, cross-genre, cross-cultural journey across three Chicano/Latino regions. We will read novels, short stories, poetry - together with visual art/film - to seek a cohering understanding of different aesthetic traditions, different histories and different modernities. … read more [+]

*NOTE: (Faculty advisor approval needed.)*

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**Senior Thesis Seminars**

*Students will meet in a seminar, which will help them research and write their senior these.*

**American Studies 191** Section 01 - SENIOR THESIS SEMINAR

- W 10:00-12:00  📅 K. Muller  📍 385 LeConte  Units(4)  CC:#02102

**American Studies 191** Section 02 - SENIOR THESIS SEMINAR

- M 4:00-6:00  📅 J. Gomer  📍 81 Evans  Units(4)  CC:#02105

**American Studies H195** SENIOR HONORS THESIS SEMINAR

- W 10:00-12:00  📅 C. Palmer  📍 81 Evans  Units(4)  CC:#SeeFaculty Advisor

*NOTE: In order to receive honors in American Studies, a student must have an overall GPA of 3.51, and a GPA of 3.65 for all courses taken in completion of the major (upper and lower division). Students should discuss with their major faculty adviser the preparation of a bibliography and a brief description of their proposed honors thesis and their eligibility to enroll in honors, based on GPA, the semester before they plan to enroll in H195. They also must secure a faculty adviser from an appropriate field who will agree to direct the honors thesis (the "honors thesis adviser"). THE FACULTY ADVISER'S AGREEMENT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO COURSE INSTRUCTOR NO LATER THAN THE 2ND WEEK OF CLASSES.

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**Special Courses of Interest to AS Students**

*Upper Division courses may be used for Areas of Concentration, when appropriate.*

**American Studies C152** Native American Literature
This survey course introduces several prominent genres of Native American literary production, including oral traditions, nonfiction essay, novel, short story, and stand-up comedy/performance. Selections are drawn primarily from Native American/Aboriginal writers and performers in the United States … read more [+]

History 125A The Making of African America: African American History 1450-1860

The course will survey African American history from the African background to the outbreak of the Civil War. The origins and development of Afro-American society, culture and politics will be explored from the perspective of African-Americans themselves: slave and free, North and South. We will … read more [+]

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Lower Division Courses of Interest

NOTE: Lower division courses may be used for prerequisites, but not for Areas of Concentration, which must be upper division.

History 2 Foodways: A Global History

We've all got to eat--but there, the consensus ends. Long before celebrity chefs, food TV, and the organic movement competed for our attention, food and the meanings attached to it were the subjects of controversy. Poets and painters, philosophers and bureaucrats, merchants and prophets explored … read more [+]

*NOTE: See Online Schedule of Classes for meeting times/locations

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Website: dmurray@berkeley.edu

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