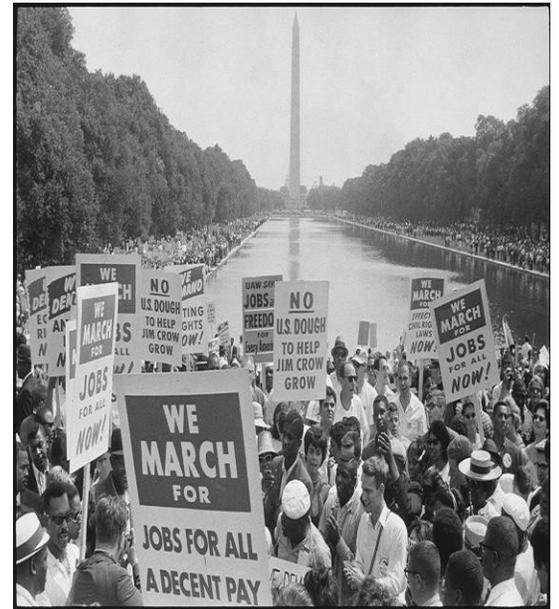


American Studies

Undergraduate Program



American Studies at GW is one of the nation's most rigorous and intellectually innovative departments devoted to the interdisciplinary study of American culture and society. Our faculty works with you to analyze the culture, politics, and history of the United States and its role in the world.



You'll interpret an array of cultural traditions, material artifacts, and technological innovations, ranging from music, advertising, and city life to government policy, scientific developments, and religious practices. Majors work closely with their professors in a series of small, discussion-oriented seminars, and many participate in the department's film club. Our major culminates in a semester-long, senior research project, where you engage in a deeper analysis of a topic of your own choosing. Recent graduates have examined the racial politics of contemporary hip-hop, the political fight against Don't Ask Don't Tell, and the sustainable food movement in the American Christian community. American Studies provides an excellent and intellectually vibrant education in the liberal arts.

What Can I Do with an American Studies Degree?

With an American Studies degree, you are well-equipped to succeed in a wide range of careers and paths of graduate study. Some fields where recent graduates have enjoyed particular success include:

Media: After learning to analyze a variety of media sources and the messages they convey, several of our recent graduates have landed positions working for broadcast, print and digital media outlets, including ESPN, Fox Sports, the *PBS NewsHour*, Condé Nast, *Politico*, the *Washington Post*, Google and mediabistro.com.

Marketing, Business & Public Relations: American Studies graduates have also found themselves well prepared to help companies, museums and NGOs present themselves, their products and services to a wide range of audiences. They've worked as company spokespersons, marketing coordinators, digital and email marketing strategists, social media coordinators, advertisers and events coordinators for companies such as Hilton Worldwide, Time Inc., Social Venture Network, Brooklyn United and Gotham, Inc. Recent alumni have also pursued their MBAs at the University of Michigan and Vanderbilt, and have enrolled in a graduate marketing and public relations programs at Northwestern and Georgetown.

Museums & Public Culture: The department's attention to the important role that museums and other institutions play in shaping American culture has led a number of recent alumni to take up a range of positions in this area, including as a curatorial assistant at Houston's Museum of Fine Arts, a program coordinator at National Geographic Expeditions, a public art project manager for Arlington County, a public historian, and a program specialist at the Library of Congress.

Teaching & Education: Our graduates have long pursued careers in education, often as English or U.S. History instructors in public and private high schools, but recent alumni have also worked as pre-K instructors and school admissions directors.

Law: The critical thinking and analytical writing skills that students learn in American Studies provide a strong foundation for law school. Recent graduates have pursued degrees at Columbia, USC, Rutgers, GW, American and other nationally respected law schools, and some have eventually worked for government agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Labor, as well as for private law firms specializing in corporate, international and human rights law.

Graduate Studies: The interdisciplinary training provided by American Studies prepares our graduates to enter a wide range of master's and doctoral programs. Our alumni have been accepted to programs in history, communication, journalism, arts administration, city and regional planning, international political economy and American Studies at institutions such as Columbia, the University of Pennsylvania, Northwestern, USC's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, the University of Maryland, University College London, GW, the University of Texas at Austin, and Kings College, London.

To learn more about the American Studies major, please visit our website at: www.gwu.edu/~amst or contact:

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