

# AMERICAN STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

## Program Description

This interdisciplinary minor is designed for students who want to complement their major program. American Studies is an interdisciplinary field that explores the patterns of life and thought of the American peoples, past and present. American Studies helps students prepare for further study or careers in education, government, business, science, communication, law, museums, historical and cultural agencies, and archives. Internships are available for qualified students in American Studies. The internship is an extension of the student's academic studies and is an opportunity to gain practical experience.

A student seeking admission to the American Studies Minor must first be admitted to a major at Penn State. Upon admission, a Minor Adviser will be appointed from within the American Studies faculty to guide the student. For the American Studies Minor, a total of 18 credits is required. At least 6 credits must be at the 400 level.

## What is American Studies?

American Studies examines the country's history in a way that emphasizes culture – literature, art & architecture, film, folklore, music, and media. While discovering America's past, students learn to think critically – to analyze and evaluate information; to write and speak clearly and expressively; and to conduct research.

## Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18

### Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
AMST 491W	American Studies Perspectives	3
<b>Additional Courses</b>		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
AMST 100 or AMST 100Y	Introduction to American Studies	3
Select 12 credits from any American Studies offerings (AMST) or from courses related to American Studies chosen from a list provided by the college. At least six of those credits must be at the 400 level. Substitutions must be approved by the American Studies Program head at the appropriate college.		12

## Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

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<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/humanities/american-studies-minor> (<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/humanities/american-studies-minor/>)

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