

# AMERICAN STUDIES (BA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/americanstudies/>)

**NYSED:** 35418 **HEGIS:** 313.00 **CIP:** 05.0102

## Program Description

American Studies at NYU is one of the country's top-ranked programs in this dynamic field. An interdisciplinary program housed in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis, it studies United States society in national, hemispheric, and global frameworks. It draws on faculty strength in a wide range of fields, including history, area studies, literature and film, gender studies, critical ethnic studies, political economy, and urban and environmental studies. The program interprets "American" in a broad sense to include assessments of the historical role of the United States in the Americas and, more generally, in world affairs. Students are exposed to a range of methodologies in the social sciences and humanities, including ethnography, textual analysis, archival research, and cultural studies.

## Honors Program

Majors who have completed 48 credits of graded work in CAS and have a 3.65 GPA or higher (overall and in the major) are encouraged to register for SCA-UA 92 in the fall semester of their senior year. Upon successful completion of the seminar requirement, students will be eligible to register for SCA-UA 93 in the spring.

## Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see How to Apply (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

## Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing The Essay:	4
Foreign Language <sup>1</sup>		16
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Expressive Culture		4
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
<i>Introductory Courses</i>		
SCA-UA 101	Social and Cultural Analysis 101	4
SCA-UA 201	Approaches to American Studies	4
or SCA-UA 230	Intersect: Race, Gender, & Sexuality in U.S. Hist	
<i>Major Elective Courses</i>		
Select six designated American studies electives <sup>2</sup>		24
<i>Research Course</i>		
SCA-UA 90	Advanced Research Seminar	4

## Electives

Other Elective Credits	44
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>128</b>

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The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit. For a complete list of Intermediate language courses that fulfill this requirement, click here (<https://cas.nyu.edu/academic-programs/bulletin/departments-and-programs/the-college-core-curriculum/program-of-study-cas-bulletin.html>).

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Four of the six courses must be taught by SCA faculty. (SCA-UA 42) is no longer required but is highly recommended and can count as an elective.

## Language and Linguistic Competency

The type of rigorous intercultural study promoted within the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis requires students to recognize the complex modes of communication at work both within and across different social groups. The department therefore strongly encourages its students to develop advanced skills in language and linguistics by any of the following means: taking elective courses in sociolinguistics; studying a language other than English beyond the minimum level required by the College of Arts and Science; studying languages especially germane to the department's fields of study; pursuing community-based internship fieldwork necessitating the development and use of specific language skills; or undertaking study or research away in contexts entailing the exercise of key language or linguistic capabilities.

## Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
<b>1st Semester/Term</b>		
SCA-UA 201	Approaches to American Studies	4
or SCA-UA 230	or Intersect: Race, Gender, & Sexuality in U.S. Hist	
Foreign Language I		4
Texts and Ideas		4
First-Year Seminar		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>2nd Semester/Term</b>		
SCA-UA 101	Social and Cultural Analysis 101	4
Foreign Language II		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing The Essay:	4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>3rd Semester/Term</b>		
Major Elective (#1 of 6) <sup>1</sup>		4
Foreign Language III		4
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Other Elective Credits		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>4th Semester/Term</b>		
Major Elective (#2 of 6) <sup>1</sup>		4
Foreign Language IV		4
Expressive Culture		4
Other Elective Credits		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>5th Semester/Term</b>		
Major Elective (#3 of 6) <sup>1</sup>		4
Physical Science		4

Other Elective Credits	4
Other Elective Credits	4
<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>6th Semester/Term</b>	
Major Elective (#4 of 6) <sup>1</sup>	4
Major Elective (#5 of 6) <sup>1</sup>	4
Life Science	4
Other Elective Credits	4
<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>7th Semester/Term</b>	
Major Elective (#6 of 6) <sup>1</sup>	4
Other Elective Credits	4
Other Elective Credits	4
Other Elective Credits	4
<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>8th Semester/Term</b>	
SCA-UA 90      Advanced Research Seminar	4
Other Elective Credits	4
Other Elective Credits	4
Other Elective Credits	4
<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>128</b>

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Chosen from designated American Studies Electives. Of the six Major Elective courses, four must be taught by SCA faculty.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of program requirements, students are expected to have developed:

1. Critical thinking tools for the analysis of social, cultural, and political formations.
2. Familiarity with theories for the study of race, class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, space, and nation.
3. Proficiency in written and oral communication.
4. The ability to produce original research on topics relevant to the major using textual/literary, archival, ethnographic, and/or quantitative research methods.
5. Engagement and familiarity with primary texts in American Studies.

## Policies

### Policy on Double Counting of Courses

#### Major

Majors may share (double count) two courses with a second major, with permission from the other department/program.

#### Minor

Minors may share (double count) one course with a major or a second minor, with permission from the other department/program.

## NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

## College of Arts and Science Policies

A full list of relevant academic policies can be found on the CAS Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).