American Studies

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http://www.slu.edu/x24801.xml

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The Department of American Studies balances rigorous training in the core theories of American Studies and systematic interdisciplinary study of the cultures of the United States with a flexible range of coursework and experiences tailored to individual students’ interests. The department offers programs of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. In accordance with Arts and Sciences graduation requirements, students who pursue either a major or minor in American Studies must earn an overall 2.00 grade point average in all major and minor courses that are approved for completion of their degree program.

American Studies (BA)
http://www.slu.edu/x24821.xml

Required American Studies Courses
ASTD 202 The American Experience 3
Experiential Learning 3
Capstone Course 3

Experiential Learning
ASTD 494 Internship 3
Or an American Studies course with a Service Learning designation.

Capstone Course
ASTD 410 Senior Seminar 3

An additional 21 hours of American Studies coursework, or courses in other departments as approved by the student’s faculty mentor, are required. At least 12 of these hours must be fulfilled by courses in the Department of American Studies. These courses should cohere around a thematic or disciplinary emphasis. Thematic emphases may be organized around such topics as American identities, visual culture, religion, the American metropolis, political thought, or social movements. The disciplinary emphasis is organized around a field, such as history, international studies, literature, sociology, political science, theology, studio arts, or women’s studies.

Portfolio
Students majoring in American Studies build a portfolio that includes select research papers, exams, essays, creative work, internship and service reports, notices of awards and citations, evaluations, and the capstone project. Students build the portfolio over the course of the major in close consultation with their faculty mentor.

Capstone Project
This required project enables students to put forth their best scholarly and creative work as a capstone to the major. Students spend one semester planning, developing, completing, and presenting a senior thesis project in close consultation with the Senior Seminar instructor.

Minor
http://www.slu.edu/x24804.xml

A minor in American Studies may be obtained by students who complete the following courses

Required Courses
ASTD 202 The American Experience 3

An additional 15 hours of American Studies coursework, or courses in other departments as approved by the student’s faculty mentor, are required.