



# American Studies

## Major Preparation Sheet 2016-2017

### What is American Studies?

American Studies is an interdisciplinary study of the United States, examining artistic, social, political, economic, and historical events to understand diverse aspects of American society and experience.

**Contemporary issues in American Studies:** American Social, Political, Intellectual, Cultural, Environmental, Ethnic, Economic, and Religious History; American Literature, Music, and the Arts; Gender/Women’s History and Literature; Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Ability; Colonization and Slavery; Immigration and Globalization; Media and Popular Culture; and, Multiracial/Multiethnic Issues.

### Where does my path start?

You will complete an Associate of Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA) at Shoreline.

Use the AA -DTA **Degree Planning Guide** to understand the requirements for graduation.

Once you complete your Shoreline degree, you can transfer to a four-year school to earn a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in American Studies. It is also an excellent program of study for graduate work in History, Humanities, Social Science, Law, Business and Education.

### Where can I go for help?

#### American Studies Faculty Advisors

**Jeannette Idiart** 206-546-6944  
[jidiart@shoreline.edu](mailto:jidiart@shoreline.edu) Rm 5363

**Amy Kinsel** 206-546-4679  
[akinsel@shoreline.edu](mailto:akinsel@shoreline.edu) Rm 5329

#### General Academic Advising

FOSS (5000) Building, Rm. 5229  
206-546-4559  
[advising@shoreline.edu](mailto:advising@shoreline.edu)  
[www.shoreline.edu/advising](http://www.shoreline.edu/advising)

#### Career Planning

[www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/](http://www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/)

#### International Advising

9000 Building, Rm. 9302  
206-546-4697  
[ieadvisors@shoreline.edu](mailto:ieadvisors@shoreline.edu)  
[www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/](http://www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/)

### Where can I transfer?

Students can transfer to a number of public and private colleges and universities in the U.S., but the Direct Transfer Agreement applies only within Washington. The following colleges in Washington offer a bachelor’s degree in American studies or related field, which may require specific courses for admission. Contact the American Studies department at your chosen four-year school(s) for more information.

[Heritage University](#)  
[University of Washington – Bothell](#)  
[University of Washington – Seattle](#)  
[University of Washington – Tacoma](#)

[Washington State University](#)  
[Western Washington University](#)  
[Whitworth University](#)

### What can I do with a Bachelor’s Degree in American Studies?

Students who major in American Studies develop a broad range of skills that transfer into multiple careers to include: teaching, public service, law, business, the arts, curatorial and archival management, social services, journalism, editing and publishing

**Potential employers include:** Local, state, and federal archives; museums; government agencies; law firms; public advocacy groups; non-profit organizations; historical societies; libraries; schools, colleges, and universities; business and industry; newspapers, radio and tv stations; and publishing companies. For more, please visit <http://www.shoreline.edu/counseling-services/career-counseling.aspx>.

## What courses should I take?\*

*Below are recommendations for fulfilling the AA-DTA requirements if you are planning to pursue a four-year degree in American Studies.*

**Strongly Recommended**  
These are commonly **required** for admission. Check with your chosen four-year program(s) to confirm.

**Other Recommendations**  
These courses are well-matched with American Studies, but are not commonly required for admission.

### I. GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

**Multicultural Understanding** MCS 105, GWS 284, or HIST 245

**Quant. and Symbolic Reasoning** MATH &146

### II. DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

**Humanities** --

ARTH 226, CINEM 201, CMST &102, ENGL &244-&246, 247, 248, 257, MUSC 106, 109, 150, 206

**Natural Sciences**

BIOL 107, 150, &170, ENVIS &100, &101

**Social Sciences**

AES 119, ECON 100, &201, &202; GEOG &100, &200, 277, HIST &146, &147, &148, &214, &215, &219, 245, 246, 247; GWS 215, 284, 285, 286, PHIL 102, 210, POLS &202, SOC &101

### III. GENERAL ELECTIVES

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Additional Humanities and Social Sciences courses required for university major; World Language if required for university admission or graduation.

## What does your chosen four-year school require?

Before choosing classes, become familiar with the four-year program where you want to apply: visit the website, email the department, and/or speak with a Shoreline advisor. Below are examples from Washington schools with different admissions and graduation requirements. Check with the school for world language requirements. (Non-native speakers of English are often exempt from this requirement.)

School	Degrees	Requirements	SCC Courses
University of Washington – Bothell	B.A. in American and Ethnic Studies	Recommend – college coursework in American history, culture, and politics.	
University of Washington - Tacoma	B.A. in American Studies	Courses required—5 credits in U.S. History from HIST&146-&148; POLS& 202 or SOC& 101	
Washington State University	B.A. in Comparative Ethnic Studies	Courses required: MCS 105, GWS 284	
Western Washington University	B.A. in American Cultural Studies	Recommended—AES 119, ENGL 247, 257, GEOG &200, GWS 288, POLS &101, &202, SOC 112, 250, 288.	ENGL &244, HIST 247

**\*\* This unofficial guide is intended to support you as you prepare for your major. Please consult with an advisor and your chosen four-year school(s), as program and admissions requirements vary and may change without notice.**