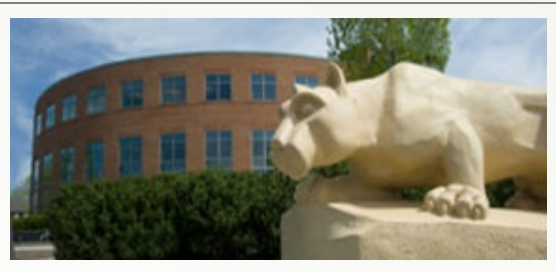


Bachelor of Arts in American Studies

This major is designed to provide students with an integrated and critical knowledge of American culture, drawing on courses in American Studies and in the traditional disciplines and culminating in two senior seminars. A number of interests may be pursued within the major, including popular culture, art, technology, business, law, archives, museology, and conservation. The major helps prepare students for careers in business, teaching, government, and a number of other areas, and for enrollment in law and other professional programs.



Contact

Administrative Assistant
Carrie Bonanno
cpb5942@psu.edu
+1 717 948 6330

Professor-in-Charge
Anthony B. Buccitelli, Ph.D.
abb20@psu.edu
+1 717 948 6727

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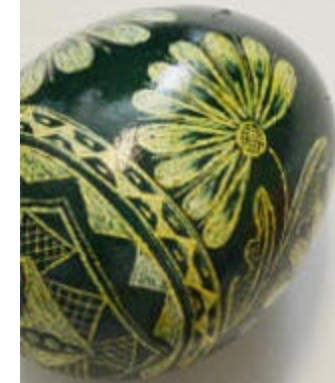
PennState
Harrisburg

777 West Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057
Phone: 717-948-6189
Fax: 717-948-6724
harrisburg.psu.edu



PennState
Harrisburg

School of Humanities



**Bachelor of Arts in
American Studies**

Curriculum

For a B. A. degree in American Studies, a minimum of 123 credits is required.

Entry to Major Requirements:

1. At the end of the sophomore year, any student in good standing may gain entrance into the major without having completed specific courses.
2. Any student seeking entrance during the fifth semester will be granted entrance at the discretion of the American Studies Committee and/or Director following evaluation of the student's record.
3. Any student seeking entrance during or after the sixth semester will be expected to have completed at least 12 credits, which may be counted toward the major in American Studies



Courses Overview

The American studies program prepares students to thrive in diverse settings—museums and archives, educational institutions, governmental and public policy agencies, and law schools and M.A. and Ph.D. programs in myriad fields.

Hands-on learning and field experiences are embedded in courses such as American Architecture (AMST 308N), Museum Studies (AMST 480) and Public Heritage Practices (AMST 482). Many students undertake internships at local and national museums, archives, and governmental organizations to expand their experiences and hone career choices.

Wide-ranging course offerings appeal to a range of interests and specialties and foster active learning. During the first two years, students take introductory courses such as Introduction to American Studies (AMST 100) and Women and the American Experience (AMST 104). During their third and fourth years, they take upper level courses as varied as American Women Writers (AMST 476) and The Cold War (AMST 405). The research- and writing-intensive 491W, which students take twice, covers topics such as “Daily Life in America” and “American Cool.”

For course descriptions and requirements, see the [University Bulletin](#).

Undergraduate Admissions Requirements

Minimum high school course requirements for admission to baccalaureate (four-year) degree programs are listed below. Keep in mind that specific programs may have additional requirements or recommendations.

English

Four units, including one unit each in composition and literature, are required.

Social Studies/Art/Humanities

Three units in any combination of social studies, arts, and humanities are required.

World Language

Two units in a single world language other than English are required. However, a student may be admitted with fewer than two units in a world language other than English, but must correct this deficiency by the time s/he earns 60 credits or graduates from Penn State, whichever comes first. This deficiency may be corrected by passing one three- or four-credit college level world language course or by demonstrating proficiency equivalent to two units of high school world language study.

Either a third unit in the same language or an additional unit in a second world language other than English is recommended.

Science

Three units of science are required. Preparation in chemistry and physics is recommended but not required for our Science and Engineering/Engineering Technology programs

Math

Three units of mathematics are required (four are recommended), selected from any combination of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Some programs have additional mathematics requirements. Our Business, Engineering/Engineering Technology, and Science programs require one-half unit of trigonometry or higher level math within the required three units

Penn State requires proof of graduation or a GED for admission to four-year degree programs.

*In most high school curricula, one unit = one year.

Visit Undergraduate Admissions: Admissions Requirements for more information (<http://goo.gl/eVGAMB>)