

# Master of Arts in American Studies

## Degree Requirements

In addition to the requirements for admission to candidacy and the requirements listed in the Academic Information section, the candidate for the Master of Arts in American Studies degree must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Complete 32 semester hours of graduate credit applicable to the American Studies program;
2. Complete six additional hours of course work, beyond the minimum 32, if he or she scored in the lower one-third on the verbal component of the Graduate Record Exam (as established by national norms);
3. Achieve a "B" average grade in all graduate course work attempted, with no grade below a "C" applicable to the degree;
4. Achieve a "B" average grade in all Northeastern State University graduate course work attempted;
5. Achieve a "B" average grade in the 5000-only courses;
6. Achieve a "B" average in all graduate course work applicable to the program;
7. Achieve a grade of "B" or better in all 4000-level course work applicable to the program;
8. Satisfactorily complete the comprehensive oral examination covering course work and thesis, if the thesis option was chosen;
9. Satisfactorily complete the written and oral examinations over all course work, including the internship, if the public internship option was chosen.

## Thesis Option

A student pursuing the Master of Arts in American Studies must elect either to write a thesis or do a public internship in American Studies. If the thesis option is chosen, the total number of classroom semester hours required for the degree will be 26 and the number of thesis hours will be six, totaling 32 hours of credit for the degree. Before enrolling in the thesis hours the student must have completed 21 hours of graduate course work toward the degree.

The thesis, approved and signed by the members of the student's advisory committee, must be submitted to the Dean of the Graduate College four weeks before the end of the semester in which the student plans to graduate.

Two copies of the thesis will be provided for the University and will become the property of the University, one copy to be deposited in the University library, and one copy to be given to the thesis advisor.

Students choosing to write a thesis will enroll in American Studies 5986.

## Public Internship Option

A student pursuing the Master of Arts in American Studies must elect either to write a thesis or do a public internship in American Studies. If the public internship option is chosen, the total number of classroom semester hours required for the degree will be 29 and the number of public internship hours will be three, totaling 32 hours of credit for the degree. Before enrolling in the internship the student must have complete 21 hours of graduate course work toward the degree.

Students choosing the public internship option will enroll in American Studies 5993.

## Comprehensive Examination

Students who have selected the public internship option of 29 class hours and 3 internship hours must pass a comprehensive written exam and a comprehensive oral exam. These exams will cover all course work completed for the degree, including the internship. Students who have selected the thesis option must pass a comprehensive oral exam focusing on defense of the thesis but which may also involve discussion of course work. These examinations will be administered by the student's graduate advisory committee which may

include additional faculty members representing the various subjects on the student's program.

### **Program of Study**

The Master of Arts in American Studies degree consists of 32 semester hours of graduate study, 15-18 of which are specified.

American Studies 5833 and 5923 should be taken early in the student's program. The student will also take one course from American History and American Literature as indicated in the outline of the program and will enroll in History 5433: Seminar: US History.

The remaining hours for the program will be a combination of electives and either a public internship or a thesis. The electives may focus on any combination of fields represented in the approved list of courses which is available from the College of Liberal Arts. It is recommended that students planning to continue graduate or professional study write a thesis, in which case, American Studies 5986, Thesis, will be taken. It is recommended that other students pursue the public internship option. The student who writes a thesis will take, in addition to the 15 required course hours and six thesis hours, 11 hours of electives. The student who chooses the public internship option will take, in addition to the 15 required course hours and three internship hours, fourteen hours of electives. A listing of approved elective courses and an annual schedule of courses are available in the College of Liberal Arts or from the student's advisor.

### **Outline of Program**

The curriculum for the Master of Arts in American Studies is under the general supervision of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

A maximum of 50% of the elective hours may be completed from advisor-approved courses offered at the 4000 level. A grade of "B" or better must be earned in any applicable 4000-level courses.

I. Required Courses.....	15 hours
AMST 5923, Seminar in American Studies.....	3 hours
American History.....	3 hours
American Literature.....	3 hours
AMST 5833, America in Perspective.....	3 hours
HIST 5433, Seminar: U.S. History.....	3 hours

II. Guided Electives (select from approved courses below).....11-14 hours

<p>Amst 5952, Professional Experience                  Anth 4003, Workshop in Language Culture                  Art 4283, History of American Art                  Cr J 5063, The Criminal Justice System                  *Cr J 5073, Const Cr Law Procedures                  *Cr J 5113, Judicial Policy Management                  Econ 5413, Government Business                  Econ 5333, Social Control of Business                  Econ 5533, The American Enterprise System                  Engl 4152, Cultural Aspects of Amer English                  Engl 4463, American Indian Writers                  Engl 4553, American Novel                  Engl 4603, American Drama                  *Engl 5613, Major American Writers                  Engl 4623, American Poetry                  Engl 4693, Studies in Amer Lit (Mark Twain)                  Engl 4813, Indian Folklore                  Engl 4833, American Folklore                  Engl 4883, Cultural Activities; Five Civ Tribes                  Engl 5063, American Dialects                  Geog 4243, Geography of Oklahoma                  Geog 4303, Historical Geog of the U.S.                  Geog 4513, Geog of the U.S. Canada                  Hist 4303, History of Geog of the U.S.                  *Hist 5403, Contemporary American History                  Hist 4423, American Colonial Period                  *Hist 5430, Seminar: U.S. since 1876                  Hist 4443, Union Democracy: U.S. 1783-1845                  Hist 4453, Division Reunion: U.S. 1845-1877                  Hist 4463, New Nationalism: U.S. 1877-1919                  Hist 4473, Recent American History</p>	<p>Hist 4483, Contemporary American Issues                  Hist 4533, History of the Southwest                  Hist 4623, American Diplomatic History                  Hist 4633, Trans-Mississippi W. Frontier                  Hist 4663, American Social-Intell History                  Hist 4673, American Const History                  Hist 4713, History of the Afro-American                  Hist 4733, History of the Five Civ Tribes                  Hist 4743, History of the Plains Indians                  Hist 5583, The American Experience                  Hum 4110, Seminar on Humanities                  Hum 4213, Art Express of Native America                  PolS 4213, Political Parties                  PolS 4233, Int Groups in U.S. Politics                  PolS 4253, Public Opinion Pol Behavior                  PolS 4263, Politics the American Indian                  PolS 4273, Black Politics                  PolS 5350, Seminar: American Gov Pol                  PolS 4413, American Foreign Policy                  PolS 4573, American Political Thought                  PolS 4733, U.S. Constitutional Law                  PolS 4833, Civil Liberties in the U.S.                  Soc/Anth 4113, Ethnology of American Indian                  Soc/Anth 4153, Archaeology of N. America                  Soc 4413, The Family                  Soc 4423, Urban Sociology                  Soc 4713, Social Change                  Soc 4753, Industrial Sociology                  Spch 4433, American Indian Rhetoric</p>
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III. Thesis Option.....6 hours

AMST 5986, Thesis

IV. Public Internship Option.....3 hours

AMST 5993, Public Internship in American Studies

Up to six (6) hours credit may be earned from courses identified by the American Studies Committee as appropriate background to the understanding of America. NSU courses that fall within this category are: HIST 4383, 5173, 5253, 5283, 5323, 5353, 5413, 5370, and ENGL 4663.

### **Program Checklist**

1. Apply for admission to graduate college thirty days prior to first enrollment for graduate studies.
2. Receive advisor assignment when admitted.
3. Complete admission requirements to the American Studies program before first enrollment.
4. Interview with advisor prior to each enrollment.
5. Enroll for classes as specified in the Schedule of Classes.
6. Select advisory committee within the first 16 hours of graduate studies.
7. Complete American Studies 5833 and 5923 early in the program.
8. Develop and file an approved degree plan within the first 16 hours of graduate studies.
9. Meet candidacy within the first 16 hours of graduate study.
10. Complete additional six hours of graduate course work when applicable.
11. Request degree check prior to the semester of expected graduation.
12. Apply for degree at the beginning of the semester of final enrollment, except summer graduates should apply by March 1.
13. Complete thesis and present final copy to the advisory committee 60 days prior to the end of the semester; two approved copies must be presented to the Graduate College four weeks prior to the end of the semester.
14. Complete oral examination six weeks prior to the end of the regular semester.
15. Complete written examination eight weeks prior to the end of the regular semester for students not selecting the thesis option.
16. Receive notification of graduation ceremony two weeks prior to ceremony.