

# AMERICAN STUDIES

## The Curriculum

American Studies at Oklahoma State University offers a systematic understanding of the culture and society of the United States of America from a multidisciplinary perspective. Our curriculum pushes students to examine American beliefs, behaviors, symbols, and material objects in a wide variety of institutional and cultural locations. In addition to emphasizing liberal arts education, courses in the major develop skills in research, writing and analysis and help students recognize connections among diverse peoples and ideas--all essential skills for a 21st century workplace.

### Students with an American Studies degree develop the following skills:

Students gain a thorough understanding of culture, cultural practices, and beliefs that may differ from their own. In addition to emphasizing liberal arts education, courses in the major develop skill in writing and analysis and help students recognize connections among diverse people and ideas.

Research  
Complex Analysis  
Writing and Speaking  
Interpret Past and Present Events  
Critical Thinking  
Appreciation of Ethical Concerns  
Interpersonal Skills  
Leadership  
Present Information Clearly and Logically

## Get Involved on Campus

Art History Organization  
Claude Rains Appreciation Society (Film)  
History Club  
Phi Alpha Delta (Pre-Law)  
Sociology Club

A complete list of student clubs and organizations can be found online at:  
<https://campuslink.okstate.edu>

## Job and Internship Websites

- H-Net Job Guide for the Humanities & Social Science  
<https://www.h-net.org/jobs/home.php>
- DC Internships  
<http://www.dccinternships.org/>
- The Fund for American Studies  
<http://www.tfas.org>
- American Alliance of Museums  
<http://www.aam-us.org/>
- Society of American Archivists  
<http://www2.archivists.org/>  
<http://www2.archivists.org/groups/saa-online-career-center>
- Idealist  
<http://www.idealists.org/>
- Association of Art Historians  
<http://www.aah.org.uk/jobs>
- National Public Radio  
[www.npr.org/about/jobs/](http://www.npr.org/about/jobs/)
- Federal Government Employment  
<http://www.usajobs.gov>
- Oklahoma Jobs  
<http://www.ok.gov/>
- Smithsonian Office of Fellowships & Internships  
<http://www.smithsonianofi.com/>
- Fund for the Public Interest  
<http://www.fundforthepublicinterest.org/>
- U.S. Department of State  
<http://www.state.gov/careers/>
- White House Internships  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/government/wh-intern.html>
- Urban Institute  
<http://www.urban.org>  
<https://jobs-urban.icims.com/jobs/intro/>
- Library of Congress Internships  
<http://www.loc.gov>  
<http://www.loc.gov/hr/employment/index.php?action=cMain.showFellowships>
- Oklahoma State Legislature  
<http://www.okhouse.gov/Internship/>

[www.hireosugrads.com](http://www.hireosugrads.com)

### Meet with a Career Coordinator

College of Arts and Sciences Career Services  
Student Success Center, 213 Life Sciences East  
Phone: (405) 744-5658

Schedule an appointment or find additional resources at  
Website: <http://cascareers.okstate.edu>

## Potential Career Paths Include:

### Business:

American Studies graduates possess many of the skills needed to find success in business. Their skills in writing and analysis make them well suited for the following positions:

#### Career Options

Research Analyst	Researcher
Sales Representative	Business Manager
Media Analyst Sales	Claims Specialist
Insurance Underwriter	Consulting
Health Administrator	Diversity Trainer
Marketing Manager	Public Relations
Human Resources Manager	

#### Potential Employers

Product Sales Firms	Hospitals
Insurance Companies	Consulting Firms

### Communications and Media:

American Studies majors take an array of courses in many disciplines including Journalism and Broadcasting, English and Economics. Students gain the skills needed to advance in the following positions:

#### Career Options

Publisher	Editor
Media Executive	Journalist
Technical Writer	Writer/Copy Editor
Investigative Reporter	News Analyst
Editorial Assistant	Radio Announcer
Public Relations Specialist	Marketing Director

#### Potential Employers

Sales and Marketing Firms  
Public Relations Firms  
TV/Radio/Print News Agencies

### International Relations:

American Studies majors gain an understanding of the diversity of social and cultural practices within American society which makes them well suited for international work with both government and non-governmental agencies.

#### Career Options

Cultural Affairs	Foreign Service
Peace Corps	Foreign Policy

#### Potential Employers

Non-Profit Organizations      Government

### Law:

An American Studies major prepares students well for law school where they can then pursue any of the following positions:

#### Career Options

Attorney (all specialties)	Paralegal
Entertainment Lawyer	FBI Special Agent

#### Potential Employers

Law Firms Government

### Library Sciences/Museum:

American Studies graduates have a strong foundation in history and an appreciation for the preservation of cultural and historical artifacts.

#### Career Options

Librarian/Archivist	Museum Curator/Educator
Librarian Museum Curator	Historical Sites Supervisor
Historical Preservationist	Cultural Heritage Tourism
Prints & Photography	Collections Specialist

#### Potential Employers

Recreational Parks	Library
Museums	Visitors Bureau

### Education:

Many American Studies graduates pursue teaching certification, or other advanced degrees to obtain work in the following areas:

#### Career Options

History Teacher	College Professor
College Administrator	Grant Writer
Elementary/Secondary School Teacher	

#### Potential Employers

Community Colleges K-12 School Non-Profit Organizations Universities

### Internships:

American Studies students at OSU have the option of taking an internship related to the humanistic or social scientific study of American culture, politics, and society. Museums, humanities and arts organizations, non-profit organizations, and local, city and state government offices are good places to look for such opportunities.

**Students must assume responsibility for finding, applying for, and securing internships.** Internships may be taken for 1-3 credit hours per term. Students are expected to work 5 hours a week for 1 credit hour, 10 hours a week for 2 credit hours, and 15 hours a week for three credit hours.

See the list of institutions on the American Studies website for current opportunities and those available on a recurring basis.

<http://amst.okstate.edu/Internships.html>

**Henry Bellmon Scholarship:** Provides financial assistance for full-time Oklahoma State University undergraduates who will be completing government internships in Washington, D.C. or at a state or federal agency in Oklahoma for the summer months. For more information visit career services in 213 Life Sciences East,