

Photo credit: Keegan Houser

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone's Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

CONNECT WITH US

Cal Day

Come to UC Berkeley's annual **Open House** in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

Golden Bear Orientation

Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley **orientation** program for all new students.

Events

Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit **as.ugis.berkeley.edu** for news and updates.

ADVISING

Students can contact the major advisor to schedule an appointment or ask questions at **amerstd@berkeley.edu**.

Visit **ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps** for the latest version of this major map.

Berkeley American Studies Program 265 Evans Hall Berkeley, CA 94720 as.ugis.berkeley.edu

AMERICAN STUDIES

ES Berkeley

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Bachelor of Arts

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

American Studies is an interdisciplinary major that provides undergraduates the opportunity to study American history, identity, culture, politics, media, and the built environment. The major offers intensive, individualized faculty advising and mentorship to help students tap into the enormous and varied resources of Berkeley to tackle the question of what is "American" about America. Our courses integrate subjects, methods, and materials from across campus, including the humanities, the social sciences, and the professional schools.



Photo credit: UC Berkeley

CC I loved having the flexibility of being able to take some of the best classes from some of the best professors and being able to apply a breadth of knowledge from different disciplines.

- Catherine Ladd, Class of 2018

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

American Studies majors develop individual concentrations that focus on specific issues relating to U.S. culture, politics, economy, environment, and media. Students are able to draw on a broad spectrum of fields of knowledge, including law, business, ecology, geography, political economy, public policy, architecture, performance, and ethnic, gender, and urban studies. Designed around the axes of "time," "place," and material culture, we teach students how to ask and answer scholarly questions and how to design and execute a capstone senior thesis project.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Take a student-run **DeCal course** like AMERSTD 98: Deconstructing America: Mythology and Hidden History.
- Explore America in the world through **study abroad**.
- Attend a California American Studies Association event.
- Apply for a **Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship** to support your senior thesis.
- Challenge yourself with an American Studies honors seminar and experience individual research mentorship.

AMERICAN STUDIES

Rachelor of Arts

DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY

opportunities.



	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR	FOURTH YEAR
Explore your major	Meet with faculty , major and college advisor to discuss academic plans. Review the American Studies website and student handbook , and research possible concentrations . Enroll in AMERSTD 10 & other lower division prerequisites now or before your third year.	Review your degree progress/courses with a faculty advisor and plan your concentration. Complete lower division prerequisites and declare the major (required when you complete 60 units). Consider enrolling in a "Time" or "Place" course. Complete any prerequisites for your concentration courses.	Focus on upper division requirements in your concentration. Review your degree progress with your faculty , major and college advisors. Browse American Studies graduate profiles for thesis abstracts.	Review your degree progress with your faculty , major and college advisors . Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate and complete any remaining major, college, and campus requirements. Complete your senior thesis.
Connect and build community	Get 1:1 mentoring with Berkeley Connect from graduate students in fields like History or English . Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center . Enroll in UGIS 98: College Success in L&S. Participate in Cal Day at the American Studies table.	Join a student organization like Multicultural Community Center or UC Berkeley Public Service Center. Meet faculty and students at the American Studies Spring Conference. Participate in Cal Day at the American Studies table.	Connect with other students and alumni in the American Studies Alumni group on LinkedIn. Welcome new students to UC Berkeley as a Golden Bear Orientation Leader. Participate in Cal Day at the American Studies table.	Join a professional association such as the American Studies Association or the California American Studies Association. Connect with alumni groups and build your network as you prepare to graduate. Participate in Cal Day at the American Studies table.
Discover your passions	Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar . Take a student-run DeCal course such as AMERSTD 98: Deconstructing America: Mythology and Hidden History. Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships .	Enroll in a Sophomore Seminar , Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course . Assist faculty in their research through URAP . Attend the annual American Studies spring colloquium.	Find research and funding opportunities in the OURS database. Consider applying to the Haas Scholars Program or SURF. Talk to your professors about which of your research papers to submit for the Library Prize.	Teach your own DeCal course . Submit your work to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal and get it published. Keep pursuing your interests through a fellowship or gap year after graduation.
Engage locally and globally	Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization. Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center . Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad .	Contribute to a community organization with an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course. Get involved with a service-learning program like Alternative Breaks or BUILD.	Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program. Study and intern in Washington D.C. with UCDC or Cal in the Capital. Consider a Berkeley Global Internship in the United States or abroad.	Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program. Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as the Peace Corps or U.S. Department of State.
Reflect and plan your future	Visit Berkeley Career Engagement and the Career Counseling Library. Develop a plan for getting career ready Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail. Check out career resources for interests within American Studies related to social impact,	Meet with a Career Educator to discuss your career options and goals. Explore career fields through the Career Connections Series or Cal Job Shadow Program . Learn about graduate and professional school . Think about doing an internship and attending an	Update your resume and LinkedIn profile. Discuss post-graduate options with advisors and professors. Attend career and graduate school fairs . Ask for recommendation letters and take any exams required for graduate school.	Check out profiles of American Studies graduates for post-graduate inspiration. Utilize job board tools in your job search. Meet employers at Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting. Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other

internship fair.

international relations, and communications.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Jobs and Employers

Analyst, Bank of America Asst. Editor, Skybridge College Consulting Assoc. Professor, UW-Madison Behavior Therapist, Juvo Chief Resident in Emergency Medicine, New York-Presbyterian Corporate Account Executive, GitHub Foreign Service Officer, U.S. Department of State Founder, OIM Records Graphic Designer, AQUIS Health Educator, Public Health Housing Specialist, City of Vallejo Project Manager, Orton Development Real Estate Associate, CBRE Program Director, KALW Sales Development, TripActions Scholarship Coord., Heart of Los Angeles Senior Financial Consultant, Charles Schwab Solutions Engineer, Mapbox Technical Writer, Cognizant Transportation Planner, City of

Graduate Programs

Oakland

American Studies, PhD History, Master's Journalism, Master's Law, JD Physical Therapy, DPT Public Health, Master's

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Examples gathered from the **First Destination Survey** of recent

Berkeley graduates