

# American Studies

## 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.

## American Studies majors develop the following skills:

- Historical, social and cultural methods of interpretation
- Research strategies
- Complex analysis
- Critical thinking
- How to write and speak effectively
- How to produce and present knowledge in multiple media formats
- Cooperative learning and action
- Leadership
- Understanding of US culture, cultural practices, and beliefs
- Respect for diverse peoples and ideas
- Ethical awareness and social concern

## Get Involved

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

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

## College of Arts & Sciences Career Services

213 Life Science East  
 Tel: 405 744 5658

For appointments and resources:  
<http://cascareers.okstate.edu>

## Job and Internship Websites

- OSU American Studies Website  
<http://amst.okstate.edu/Internships.html>
- 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/>

# American Studies Career Paths...

## **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 graduates possess many of the skills needed to find success in the communications and cultural industries. Their skills in research, writing and analysis make them well suited for 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

## **Law:**

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

### **Career Options**

Attorney (all specialties)	Paralegal
Entertainment Lawyer	FBI Special Agent

### **Potential Employers**

Law Firms	Corporations
Government	Non-Profit Organizations

## **Henry Bellmon Scholarship**

Provides financial assistance for full-time 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 213 LSE

## **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
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## **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
Historical Sites Supervisor	Historical Preservationist Cultural Collections Specialist
Heritage Tourism	
Prints & Photography	

### **Potential Employers**

Recreational Parks	Library
Museums	Visitors Bureau
National Parks Service	

## **Education:**

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

### **Career Options**

History/English/Social Studies Teacher  
College Professor/Administrator  
Elementary/Secondary School Teacher  
Grant Writer

### **Potential Employers**

Community Colleges  
K-12 School  
Non-Profit Organizations  
Universities

## **Internships**

American Studies students have the option of taking an internship related to the humanistic or social scientific study of American culture, politics, and society. Students must assume responsibility for finding 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 (e.g. 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>