

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL | MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

American Studies

DEGREES OFFERED

- M.A. in American Studies
- Ph.D. in American Studies



Department Address:
 College of Letters & Science
 American Studies Graduate Program
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The distinctive interdisciplinary approach of American Studies fosters well-rounded intellectual development. Students will acquire career skills in research, writing, critical analysis, argumentation, and documentation. The kind of intellectual skills provided by rigorous, interdisciplinary study are increasingly being recognized as the appropriate foundation for success in careers and post-baccalaureate programs ranging from business and management to law.

PROGRAM FOCUS: THE AMERICAN WEST

American Arts – Explore how visual and performing arts have shaped and reflected American culture, both past and present.

American History – MSU is internationally recognized for its strengths in American History, from the colonial period through the present.

American Literature – MSU offers a breadth and depth in literary theory of past and present American Literature.

American Pluralism – Explore why America is considered a “nation of nations” by drawing on expertise from faculty in Anthropology, Latin American Studies, Native American Studies, Religious Studies, Sociology and Women’s Studies.

Public History – Develop research interests and critical theory dedicated to understanding the roles of museums, historical sites, and heritage tourism in American culture.

continued





American Studies, continued

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Students will have many opportunities to participate in exchange programs abroad.

Doctoral students will be expected to spend at least two semesters completing coursework at, or conducting research in affiliation with, an American Studies program outside of the United States.

JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

Interested students may apply to be part of joint degree programs which have been established between Montana State University and the universities of Amsterdam and Utrecht.

RESEARCH VENUES

Museum of the Rockies

In 1957, the Museum of the Rockies was founded as a part of Montana State University to begin the study and interpretation of this extraordinary region. The museum has acquired broad-based collections which are used for research, publication, exhibition and teaching.

Students can explore the rich natural and cultural history of America's Northern Rocky Mountains. The Museum of the Rockies is the largest natural history museum in the region and includes the only Digistar planetarium in the Northern Rockies.

Yellowstone National Park

The Heritage and Research Center is a state-of-the-art facility that is home to Yellowstone National Park's museum.

FACULTY CONTACTS

Because American Studies is an interdisciplinary degree program, students will have opportunities to work with faculty from a variety of disciplines across campus.

Applicants are encouraged to explore the faculty webpages of departments that will be relevant to their areas of research interest. Further questions can be directed to:

Dr. Susan Cohen, Program Director
scohen@montana.edu

Dr. Robert Rydell, History
rwrydell@montana.edu

For more information, please email amerstudies@montana.edu or call 406-994-4395.

