optimization problems and multi-agent dynamic games, with a focus on applications to issues relevant to the environment, natural resources, agriculture, and development.—II. (II.)

256A. Applied Econometrics I (4)
Lecture—4 hours. Prerequisite: course 106 or Econom 140; or consent of instructor. First of two courses in the Masters-level econometrics sequence. The linear regression model and generalizations are applied to topics in agricultural and resource economics. Tools for empirical research for problems requiring more sophisticated tools than standard regression models are emphasized.—I. (I)

256B. Applied Econometrics II (4)
Lecture—4 hours. Prerequisite: course 256A or consent of instructor. Second of two courses in the Masters-level econometrics sequence. The linear regression model and generalizations are applied to topics in agricultural and resource economics. Tools for empirical research for problems requiring more sophisticated tools than standard regression models are emphasized.—II. (II.)

258. Demand and Market Analysis (4)
Lecture—4 hours. Prerequisite: courses 204A and 256 or consent of instructor. Application of theoretical material covered in 204A/8, with particular focus on production theory/factor demand and imperfect competition/market power. Use of theoretical models as a foundation for empirical economic analysis, and empirical exercises. Independent research on chosen topics, with empirical application.—III. (III.)

275. Economic Analysis of Resource and Environmental Policies (4)
Lecture/discussion—4 hours. Prerequisite: course 204A. Development of externality theory, market failure concepts, welfare economics, theory of renewable and non-renewable resource use, and political economic models. Applications to policy issues regarding the agricultural/environment interface and managing resources in the public domain. (Same course as Environmental Science and Policy 275.)—III. (III.)

276. Environmental Economics (4)
Lecture—3 hours; discussion—1 hour. Prerequisite: course 204A or consent of instructor. Applications of externality theory to the design of efficient environmental policies. Evaluation of pollution control policy instruments in light of information limitations and market imperfections. Methods for nonmarket valuation of the benefits of environmental improvement.

277. Natural Resource Economics (4)
Lecture—4 hours. Prerequisite: course 254 or consent of instructor. Application of capital theory and dynamic methods to issues of optimal use of renewable and nonrenewable resources. Examination of policy issues associated with forests, fisheries, groundwater, energy resources, watersheds, soil, global climate, and wildlife.—III. (III.)

290. Topics in Agricultural and Resource Economics (3)
Lecture—3 hours. Selected topics in agricultural and resource economics, focusing on current research. May be repeated 4 times for credit. Offered irregularly.

293. Analysis of California Agriculture and Resource Issues (3)
Lecture—1.5 hours; fieldwork—45 hours total, including one 5-day summer field trip. Review and analysis of production, marketing, and resource issues facing agricultural firms in California. Applications of economic theory and measurement to individual firm and industry decisions in an applied setting. (S/U grading only.)—I. (I)

298. Directed Group Study (1-5)
Advanced study through special seminars, informal group studies, or group research on problems for analysis and experimentation. Sections: (1) Managerial Economics; (2) Agricultural Policy; (3) Community and Regional Development; (4) Natural Resources; (5) Human Resources; (6) Research Methods and Quantitative Analysis.

299. Individual Study (1-12)
Sections: (1) Managerial Economics; (2) Agricultural Policy; (3) Community and Regional Development; (4) Natural Resources; (5) Human Resources; (6) Research Methods and Quantitative Analysis; and (7) Dissertation Research Prospectus. (S/U grading only.)

299D. Special Study for Doctoral Dissertation (1-12)
(S/U grading only.)

Professional

396. Teaching Assistant Training Practicum (1-4)
Prerequisite: graduate standing. May be repeated for credit. (S/U grading only.)

American Studies

(College of Letters and Science)
Julie Sze, Ph.D., Program Director
Program Office. 2134A Hart Hall 530-752-6429; http://ama.ucdavis.edu

Committee in Charge
Charlotte Billeff, Ph.D. (American Studies)
Christina Cagdell, Ph.D. (Design)
Carolyn de la Peña, Ph.D. (American Studies)
Caren Kaplan, Ph.D. (American Studies)
Susette Min, Ph.D. (Asian American Studies)
Eric Smoordin, Ph.D. (American Studies)
Julie Sze, Ph.D. (American Studies)
Grace Wang, Ph.D. (American Studies)

Faculty
Charlotte Billeff, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Carolyn de la Peña, Ph.D., Professor
Caren Kaplan, Ph.D., Professor
Eric Smoordin, Ph.D., Professor
Julie Sze, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Grace Wang, Ph.D., Assistant Professor

Emeriti Faculty
Jay Mechling, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus
Academic Senate Distinguished Teaching Award
Michael L. Smith, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer Emeritus
David Scaife Wilson, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer Emeritus

The Major Program
American Studies explores the cultures of the United States, as well as their transnational exchanges and impact. The discipline’s practitioners seek to understand the historical origins of particular cultures and practices held by individuals and groups within the United States and how those values and beliefs shape social and political realities within and beyond U.S. borders. The approach that American Studies takes is interdisciplinary, meaning that in American Studies we answer these questions using tools developed by numerous disciplines including history, sociology, anthropology, literary criticism, folklore, media and science and technology studies. American Studies takes as its subject American cultures and provides an excellent, broad education in the liberal arts. Our aim is to make each student a culture critic, a person capable of bringing a thoughtful and humane approach to bear upon our understanding of the varieties of American experiences. Making connections is the way we like to characterize our work in American Studies. American Studies majors are good critical thinkers, develop excellent writing skills, and most importantly “learn how to learn,” that is, you learn to figure out what intellectual tools and specialized knowledge you will need to perform a task or solve a problem. These intellectual and communication skills will prepare majors for a broad array of careers.

The Program
American Studies majors take five upper division courses devoted to close study of major issues crucial to the practice of American Studies. Advanced work in at least two other departments or programs allows each student to tailor his or her own individual education goals. Sample emphases include: Cultural Sustainability, Consumption, Youth Education, Social Identities, Nature, Culture and Environment, Marketing, Advertising and Business, and Food and Health, for example. Students have the option of writing a senior thesis within this emphasis.

Career Alternatives
As an interdisciplinary program, American Studies provides a good liberal arts and sciences undergraduate education. American Studies maximizes a student’s contact with a variety of subject matter and approaches. Graduates have moved into a broad range of career settings, including journalism, law, teaching, marketing, nonprofit and community organizations, government, social work, environmental planning, library science, etc.