Asian American Studies, Bachelor of Arts

College of Letters & Science

The Major Program

Offering both an undergraduate major and minor, our curriculum emphasizes multidisciplinary, comparative, transnational, and intersectional perspectives; original empirically-based scholarship; cultural production and analyses; and community engagement.

In consultation with our faculty and staff advisors, students in the major have the exciting opportunity to select an emphasis or specialty organized around our faculty’s core areas of intellectual focus including —Immigration, Labor, and Transnationalism; Visual, Literary, and Cultural Studies; and Public/Community-Engaged Scholarship. The department is also developing an emphasis on Health through its emerging partnerships. Each emphasis incorporates a diverse array of thematic, theoretical, disciplinary, and methodological approaches—as well as a focus on a broad range of Asian American communities—allowing students to choose a course of study that aligns with their particular academic and career interests.

In order to enhance students’ intellectual development and postgraduate preparation, our curriculum also requires that all majors complete an off-campus community internship. This requirement seeks to ensure students experience a deeper and more comprehensive liberal arts education that connects classroom education to real life contexts that foster the development of new forms of knowledge and practical skills. The Department also offers an optional two-quarter thesis writing seminar for students in the major and minor that progresses through each stage of designing and completing an individualized undergraduate thesis project based on original research, which helps prepare students interested in applying for graduate school.

Career Alternatives

With the multidisciplinary emphasis of our program, an Asian American studies major provides excellent preparation for a diverse range of careers. Our alumni have established successful careers in the arts, community-based and non-profit organizations, government and politics, human rights, journalism, international relations, law, K-12 education, public health, public policy, social work, and student affairs in higher education. Others have gone on to pursue postgraduate degrees in a wide variety of fields that include education, ethnic studies, fine arts, feminist & queer studies, history, law, literature, political science, public policy, sociology, and social work. Our department has fostered close relationships with our alumni who are committed to supporting our majors with their career plans.

General Education Requirements

A large number of the courses offered by the Department fulfill a wide range of general education topical breadth and core literacy requirements that include:

Topical Breadth
• Arts & Humanities
• Social Sciences

Core Literacy

- Writing Experience
- Oral Skills
- Visual Literacy

Civic & Cultural Literacy
• American Cultures, Governance, & History
• Domestic Diversity
• World Cultures

Major Advisor

Joe Nguyen (jovnguyen@ucdavis.edu), Student Academic Advisor (SAA); 530-752-8617.

Substitutions for disciplinary track courses will be considered by the Department Chair on a case-by-case basis. Likewise, any substitutions of Major/Minor criteria will be considered by the Department Chair.

Direct questions pertaining to the following courses to the instructor or to the Department of Asian American Studies in 3102 Hart Hall; 530-752-2069. Also find relevant contact information at Asian American Studies (https://asa.ucdavis.edu/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASA 001</td>
<td>Historical Experience of Asian Americans</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA 002</td>
<td>Contemporary Issues of Asian Americans</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA 003</td>
<td>Social &amp; Psychological Perspectives of Asian Americans</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA 004</td>
<td>Asian American Cultural Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Choose at least two lower division courses from the following departments or programs:</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>African American &amp; African Studies (AAS), American Studies (AMS), Chicana/o Studies (CHI), Gender, Sexuality, &amp; Women’s Studies (GSW), Middle East &amp; South Asia Studies (ME/SA), Native American Studies (NAS), Women’s Studies (WMS); all lower division courses of at least 4 units are acceptable except those numbered 092, 097T, 098, 099</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Methodology

Choose at least two courses from any of the following methods courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAS 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Research in the Afro-American Community</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMS 100</td>
<td>Methods in American Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANT 013</td>
<td>Scientific Method in Physical Anthropology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHI 005</td>
<td>Understanding Visual Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHI 100</td>
<td>Methods of Art History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ART 030</td>
<td>Introduction to Contemporary Visual Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHI 023</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENL 042</td>
<td>Approaches to Reading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENL 110A</td>
<td>Introduction to Literary Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENL 110B</td>
<td>Introduction to Modern Literary &amp; Critical Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIS 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Historical Thought &amp; Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDE 120</td>
<td>Research Methods in Human Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHI 005</td>
<td>Critical Reasoning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Preparatory Subject Matter Subtotal

- **POL 051** Scientific Study of Politics
- **PSC 041** Research Methods in Psychology
- **STA 013** Elementary Statistics
- **WMS 104** Feminist Research

Preparatory Subject Matter Subtotal: 32

### Depth Subject Matter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASA 192</strong></td>
<td>Internships ¹</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Major Emphasis**

As part of the depth subject matter requirement, all Asian American Studies majors are encouraged to select a major emphasis or pathway by choosing either a disciplinary or thematic specialization in consultation with the Student Affairs Officer (SAO) and/or faculty advisors.

Choose at least six upper division Asian American Studies (ASA) courses:

- **ASA 100** Asian American Communities
- **ASA 102** Theoretical Perspective in Asian American Studies
- **ASA 112** Asian American Women
- **ASA 113** Asian American Sexuality
- **ASA 114** Asian Diasporas
- **ASA 115** Multiracial Asian Pacific American Issues
- **ASA 116** Asian American Youth
- **ASA 121** Asian American Performance
- **ASA 130** Asian American Literature
- **ASA 131** Ethnicity, Culture, & the Self
- **ASA/SPH 132** Health Issues Confronting Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders
- **ASA 141** Asian Americans & the Political Culture of Fashion in the U.S. & Asia
- **ASA 150** Filipino American Experience
- **ASA 150B** Japanese American Experience
- **ASA 150C** Chinese American Experience
- **ASA 150D** Korean American Experience
- **ASA 150E** Southeast Asian American Experience
- **ASA 150F** South Asian American History, Culture, & Politics
- **ASA 155** Asian American Legal History
- **ASA 189A** Topics in Asian American Studies: History
- **ASA 189B** Topics in Asian American Studies: Culture
- **ASA 189C** Topics in Asian American Studies: Physical & Mental Health
- **ASA 189D** Topics in Asian American Studies: Policy & Community
- **ASA 189E** Topics in Asian American Studies: Comparative Racial Studies
- **ASA 189F** Topics in Asian American Studies: Asian Studies & Asian American Studies
- **ASA 189G** Topics in Asian American Studies: Race, Class, Gender, & Sexuality
- **ASA 189H** Topics in Asian American Studies: Society & Institutions
- **ASA 189I** Topics in Asian American Studies: Politics & Social Movements

**ASA 194 & ASA 195**

Asian American Studies Capstone Course and Asian American Studies Senior Thesis Seminar ²

**ASA 198**

Directed Group Study ³

**ASA 199**

Special Study for Advanced Undergraduates ³

At least two upper division elective courses from other departments or programs that relate to chosen emphasis.

Two courses (of up to 8 units) from Study Abroad can be substituted for major requirements upon approval from the SAO or faculty advisor.

Substitutions for disciplinary track courses will be considered by the Department Chair on a case by case basis. Likewise, any substitutions of Major/Minor criteria will be considered by the Department Chair.

Depth Subject Matter Subtotal: 36-44

**Total Required Units: 68**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Units</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68-76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ **ASA 192** Required.

² **ASA 194** and **ASA 195** is a series of courses that is taken consecutively in two quarters. Students enrolling in **ASA 194** must also enroll in **ASA 195** the following quarter to complete the series.

³ Up to 6 units in **ASA 198** and/or **ASA 199** can be used to satisfy the Asian American Studies upper division course requirements.