

Department of American Studies Major Southwest Concentration

Description: Students who major in American Studies with a Southwest concentration assume considerable responsibility for creating their own courses of study. Our majors are encouraged to work in a wide variety of subjects and disciplines and to develop individual and innovative courses of study. The major requires a minimum of **36** semester hours, which includes a three-credit hour introductory course and three other seminars that introduces students to main currents in the field of American Studies and prepares them to conduct original research. Part of the unique flexibility of the major is found in the transdisciplinary nature of the degree. Students are encouraged to apply courses to the American Studies major from other departments (courses that they count toward other majors, minors or core UNM requirements).

Course of Study (36 Total Credits)

1. **American Studies 186: Introduction to Southwest Studies** (3 credits)
2. **American Studies 285: American Life and Thought** (3 credits; course offered every semester)
3. **Interdisciplinary Requirement: Interdepartmental Studies of American Culture** (15 credits)
At least 6 credits must be 300 level or above; no more than 6 credits in any one area listed below in the following areas: (1) American Studies; (2) History; (3) Literature or Philosophy; (4) Political, Economic, or Geographic Studies; (5) Social, Scientific, or Cultural Systems; and (6) Arts and Communication
4. **American Studies 385: Methods in American Studies** (one section offered each Fall semester)
5. **Senior Program** (6 credits; three 300-level or higher courses)
In consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, choose courses from the American Studies Department and at least one other department that relate to your particular academic interests.
6. **American Studies 486: Senior Seminar in Southwest Studies** (AMST 485 can be used if 486 is not offered)