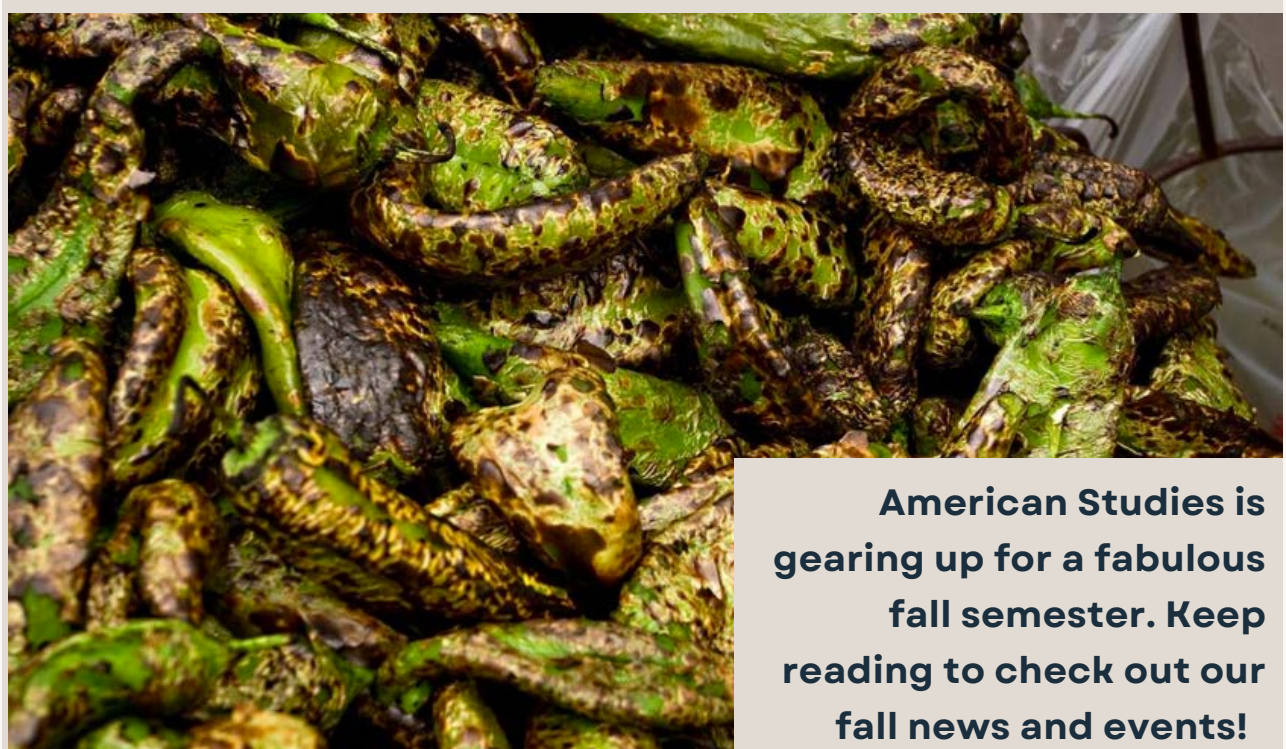




**American Studies is
gearing up for a fabulous
fall semester. Keep
reading to check out our
fall news and events!**



In this newsletter you will find:

Latest projects, workshops, free resources, and more. Keep Reading!



Welcome Days!

**WE LOVED SEEING YOU AT
UNM "WELCOME BACK" DAYS!**



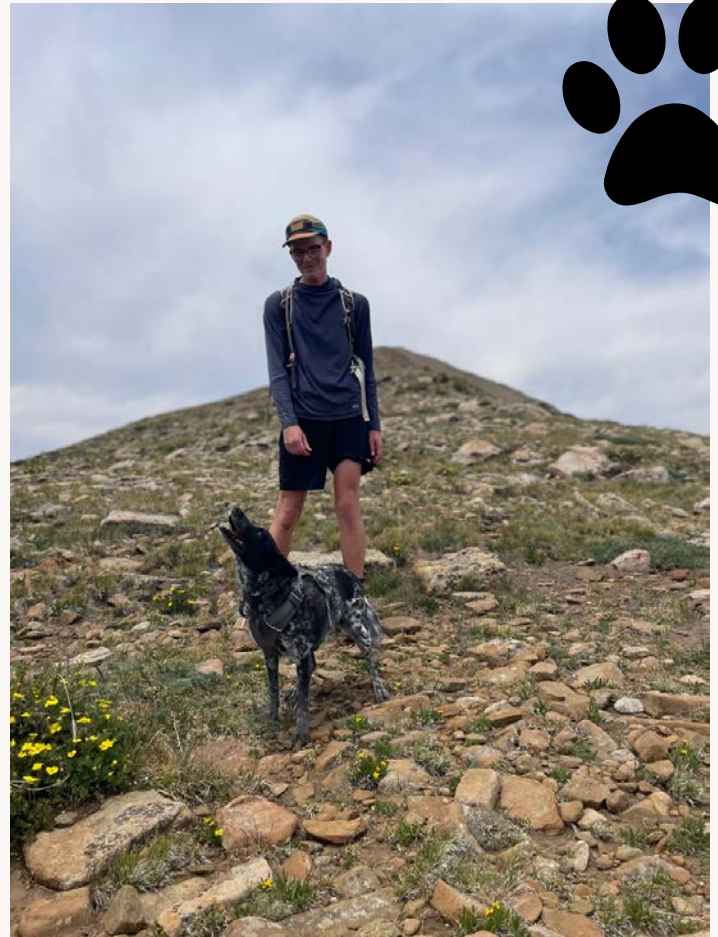


What did American Studies get up to during the hot summer days?

“I spent a beautiful week hiking in Colorado with my family. We saw two moose, many marmots, and one black-footed ferret.”



- Dr. Grant



Maisie and Dr. Grant, 2026

“This summer I worked on writing and spent time at many ABQ coffee shops (no iced coffee for me - I drink hot coffee even at 100°F).

- Dr. Atterbury



“Most of my summer work has been archival. I recorded video conversations with George Lispitz and Maria Montoya about their new books.”

- Dr. Trujillo

Kicking things off!

JOIN US FOR OUR START-OF-YEAR VIRTUAL PANEL

Join us online Thursday, Sept. 17, at 4:00pm as we discuss what you can actually do with an American Studies degree, and where the field can take you.

AMERICAN STUDIES. NOT JUST PREPARING FOR YOUR FUTURE, BUILDING IT COLLECTIVELY.

ZOOM WEBINAR: SEPT. 17, 4PM

SO, WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A MAJOR IN AMERICAN STUDIES?

Virtual Panel for all majors, minors and prospective students. AMST faculty and alumni discuss how they see American Studies as crucial in today's political landscape – and the jobs that align with American Studies' goals and mission.



**Jennifer Denetdale,
Chair**



**Alyosha Goldstein,
Professor**



**Megan Honnold,
AMST Alumnus**



**Naomi Ambriz
CNM AMST Faculty**

**Moderator: Daisy Atterbury
Undergrad Director, AMST**

**REGISTER FOR ZOOM:
(LINK FORTHCOMING!)**

Alumni and current students!

Come one, come all! We're hosting our first-ever Homecoming Night Pub Quiz, "Everyone's a Lobo" Trivia Night event. We'll be at Draft & Table on campus on Thursday, Oct. 22 at 4:30pm. See you there!

— AMERICAN STUDIES · PACK WEEK 2026

EVERYONE'S A LOBO TRIVIA NIGHT



An 8-Round Pack Week Pub Quiz
— How Well Do You Actually Know
New Mexico?

DATE · TIME

Thursday, Oct 22 · 4:30pm

LOCATION

**Draft & Table,
UNM SUB**

Free · Teams of up to 6 · Prizes · **No registration — just show up**

**64 questions tonight.
A whole major's worth
after that.**

NM DEPARTMENT OF
AMERICAN STUDIES



**OCTOBER
18 - 24, 2025**

CHACO X UNM

SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS UPCOMING AMERICAN STUDIES VISIT!

Save the Date for a field trip to Chaco Canyon on November 7th, open to all UNM students, staff, faculty, and community members. More information, including a sign-up form, coming soon. For questions, contact Dr. Jennifer Denetdale and Dr. Silas Grant. We hope American Studies students and community will join us!



The Greater Chaco region is a vast living and cultural landscape that extends throughout the Four Corners. At its center is Chaco Canyon, where the ancestors of Pueblo and Diné peoples lived and stewarded the land for generations. Pueblo, Diné, and other Tribes maintain profound spiritual and cultural connections to Chaco Canyon and the broader landscape today. (Cont'd next page)



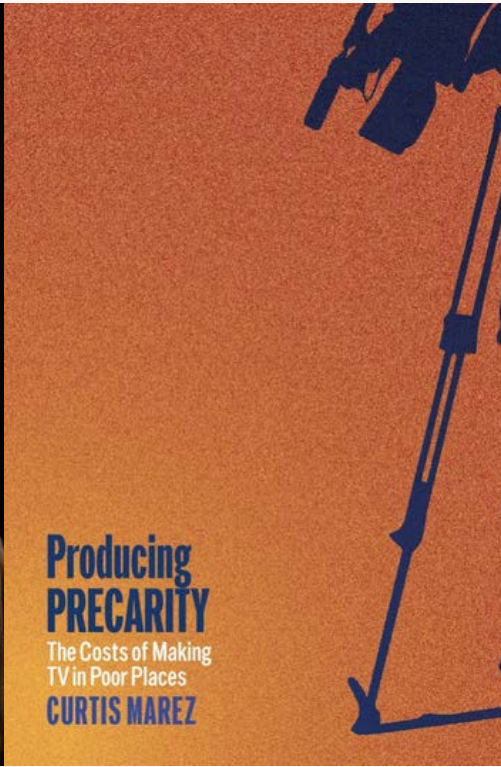
(Cont'd) Participants in this trip will have a unique opportunity to spend time on the land and learn directly from Diné and Pueblo community leaders about the importance of Chaco Canyon and the Greater Chaco region. Participants will also learn about how they can support Diné and Pueblo-led protection and advocacy efforts. As oil and gas extraction in the region ramps up and environmental and cultural protections are being revoked, this intergenerational learning and community-building opportunity is especially timely.

Q&A with Sofie Hecht, a former participant: Sofie, you attended last year's visit to Chaco Canyon, organized by Dr. Denetdale through American Studies. What did you learn from the experience, and what was it like?

Sofie Hecht: We left Albuquerque for Chaco early one morning in April, meeting Dr. D and our classmates at the Chaco National Park parking lot. I remember watching Cabezón Peak get closer and closer as we drove and then disappear as we headed West through checker-boarded landscape and finally descended into the National Park on gravel roads. Dr. D's friend and local historian/archaeologist/storyteller Taft Blackhorse generously guided us through Chaco, telling us Navajo oral histories and creation stories at each stop. I was so grateful to learn from someone whose family had always been a part of this place and whose stories helped orient me to where I was. The rocks and the cities built from them were a beautiful reminder of time, tradition, resilience and the power of the Earth. So glad I got to go!



Mark your calendars!



WHO?

CURTIS MAREZ

WHEN?

SATURDAY, OCT 3

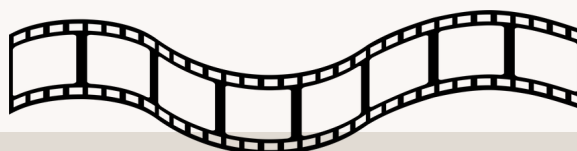
WHERE?

ONLINE, LIVE
EVENT, DETAILS
TBA.

American Studies Professor Michael Trujillo will be hosting a video conversation with **Curtis Marez, Professor in the Ethnic Studies Department at the University of California, San Diego**, and the author of *Drug Wars: The Political Economy of Narcotics* and *Farm Worker Futurism: Speculative Technologies of Resistance*.

Dr. Marez's most recent book, ***Producing Precarity: The Costs of Making TV in Poor Places (NYU Press)***, is about making film and media in Albuquerque and Atlanta.

The conversation is connected to American Studies class, "Breaking Bad," as the course features Dr. Marez' his book this year.



PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS X AMERICAN STUDIES

Meet with the American Studies Undergrad Director (your department advisor), who can help you chart your path through American Studies, propose your Senior Thesis topic, or just say hello!



Q&A:

**DR. ATTERBURY,
UNDERGRADUATE
DIRECTOR FOR
AMERICAN STUDIES**

Q: What is American Studies, anyway?

A: It's basically the major for people who are curious about U.S. and broader American culture, politics, history, media and constructions of race, gender, and citizenship, and most importantly, how they all connect.

Q: What's your favorite thing about the major?

A: There's no single "American Studies person." You can be interested in almost anything and find a way to study it. But it will challenge you to see the world differently!

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS: X AMERICAN STUDIES

Q&A: DR. ATTERBURY, UNDERGRADUATE DIRECTOR FOR AMERICAN STUDIES

Q: What do you actually do as Undergraduate Director?

A: I help students navigate the major, brainstorm classes and research ideas, and figure out what they want to do next. Basically, I can be your academic GPS! I also coordinate our undergraduate events (so if there's an event or speaker you'd like to see in American Studies, reach out and let me know!).

POP QUIZ!

Q: What should students come talk to you about?

A: Pretty much anything! Especially if you're wondering, "Is this a thing I can study?" (Usually, yes.) I'm also especially interested to support students thinking about pursuing Senior Theses. It's never too soon to check in about your plan.

Q: Best reason to take an American Studies class?

A: You might leave class knowing more about history and power dynamics, and find yourself pulled not just to plug into the world around you, but perhaps even engage with or change it.

More events!



This fall, the Institute for American Indian Research (IFAIR) will be hosting Jodi Byrd, Professor in the Department of Race, Diaspora, and Indigeneity at University of Chicago.

*Jodi Byrd, University of Chicago website,
<https://rdi.uchicago.edu/directory/jodi-byrd>*

We're excited for the lunch talk taking place on November 4, 2026, 12pm. Plan to be there!

Location: History Commons in Mesa Vista Hall.



PROFESSOR BYRD'S RESEARCH FOCUSES ON INDIGENOUS STUDIES, INDIGENOUS FEMINIST AND QUEER STUDIES, AND VIDEO GAME STUDIES. THEIR 2011 BOOK *THE TRANSIT OF EMPIRE: INDIGENOUS CRITIQUES OF COLONIALISM* (UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS) WON THE 2011 BEST FIRST BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE NATIVE AMERICAN AND INDIGENOUS STUDIES ASSOCIATION, AND THE 2012 WORDCRAFT CIRCLE AWARD FOR ACADEMIC WORK OF THE YEAR. BYRD ALSO CO-EDITS THE NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY PRESS' CRITICAL INSURGENCIES SERIES. PRIOR TO JOINING THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, THEY WERE A PROFESSOR OF LITERATURES IN ENGLISH AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

AMERICAN STUDIES FALL COURSES!

WE HAVE MANY EXCITING COURSES LAUNCHING AND RETURNING THIS FALL. CHECK OUT A FEW OF OUR FLYERS BELOW, AND EMAIL ANY OF OUR PROFESSORS FOR DETAILS!

AMST 400/509

Fall 2026 – Mondays 1:00-3:30pm

CLIMATE JUSTICE and NEW MEXICO Community-Based Approaches

This course examines the climate crisis as a problem of colonialism and racial capitalism. Through engagement with interdisciplinary texts and collaboration with community partners, we will consider strategies for addressing the multi-scalar and uneven harms of extractive economies. We will pay specific attention to New Mexico's role in the climate crisis, to the effects of climate change in the state, and to traditions of environmental and climate justice organizing led by Indigenous peoples, people of color, and low-income communities in New Mexico. Students will work alongside grassroots organizations on projects that advance these groups' climate and environmental justice goals, gaining experience in critical analysis, community-based research, and producing community-relevant outputs.

For questions, contact Dr. Silas Grant: soagrnt@unm.edu

AMST 331 | CRN:83478



Politics of Sex

Let's examine how sexuality is shaped by power, culture, law, and social institutions in the U.S. and beyond. Drawing from feminist, queer, trans, and critical race scholarship, this course explores topics such as reproductive politics, intimacy, labor, censorship, identity, and the regulation of bodies and desire. Students will analyze how sex and sexuality intersect with race, gender, class, and colonialism to shape everyday life and political struggle.



Fall 2026 | T/Th 11-12:15PM

UNM FALL 2026 COURSE
AMST 341 / RELG 347
MEETS: T/TH 3:30 PM - 04:45PM

CHRIST, BLOOD & FILM

New Fall Seminar!

This course interrogates how Christianity and images of Christ are used in film to reveal power and inequality in the U.S. Special attention will be given to the uses of horror, horror, and hope in film to communicate the relationship of Christianity to issues of colonialism, racism, and revolution throughout the history of the United States.

CONTACT
Hester Star - hstar@unm.edu



FALL 2026 - AMST 340/540 BAD BUNNY: FASHION REVOLTS FALL 2026

ARE YOU READY
TO PERREO...
ACADEMICALLY?

Why take it?
To understand the power
of visual identity in the
21st century.

Who is it for?
Fans, skeptics, and
anyone interested in the
future of fashion.



4-6:30 - WEDS - DR. FRANCISCO J GALARTE

RESEARCH X AMERICAN STUDIES



GETTING AHEAD OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH:

ARE YOU THINKING OF DOING
AN **HONORS THESIS PROJECT**,
EVEN NEXT YEAR? REACH OUT
TO A FACULTY MEMBER OR
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
TODAY!

HOW IT WORKS:

American Studies majors can sign up to do an Honors Thesis, which enables eligible students to graduate with Departmental Honors!

Steps:

#1 Email the current Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS), and brainstorm about topics and faculty to work with (daisyatterbury@unm.edu)

#2 We'll help you find a faculty mentor, with whom you'll enroll in an independent study

#3 Complete the Honors Program Application

#4 Enroll in the American Studies Honors Thesis (AMST 499) for three credit hours.

Tip: The Honors Thesis can be an expansion of the research project produced in the **Senior Seminar (AMST 485)** or it can be a different research project that was begun in another advanced American Studies course.

Pair your thesis with UNM Opportunities



Present your thesis work next spring at UROC!

Apply for funding through ASSURE: UNM's Undergrad Research Program

FUNDING:

THE ASSURE AWARD IS FOR THE FULL ACADEMIC YEAR, WITH EIGHT MONTHLY STIPENDS OF \$400 (\$1,600/SEMESTER; \$3,200/ACADEMIC YEAR).

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS X AMERICAN STUDIES

About Us

The program offers a flexible, interdisciplinary approach to learning, allowing students to design their own degree path by combining courses from different departments and colleges.

A significant feature is the emphasis on real-world experience. The department encourages students to engage in community-based coursework, research, and paid internships with local organizations like the New Mexico Office of the State Historian and the National Hispanic Cultural Center.

Small classes, engaged faculty, and a truly diverse and interesting community of scholars make the American Studies department intellectually exciting, rigorous, and relevant to student interests.

Overall, the program provides students with the unique opportunity to develop their specific interests, acquire a broad range of research skills, and gain practical experience that applies their knowledge to the community.

AMERICAN STUDIES

**FIND A NEW
PERSPECTIVE
ON YOUR WORLD
AND YOUR
PLACE IN IT.**

**LET'S BUILD
YOUR
UNDERGRAD
CAREER
TOGETHER.**



(505) 277-4009



<https://americanstudies.unm.edu/>



amstudy@unm.edu



Scan here for
more
Information

NEED HELP WITH YOUR
COURSEWORK OR THESIS?

DON'T FORGET

CTL Writing Tutoring

Drop-In Tutoring

Monday - Thursday: 10:00am-5:00pm

Friday: 10:00am-2:30pm

Located on the 3rd floor of Zimmerman Library

Online Tutoring

To make a Zoom appointment with
a writing tutor email
tutoring@unm.edu

OR

Submit written assignments to
our Online Writing Lab (OWL) and
get feedback via email



POP QUIZ!

Workshops

Refer to our website for upcoming
workshops hosted by the writing
team

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO REPLY TO THIS EMAIL OR
SEND ME A PERSONAL NOTE AT
DAISYATTERBURY@UNM.EDU ~ I'D LOVE TO SHARE
EVENTS YOU'RE INVOLVED WITH AND PROJECTS
YOU'RE WORKING ON WITH THE AMERICAN
STUDIES COMMUNITY!



REMINDER

— DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES · PACK WEEK 2026

EVERYONE'S A LOBO TRIVIA NIGHT

An 8-Round Pack Week Pub Quiz — How Well Do You
Actually Know New Mexico?

Lobo lore. Red or green. Mystery yearbook photos. Movies, music, Pueblo
history, and the strange politics of homecoming itself. 64 questions. One
champion team.



DATE

Thursday, Oct 22

TIME

**Doors 4:30pm
Trivia 5:00pm sharp**

LOCATION

**Draft & Table
UNM SUB**

Free · Teams of up to 6 · Prizes · **No registration — just show up**

**Everything in tonight's quiz is a real field of study. That's
American Studies.**

NM DEPARTMENT OF
AMERICAN STUDIES



OCTOBER
18-24, 2026

[WWW.HTTPS://AMERICANSTUDIES.UNM.EDU](https://americanstudies.unm.edu)