7. Change in Curriculum

**College of Liberal Arts**
B.A. in American Studies
13 October 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sandra Williams  
Academic Support Services

THROUGH: Pamela Matthews, Associate Dean  
College of Liberal Arts

FROM: Susan M. Stabile, Director  
American Studies Program

RE: Reduction in Hours for AMST Degree

The American Studies Degree Program proposes to reduce the state-mandated number of hours for a degree in AMST to 120 hours from its current requirement of 128 hours.

This will be accomplished by:
   a.) eliminating the requirement for the Minor
   b.) reapportioning and reducing the number of credit hours from the Minor to Free Electives

The AMST major will now consist of:
   College of Liberal Arts and TAMU Core requirements: 75 hours
   AMST Core Requirements: 15 hours
   AMST Directed Electives Requirements: 18 hours
   Free Electives: 12 hours
   TOTAL HOURS: 120 hours

Please see the attached photocopy of pages from TAMU Catalogue 131 for specific alterations to the existing requirements for the AMST major.

Thank you.
Curriculum in American Studies

The undergraduate program in American Studies (AMST) is designed to provide students with a broad-based liberal arts education and introduce students to the theories and methods of the well-established and vibrant field of American Studies. Administered by the College of Liberal Arts, the American Studies curriculum is interdisciplinary and encourages students to take courses in a number of departments and work with an advisor to construct their own curriculum most appropriate to individual interests and areas of concentration. Graduates in American Studies compete successfully for jobs in a broad variety of fields, education, business, government and non-profit organizations. Demand for graduates with specific training in American Studies exists in elementary and secondary education, in museums and archives, and in the U.S. Departments of State and of the Interior. American Studies graduates may prepare for admissions to graduate programs in law, American studies, public policy, history, English, philosophy, sociology or political science.

Requirements

American Studies. 15 credits. Courses to be selected in consultation with your advisor. A grade of C or higher is required for each course counted toward the major.

Core Courses: 15 credits

Credit | Course
--- | ---
3 | AMST 300 Imagined Americas
12 | To be selected from the following or in consultation with the Director of American Studies:
AMST 310 Confronting Conflict
AMST 320 Versions of the American Dream
AMST 330 Intersecting Cultures
AMST 340 Region and Place
AMST 350 Materializing America
AMST 481 Senior Seminar
AMST 489 Special Topics

Area Studies Directed Electives. 18 credits. Students must take 9 credits (3 courses) from an approved list of courses relevant to a concentration in Arts and Culture, Ethnicity, and Culture, Environments, and Technology, or Society and Government. Student may focus up to 9 credits in a subdivision within each area. The list of approved courses is available through the Office of the American Studies Coordinator and in the Undergraduate Student Services Office in College of Liberal Arts.

Minor Field of Study. 15-18 credits. American Studies students are required to select a minor. Minors must conform to the minor requirements of the College of Liberal Arts. Alternatively, the minor will be completed within a single department to allow a focus on a single discipline; a student may, however, complete a cross-departmental minor with approval of the American Studies Program Director. A grade of C or higher is required for each course counted toward a minor.

College and University Requirements. 72 credits. Students should consult the approved list of courses available in the University Core Curriculum section of the catalog. The following lists incorporate University Core Curriculum requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Communication: ENGL 104 and one course selected from ENGL 203, 210, 215, 226, 241 or 301; COMM 203 or 204.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Literature in English: ENGL 203 (unless 203 is used to satisfy the communication requirement), 212, 221, 222, 227, 228, 231, 232 or a course for which one of these listed courses is a prerequisite.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Foreign Language (14 hours or equivalent): Four-course sequence in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Russian, Spanish, unless permission is received from the American Studies Coordinator to substitute work in another language. This will not satisfy the college humanities and visual and performing arts requirement.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Mathematics: At least 3 hours must be in MATH (excluding 102, 103, 104, 130, 150, 165, 365, 366). Three hours may be selected from PHIL 240, 341 or 343.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Natural Sciences: Two or more courses; minimum of one course shall include a corresponding laboratory, to be selected from BIOL 107; BIOL 111; BIOL 101; CHEM 101, 103/113; GEOL 101; PHYS 201, 218. The other course may be chosen from the preceding list or the approved list of courses in astronomy, anthropology, biology, chemistry, forest science, genetics, geology, geophysics, meteorology, oceanography, physics, renewable natural resources and zoology. The approved list is available in the University Core Curriculum section of this catalog.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts: Selected from the approved list of courses in anthropology, art history, classics, film studies, fine arts, geography, history, international relations, linguistics, literature, music, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, sociology, and theatre arts. The approved list is available in the University Core Curriculum section of this catalog.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral Sciences: Selected from the approved list of courses in such areas as anthropology, archaeology, economics, geography, international relations, political science, psychology, sociology, and urban studies. The approved list is available in the University Core Curriculum section of this catalog.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Political Science: POLS 206 and 207.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Kinesiology: KINE 198 Health and Fitness Activity and KINE 199 Required Physical Activity.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>U.S. History: Two courses in U.S. history; no more than one course may be in Texas history.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>International and Cultural Diversity: To be selected from approved list. This course may also be used to satisfy any other requirement.</td>
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Total hours 120

Catalog 131