

Name:

Graduation Year:

Email:

Preferred Contact:

AMERICAN STUDIES NEW MAJOR CONTRACT

American Studies is a special program in many ways; admission to the program is by application and our seminars are small dialogue-intensive classes. Besides being supported by WCAS the program has a dedicated endowment that allows it to fund student research, extracurricular educational events, material support for internships, and community building activities for American Studies majors.

As is usually the case, privileges imply responsibilities. In order to enhance the program’s intellectual and social community, majors are expected to make both a scholarly and extracurricular commitment to the program. This includes but is not limited to attending lectures, events, and conferences the program sponsors. Students are also encouraged to propose new events, suggest guest speakers, and creatively explore new ways to enhance the experience of everyone in the program, the larger Northwestern community, and the community beyond campus as well. Beyond academic and extracurricular concerns, students will be encouraged and supported to develop habits of personal initiative, professional communication, and shared achievement which will contribute to their professional and personal success after graduation.

More specifically, the program asks all of its majors to agree to the following special requirements:

1. Schedule and attend regular meetings with program advisers to discuss academic progress. Specifically, every major is required to attend the quarterly group advising sessions as well as individually meet with the Director at least once a quarter before registering for the following quarter’s classes or confirming study abroad. Course selections must be approved by the Director. These meetings will concentrate on fulfilling American Studies course requirements (10 courses at the 200 or 300 level, from at least three different departments, organized around a topic or theme).
2. 100% attendance in the AMER_ST 301-1, 301-2, and 301-3 seminars, except when absence is absolutely unavoidable and when fully explained to the seminar faculty. The entire AMER_ST 301 sequence is recommended though exceptions may be approved by the Director based on scheduling needs. 100% attendance in the AMER_ST 390-1 and 390-2 seminars, except when absence is absolutely unavoidable, and when fully explained to the seminar faculty.
3. To allow completed senior projects to be made available as resources to future American Studies majors, with the understanding that the projects will not be circulated, but will be viewed only within the American Studies Program offices.

These requirements are designed to enhance everyone’s educational experience and to reinvigorate with each new class the distinctive intellectual community that has long been one of the Program’s most attractive features.

I understand and shall comply with the requirements of the American Studies major and I have decided to enroll.

Signature of new major

Date _____