ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

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The Asian American Studies Department offers an undergraduate major and interdisciplinary minor.

The major in Asian American Studies explores Asian Americans across disciplines and cultures. The program provides both a broad and a deep approach to theory, research, and multidisciplinary study. The major will prepare students with the research skills that may lead to graduate study in the humanities or social sciences, or career fields including health and medicine, education, law, business, social work, digital and media industries, policy advocacy, politics, academic administration, and other fields that address Asian American issues.

This minor represents a coherent program for students who wish to deepen their study of Asian American histories, experiences, contemporary issues and social problems as a part of their liberal education and understanding of race and diversity in the United States and transnationally. It is relevant to curricula such as letters and sciences, business, economics, education, health studies, pre-law, social work, or urban and regional planning.

For the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Major in Asian American Studies
E-mail: aas@illinois.edu

Minimum required courses: 33 hours.

General Education: The LAS General Education requirements will fulfill the Campus General Education (https://courses.illinois.edu) requirements including the campus general education language requirement.

12 hours of 300- or 400-level courses in your major must be taken on this campus.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Advising: The Department of Asian American Studies provides advising for students. Students must officially declare their major by registering with the Associated Head of Asian American Studies. Students will work with their advisor to choose appropriate courses from the Additional Coursework List and the Approved Elective List to help plan a coherent program of study. A Major Plan of Study Form must be completed and submitted to the LAS Student Affairs Office before the end of the fifth semester (60-75 hours). Please see your advisor.

### Code | Title | Hours
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AAS 100 | Intro Asian American Studies | 3
AAS 200 | U.S. Race and Empire | 3
AAS 215 | US Citizenship Comparatively | 3
AAS 300 | Theories of Race, Gender, and Sexuality | 3

Approved Additional Coursework List and Approved Elective List are maintained in the department office and with the AAS advisor.

**Interdisciplinary Minor in Asian American Studies**

The Asian American Studies Department offers a campus-wide Interdisciplinary Minor. This minor represents a coherent program for students who wish to deepen their study of Asian American histories, experiences, contemporary issues and social problems as a part of their liberal education and understanding of race and diversity in the United States and transnationally. It is relevant to curricula such as letters and sciences, business, economics, education, health studies, pre-law, social work, or urban and regional planning.

### Code | Title | Hours
--- | --- | ---
AAS 100 | Intro Asian American Studies | 3

Asian American Studies Core Coursework

AAS 200 | U.S. Race and Empire | 3
AAS 215 | US Citizenship Comparatively | 3
AAS 300 | Theories of Race, Gender, and Sexuality | 3

Approved Electives 6

Students complete 6 hours of AAS coursework (a minimum of 3 hours must be at the 300- or 400-level)

Total Hours 18

AAS Class Schedule (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/AAS)

**Courses**

**AAS 100** Intro Asian American Studies  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/100)

Interdisciplinary introduction to the basic concepts and approaches in Asian American Studies. Surveys the various dimensions of Asian American experiences including history, social organization, literature, arts, and politics.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

**AAS 105** Introduction to Arab American Studies  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/105)

Interdisciplinary introduction to the basic concepts and approaches in Arab American Studies. Addresses the issues of history, race, social organization, politics, literature, and art related to Arab American experiences.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Cultural Studies - US Minority

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 03/2019
AAS 120 Intro to Asian Am Pop Culture  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/120)
Introductory understanding of the way U.S. popular culture has affected Asian Americans and the contributions Asian Americans have made to U.S. media and popular culture since the mid 1880's. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 199 Undergraduate Open Seminar  credit: 1 to 5 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/199)
May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours.

AAS 200 U.S. Race and Empire  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/200)
Invites students to examine histories and narratives of U.S. race and empire, drawing upon multiple theoretical and methodological works in Asian American studies and related fields. Same as LLS 200. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 201 US Racial & Ethnic Politics  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/201)
Same as AFRO 201, LLS 201, and PS 201. See PS 201. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 211 Asian Americans and the Arts  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/211)
Examination of Asian American artistic expressions in the visual and the performing arts providing historical, theoretical, and conceptual foundations of understanding the history of various art genres in Asian American communities. Prerequisite: AAS 100 or AAS 120, or consent of instructor. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Lit Arts
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 215 US Citizenship Comparatively  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/215)
Examines the racial, gendered, and sexualized aspects of US citizenship historically and comparatively. Interdisciplinary course taught from a humanities perspective. Readings draw from critical legal studies, history, literature, literary criticism, and ethnography. Same as AFRO 215, AIS 295, GWS 215, and LLS 215. Prerequisite: One of: AAS 100, AAS 120, AFRO 100 AIS 101, GWS 250, LLS 100. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 224 Asian Am Historical Sociology  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/224)
Explores concepts of colonization, international labor migration, race, nation, assimilation, and class formation through socio-historical examinations of diverse groups categorized as Asian Americans. Same as SOC 224. Prerequisite: AAS 100. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 246 Asian American Youth in Film  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/246)
Examines both mainstream and independent films and documentaries representing and/or produced by Asian American youth. Explores the role of multiculturalism and diversity issues in informing young people's experiences. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 258 Muslims in America  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/258)
Introduction to the study of Muslims in the United States and broadly the history of Islam in the Americas. Using a comparative approach, we study how the historical narrative of African American and Latino Muslims relates to newer immigrant populations, primarily Arab American and South Asian American Muslim communities. Same as LLS 258 and REL 258. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 260 Intro Asian American Theatre  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/260)
Same as THEA 260. See THEA 260. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 265 Politics of Hip Hop  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/265)
Same as LLS 265. See LLS 265. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 275 The Politics of Fashion  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/275)
Same as GWS 275. See GWS 275.

AAS 281 Constructing Race in America  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/281)
Same as AFRO 281, HIST 281, and LLS 281. See HIST 281. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 282 Feminist and Queer Activisms  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/282)
Same as GWS 282 and LLS 282. See GWS 282.

AAS 283 Asian American History  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/283)
Same as HIST 283. See HIST 283. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 286 Asian American Literature  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/286)
Same as ENGL 286. See ENGL 286. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Lit Arts
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AAS 287 Food and Asian Americans credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/287)
Introduction to the interdisciplinary study of food to better understand the historical, social, and cultural aspects of Asian American food preparation, distribution and consumption. Students will investigate the politics and poetics of Asian American foodways by examining social habits, and rituals around food in restaurants, ethnic cookbooks, fictional works, memoirs, magazines, and television shows. Prerequisite: AAS 100 or AAS 120, or consent of instructor.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AAS 288 Global Islam and Feminisms credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/288)
Same as GWS 288. See GWS 288.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Cultural Studies - Non-West
AAS 290 Individual Study credit: 2 to 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/290)
Supervised reading and research in Asian American Studies chosen by the student with instructor approval. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: AAS 100.
AAS 291 Hinduism in the United States credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/291)
Same as REL 291. See REL 291.
AAS 297 Asian Families in America credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/297)
Same as HDFS 221 and SOCW 297. See SOCW 297.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AAS 299 Begin Topics Asian Am Studies credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/299)
May be repeated in the same or subsequent terms to a maximum of 6 hours.
AAS 300 Theories of Race, Gender, and Sexuality credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/300)
Explores theories for performing interdisciplinary, intersectional and comparative studies within the field of Asian American studies. Follows multiple genealogies of critical work in ethnic and American studies. Same as GWS 305 and LLS 305.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Advanced Composition
AAS 310 Race and Cultural Diversity credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/310)
Same as AFRO 310, EPS 310, and LLS 310. See EPS 310.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Advanced Composition
Cultural Studies - US Minority
AAS 315 War, Memory, and Cinema credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/315)
Interdisciplinary examination of the ways that memories of war, trauma, and immigration are produced through the medium of film. Because war has been key to discourses and practices of imperialism and globalization, some questions addressed will include how these wars have impacted the nation and the global order, as well as how images about these wars produced important constructions of race, gender, and sexuality for national and cultural identities. Also examines the aftereffects of war by analyzing connections between war’s trauma, race, immigration, and incarceration. Students will read critical texts, film theory, screenplays, and view films. Same as GWS 315. Prerequisite: AAS 100 or AAS 120, or consent of the instructor.
AAS 317 Asian American Politics credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/317)
Same as PS 317. See PS 317.
AAS 328 Asian Americans & Inequalities credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/328)
Same as SOC 328. See SOC 328.
AAS 343 Criminalization and Punishment credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/343)
Same as AFRO 343, AIS 343, GWS 343, and LLS 343. See LLS 343.
AAS 346 Asian American Youth credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/346)
Explores cultural production of second-generation Asian American youth as a historical and social formation. Course examines how youth are actively shaping the U.S. landscape in terms of identity formation, youth, culture, education, juvenile justice, politics and activism, and community formations. These experiences are examined in backdrop of larger historical, economic, racial, social and political forces in the United States. Same as HDFS 341.
AAS 355 Race and Mixed Race credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/355)
Same as LLS 355 and SOC 355. See LLS 355.
AAS 365 Asian American Media and Film credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/365)
An examination of media generally and films and videos more specifically (experimental, documentary, independent, and Hollywood features) by, for, and about Asian Americans. Same as MACS 365. Prerequisite: Any AAS course at the 100- or 200-level, or consent of instructor.
AAS 370 Immigration, Law, and Rights credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/370)
Exploration of the histories, cultures, and experiences of immigration to the United States by examining cultural production (literary and visual narratives and texts) alongside legal discourses (legislation, federal court cases). Same as LLS 372.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Advanced Composition
AAS 375 Prisons, Race, and Terror credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/375)
Examination of the U.S. prison regime, focusing on three dimensions of U.S. imprisonment -- criminal justice, immigrant detention, and martial imprisonment, particularly under the War on Terror. Same as LLS 377.
AAS 390 Intermed Topics Asian Am St credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/390)
May be repeated in the same or subsequent terms to a maximum of 6 hours.

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AAS 395  Adv Asian Am Undergrad Reading  credit: 2 or 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/395) Supervised reading and research in upper level Asian American Studies topics chosen by the student with instructor approval. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: AAS 100.

AAS 400  Critical Ethnic Studies  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/400) Examines the formation of the field of Critical Ethnic Studies and elaborates its key concepts, such as settler colonialism, indigeneity, heteropatriarchy, decolonization, and liberation. Same as LLS 460. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

AAS 402  Asian American Education  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/402) Same as EPS 402. See EPS 402. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Advanced Composition Cultural Studies - US Minority

AAS 435  Commodityfing Difference  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/435) Same as AFRO 435, GWS 435, LLS 435, and MACS 432. See LLS 435.

AAS 464  Theories & Theologies of Liberation  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/464) Same as ANTH 464, GWS 464, and REL 464. See GWS 464.

AAS 465  Race, Sex, and Deviance  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/465) Same as AFRO 465, GWS 465, and LLS 465. See LLS 465.

AAS 479  Race, Medicine, and Society  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/479) Same as ANTH 479 and LLS 479. See LLS 479.

AAS 490  Adv Topics in Asian Am Studies  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AAS/490) Research seminar on specialized topics in Asian American Studies. 3 or 4 undergraduate hours. 3 or 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Students may register in more than one section per term if topics vary. Prerequisite: AAS 100 or any Asian American Studies course, or consent of instructor.