

# ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES, BALAS

for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences Major in Asian American Studies

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**Advising: The Department of Asian American Studies provides advising for students. Students must officially declare their major by registering with the Associate 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.**

**General education: Students must complete the Campus General Education (<https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/>) requirements including the campus general education language requirement.**

**Minimum required major and supporting course work: 33 hours. Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level in the major must be taken on this campus.**

**Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.**

Code	Title	Hours
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
Additional Coursework		15
Complete at least 15 additional hours of substantive coursework offered by Department of Asian American Studies listed on the Approved Additional Coursework List.		
Electives		6
Choose 6 hours from the Approved Elective Course List.		
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>33</b>

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

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## 1. Intellectual Reasoning and Knowledge

Students acquire proficiency in the field and area of Asian American Studies. This includes, for example, knowledge based in intersectional, comparative, and interdisciplinary approaches. While largely based in an area approach to the United States, Asian American Studies is also deeply concerned with transnational, diasporic, and global studies. Students learn the history of Asian Americans and theories and methods of the social sciences and humanistic approaches to understand the Asian American experience. The conceptual rubrics broadly include migration, social

movements, US imperialism and racism, and ideas of citizenship and belonging.

## 2. Critical Inquiry and Discovery

Applying theories in Asian American Studies students develop skills of critical inquiry that draw on intersectional and comparative approaches. As a mode of discovery students exercise their skills using methods of the social sciences and humanities through verbal communication in the classroom and written research projects. Students are asked to apply their critical modes of learning in original and unique projects of discovery through research.

## 3. Effective Leadership and Community Engagement

Students study models of community leadership and engagement through the histories of Asian American social movements, political culture, and community activism. Reflection based on these approaches provides a context from which to understand the role of classroom learning and the application of theories of social change in communities.

## 4. Social Awareness and Cultural Understanding

Students learn the dimensions of intersectional analysis of social, cultural, economic, and political issues concerning the Asian Americans. Social theories of power inform how students are taught to understand a number of categories of analysis including race, gender, sexuality, class, ethnicity, religion, and disability, to name a few.

## 5. Global Consciousness

Students gain an understanding of the global dimensions of intersectional approaches in a broad range of fields and disciplines including literary, historical, cultural and ethnographic approaches. Through the study of migration and diaspora, the broad understanding of individual and collective dynamics are observed, analyzed, and theorized. Students are also asked to think in terms of a comparative framework to understand how race, gender, and sexuality, for example, are thought of from a number of vantage points.

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**department website:** <http://www.asianam.illinois.edu/>

**department faculty:** Asian American Studies Faculty (<https://asianam.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/>)

**email:** [asian-am@illinois.edu](mailto:asian-am@illinois.edu)

**overview of college admissions & requirements:** Liberal Arts & Sciences (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/>)

**college website:** <https://las.illinois.edu/>