American Studies, BA

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan.

Before the fifth semester begins: declaration of the major and discussion of a plan of study with an American studies advisor.

Before the seventh semester begins: at least six courses from the plan of study and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: at least nine courses from the plan of study.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

American Studies, BA

Course  Title  Hours

Academic Career

Any Semester

GE CLAS Core: Sustainability

Hours  0

First Year

Fall

AMST:1010 Understanding American Cultures  3

ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030 The Interpretation of Literature or Rhetoric  3 - 4

GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course  4 - 5

CSI:1600 Success at Iowa  2

Elective course  1 - 3

Hours  13-17

Spring

AMST:2025 Diversity in American Culture  3

RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature  3 - 4

GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab  3

GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course  4 - 5

Elective course  1 - 2

Hours  14-17

Second Year

Fall

AMST:2000 Introduction to American Studies  3

GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences  3

GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning  3

GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course  4 - 5

Elective course  3

Hours  16-17

Third Year

Fall

Major: 3000-level or above course  3

Major: elective course  3

GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives  3

Elective course  3

Elective course  3

Elective course  3

Hours  15

Spring

Major: elective course  3

GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues  3

Elective course  3

Elective course  3

Elective course  3

Hours  15

Fourth Year

Fall

Major: elective course  3

Major: elective course  3

Elective course  3

Elective course  3

Elective course  3

Hours  15

Spring

AMST:3900 Seminar in American Cultural Studies  3

GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts  3

Elective course  3

Elective course  3

Elective course  3

Hours  15

Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall)

Total Hours  120-129

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
b Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
Students who have completed four levels of a single language or two levels of two different languages in high school or college have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Students who have completed three levels of a single language may complete a fourth-level course in the same language or may choose an approved World Language and Cultural Exploration course. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course. Contact your academic advisor or CLAS Undergraduate Programs Office with questions concerning the World Languages requirement.

Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.

Students are required to complete 15 s.h. of additional American studies courses.

Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Degree Services.