FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ADVISORS, CONTACT

English Department
770-836-6512

or

History Department
770-836-6508

Web Site:
http://www.westga.edu/~artscl/american/

State University of West Georgia

AMERICAN STUDIES MINOR

State University of West Georgia
College of Arts & Sciences
WHAT IS AMERICAN STUDIES?
American Studies students use the approaches and tools of a number of different academic disciplines to analyze the cultures and societies of the United States. For over fifty years, scholars have been discovering new insights by combining the knowledge from fields such as American history, literature, politics, anthropology, sociology, art, music, and popular culture and by uncovering the impact on different people’s lives of circumstances such as gender, race, class, ethnicity, religion, and region.

WHAT DOES A MINOR IN AMERICAN STUDIES INVOLVE?
A minor in American Studies at the State University of West Georgia, like other minors, requires 12-18 semester hours, but students have access to the resources of numerous academic departments and courses, as well as the chance to develop relevant technological skills. The required course, Studies in American Culture, gives students a special boost in learning how to take advantage of this variety.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF AN AMERICAN STUDIES MINOR?
The ability to join scholarly tasks that have too often been separated by the structure of academic disciplines and departments puts American Studies at the forefront of educational reform. Students and employers have found American Studies courses to be particularly valuable preparation for graduate study in the humanities and social sciences or for careers in private industry, law, government and politics, journalism, publishing, museum work, public history, teaching, and a variety of other vocations.

MAY AN AMERICAN STUDIES STUDENT FOCUS ON A SPECIAL TRACK?
American Studies students may, under the guidance of American Studies faculty, tailor a course of study to suit their own needs and interests, whether it be in the American South, the experiences of African Americans, or any other focus for which courses are available.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR
Recommended background:
- History 1251 or 1252 (United States History)
- English 2130 (Survey of American Literature)

Required Course:
- English/History 3300 (Studies in American Culture): An introduction to American Studies as an area of critical inquiry, including a study of theories and methods used in the field and readings of significant works that have shaped it.

Upper Division Electives:
- One American Literature course (English majors choose another discipline.)
- One American History course (History majors choose another discipline.)
- One to three courses in other disciplines (Eligible courses will be listed each semester.)