MASTER OF ARTS IN AMERICAN STUDIES

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Dolores V. Sisco
245 DeBartolo Hall
330-941-3422
dvdisco@ysu.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Arts in American studies program is designed to provide students with training in the content, theory, and methods for studying the history and culture of the United States and is designed to provide both training and experience in developing and implementing public humanities and educational programs. Special emphasis is placed on the application of the humanities in community, museum, and school settings. The program offers a core of courses in American studies, art and literature, history, working-class studies, and public practice, along with opportunities to work in local museums, schools, community projects, and other public humanities programs. Courses for the program have been drawn from five different colleges, providing students the chance to gain a truly broad and diverse education while deepening their knowledge of American culture. The M.A. in American studies also offers a teaching track designed for secondary school teachers.

FACULTY RESEARCH INTERESTS

L. Diane Barnes, Ph.D., Professor of History
Nineteenth-century American history; historical editing

Steven R. Brown, Ph.D., Professor of English
Linguistics; TESOL; American studies

Donna M. DeBlasio, Ph.D., Professor of History
Historic preservation; oral history

John M. Hazy, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Criminal Justice
Community health; life course issues; teaching effectiveness

Thomas E. Leary, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History
Historic preservation; labor and industrial history

Martha Pallante, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of History
Early American studies; material culture; pedagogy

Stephanie Tingley, Ph.D., Professor of English
American literature; film studies; pedagogy

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must have a cumulative grade point average in undergraduate study of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale). The bachelor's degree may be in any field, but students should have taken at least 12 hours of upper-division coursework in some combination of the arts, humanities, and/or social sciences. Applicants must include a personal statement detailing goals and decision for pursuing graduate study in American Studies.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete 36 semester hours of coursework at the graduate level.
Required Core Courses 6 s.h.

AMER 6900  Approaches to American Studies  3 s.h.
AMER 6990  * Independent Project in American Studies  3 s.h.

Practice Area 6 s.h.

Teaching Track
Select two of the following courses:
AMER 6970  Teaching Working-Class Studies  3 s.h.
AMER 6975  Interdisciplinary Teaching  3 s.h.
ENGL6906  Teaching of Literature  3 s.h.
ENGL6907  Teaching of Writing  3 s.h.
ENGL6974  English Education Workshop  3 s.h.
ENGL6976  Studies in English Education  3 s.h.
HIST 6930  Studies in the Teaching of History  3 s.h.
SED 6936  Fundamentals of Curriculum Development  3 s.h.

or

Public Practice Track
AMER 6930  Humanities in the Community  3 s.h.
AMER 6980  Public Humanities Internship  3 s.h.

Focus Area 12 s.h.

Students must select at least four courses (12 semester hours) from one of the following areas:

Cultural Studies
ANTH 6910  Special Anthropological Problems  3 s.h.
ART 5881  Twentieth-Century Art to 1960  3 s.h.
ART 5882  Twentieth-Century Art from 1960  3 s.h.
ENGL 6915  Early American Studies  3 s.h.
ENGL 6917  Nineteenth-Century American Studies  3 s.h.
ENGL 6922  Twentieth-Century American Studies  3 s.h.
ENGL 6923  Working-Class Literature  3 s.h.
ENGL 6963  Perspectives in Multicultural Studies  3 s.h.
ENGL 6965  Studies in Film  3 s.h.
FNLG 6900  Seminar  3 s.h.
HIST 5806  American Architectural History I  3 s.h.
HIST 5607  American Architectural History II  3 s.h.
HIST 6940  Oral History  3 s.h.
SOC6900  Special Sociological Problems  3 s.h.

American History
FOUN 6905  Emotional Challenges in Historical Perspective  3 s.h.
HIST 6902  American Historiography  3 s.h.
HIST 6910  Readings in American History  3 s.h.
HIST 6912  Research Seminar in American Colonial History  3 s.h.
HIST 6913  Research Seminar in 19th-Century America  3 s.h.
HIST 6914  Research Seminar in 20th-Century America  3 s.h.
HIST 6941  American Material Culture  3 s.h.

Working-Class Studies
AMER 5850  Class and Culture  3 s.h.

* The required course, AMER 6990 Independent Project in American Studies, requires each student to complete an independent project, such as a major research project, the design and promotion of a special exhibit at a museum, the development of an education program at a local library, or the completion of a planning project in cooperation with a local community development agency. Students will work closely with a committee of YSU faculty and community specialists to design and implement their individual projects.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMER 6910</td>
<td>Introduction to Working-Class Studies</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMER 6970</td>
<td>Teaching Working-Class Studies</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 6923</td>
<td>Working-Class Literature</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>HIST 6939</td>
<td>Labor History</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 6945</td>
<td>Interpretation and Preservation of the Industrial Built Environment</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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**Public History**

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<tr>
<td>CJUS 6960</td>
<td>Program Planning and Evaluation</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDAD 6933</td>
<td>Educational Policy, Politics, and Change</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>ENGL6944</td>
<td>Document Design and Production</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>ENGL6953</td>
<td>Publications Issues and Management</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>ENGL6992</td>
<td>Professional Communication</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>HIST 5810</td>
<td>Conservation of the Historic Built Environment</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>HIST 6942</td>
<td>Introduction to Applied History</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>HIST 6943</td>
<td>Practicum in Applied History</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>HIST/ENGL6946</td>
<td>Historical Editing</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>HIST 6955</td>
<td>Museum Curation and Interpretation I</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 6956</td>
<td>Museum Curation and Interpretation II</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>HIST 6957</td>
<td>Special Topics in Applied History</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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**Distribution Requirement 12 s.h.**

Students must select four additional courses with at least one from each of the other focus areas above.