Learning Objectives

American Studies & Ethnicity (ASE) at USC is unique because of its new approach to both American Studies and Ethnic Studies by bringing them together within one department. ASE includes multiple academic disciplines in both the humanities and social sciences to critically examine American culture and racial, ethnic, and gender inequalities towards social change and social justice. ASE emphasizes comparative work to examine these issues within the diversity and complexity of the United States, North America, and the Western Hemisphere.

The **learning objectives** of the ASE majors include:

- Knowledge of the changing theoretical and empirical debates in the study of such central areas of society as race, class, gender, sexuality, and religion and how such scholarly debates impact the study and analysis of social issues.
- An understanding of the diverse peoples and cultures that have composed the United States and critical perspectives on the cultural and material practices that have shaped this country in its regional, ethnic, class, and gender diversity.
- Knowledge of a range of theoretical frameworks in the field and the ability to evaluate empirical evidence to provide the skills to analyze social issues in society and to be a critical reader of published research.
- As an interdisciplinary major, knowledge of the research methods used in the humanities and social sciences, and the development of a research project utilizing the appropriate methods carried out under faculty supervision.
- Application of knowledge through the completion of an internship and/or participating in public service in an area specially related to the fields of study.