ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

This multidisciplinary major is designed to provide students with a critical understanding of the historical, cultural, social, and political experience of Asian Pacific Americans, with a particular emphasis on the development and culture of the Asian American communities in California and the West, as well as the effects of both historical and contemporary global issues on Asian American communities.

Opportunities for Students

- **Junior and Senior seminars:** All students are required to take these seminar courses, in which they work closely with internationally recognized faculty to complete substantial projects in the field. These seminars prepare students for graduate work in the field and related research and writing projects in professional schools, such as Law, Business, and Communication.

- **Kaya Press:** This non-profit publisher of Asian and Pacific Islander diasporic literature, housed in USC Dornsife, brings innovative fiction, poetry, and critical essays to the public.

- **Center for Diversity & Democracy:** The CDD works with faculty, students, and community partners to enhance, explore, and develop strong connections between efforts of university-community civic engagement and the diversity of university faculty and students. It is committed to making stronger a diverse set of voices at the university, while enabling a wide variety of community members and organizations to engage the university as equal partners towards equity and social justice.

Notable Courses

- **AMST 200: Introduction to American Studies & Ethnicity** — Introduction to American studies and ethnic studies. Provides an overview of major theories, concepts, and issues.

- **AMST 220: The Making of Asian America** — Historical, social, and cultural analysis of (East, South, and Southeast) Asians in the United States. Themes examined: immigration, race and gender relations, ethnic culture, community and identity.

- **AMST 377: Legacies of Viet Nam** — Examination of 20th century Viet Nam (the country) and "Vietnam" (the American war) through the literature, film, and visual culture that have been produced by Americans, Vietnamese, and overseas Vietnamese.

- **AMST 378: Introduction to Asian American History** — Comparative examination of the social, economic, and political experiences of Asian immigrants and their descendants in the U.S., 1840s-present.
Bachelor of Arts (BA) Requirements

Core Requirements*
- AMST 200: Introduction to American Studies and Ethnicity
- AMST 350: Junior Seminar in American Studies and Ethnicity: Theories and Methods
- AMST 498: Senior Seminar in American Studies and Ethnicity

History Course*
- AMST 378: Introduction to Asian American History

Literature & Culture Course (select one)*
- AMST 449: Asian American Literature
- REL 336: Re-Viewing Religion in Asian America

Social & Political Issues Course (select one)**
- AMST 220: The Making of Asian America
- AMST 365: Leadership in the Community – Internship
- AMST 389: Carceral Geographies
- POSC 328: Asian American Politics
- SOCI 376: Contemporary Issues in Asian American Communities

Electives (select four)**
- AMST 301: American, the Frontier, and the New West
- AMST 320: Social Constructions of Race and Citizenship
- AMST 353: Race and Racism in the Americas
- AMST 490: Directed Research
- COMM 458: Race and Ethnicity in Entertainment and the Arts
- POSC 424: Political Participation and American Diversity
- SOCI 432: Racial and Ethnic Relations in a Global Society

*This information is offered as a partial overview only. For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or http://dornsife.usc.edu/ase/asian-american-studies/. Updated as of August 2015.

**This does not represent all options in this category. For a complete list, please consult the USC Catalogue.