This major integrates humanistic and social scientific perspectives and brings them to bear on an examination of the United States with a particular emphasis on comparative study of the peoples, cultures, history, and social issues of the Western United States. It covers critical perspectives on regional, ethnic, class, and gender diversity.

**BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW**

**Three Core Courses**
- Introduction to American Studies and Ethnicity
- Junior Seminar in American Studies and Ethnicity: Theories and Methods
- Senior Seminar in American Studies and Ethnicity

**Three Distribution Courses**
- Choose one course in each following three areas of study:
  - History
  - Literature and Culture
  - Social and Political Issues

**Four Upper Division Elective Courses**
- A few examples are:
  - American, the Frontier, and the New West
  - Social Constructions of Race and Citizenship
  - Race and Racism in the Americas
  - Race and Environmentalism
  - Direct Research

**EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- **Honors Program:** Students in this program take ASE 492, a senior seminar focused on developing their research and methods for an honors thesis. They follow this course with ASE 493, in which each student completes a thesis project on a topic of his or her choice under faculty direction.

- **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.

- **Center for Diversity and 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 strengthening a diverse set of voices at the university, while enabling a variety of community members and organizations to engage the university as equal partners towards equity and social justice.

For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or http://dornsife.usc.edu/ase/american-studies/