AMERICAN POPULAR CULTURE

The interdisciplinary major in American Popular Culture helps students to assess from a variety of perspectives the icons and ideas they encounter every day, to think critically about the images and assertions of the mass media and commercial culture, and to see the experience of popular culture as it interacts with questions of gender and ethnicity in the American context. Students choose five classes, including one upper-division elective, from a curriculum organized to explore: critical approaches to popular culture; gender and ethnicity in American popular culture; and popular culture in the arts. Thirty six are required, four at the lower-division and 32 at the upper-division level.

Lower-Division Requirements
Choose one course (4 units)

AMST 205g Introduction to American Popular Culture, Units: 4  
AMST 206mg The Politics and Culture of the 1960s, Units: 4  
AMST 285gm African American Popular Culture, Units: 4

Upper-Division Requirements
Choose four courses (16 units), at least one from each of the groups below.

Critical Approaches to Popular Culture: choose at least one:

AMST 301gp America, the Frontier, and the New West, Units: 4  
COLT 365 Literature and Popular Culture, Units: 4  
COMM 384 Interpreting Popular Culture, Units: 4  
ENGL 392 Visual and Popular Culture, Units: 4  
HIST 380 American Popular Culture, Units: 4

Gender and Ethnicity in American Popular Culture: choose at least one:

AMST 357m Latino Social Movements, Units: 4  
AMST 365 Leadership in the Community — Internship, Units: 4  
AMST 385 African American Culture and Society, Units: 4  
AMST 395m African American Humor and Culture, Units: 4  
AMST 448m Chicano and Latino Literature, Units: 4  
AMST 449m Asian American Literature, Units: 4  
ENGL 343m Images of Women in Contemporary Culture, Units: 4
Popular Culture in the Arts: choose at least one:

AHIS 363m Contemporary Art and the Culture Wars, Units: 4
AHIS 370g Modern Art III: 1940 to the Present, Units: 4
CTCS 392 History of the American Film, 1925–1950, Units: 4
CTCS 393 Postwar Hollywood, 1946-1962, Units: 4
CTCS 394 History of the American Film, 1977–present, Units: 4
ENGL 371g Literary Genres and Film, Units: 4
ENGL 375 Science Fiction, Units: 4
ENGL 381 Narrative Forms in Literature and Film, Units 4
HIST 481 Producing Film Histories, Units: 4
MUJZ 419m The Jazz Experience: Myths and Culture, Units: 4
MUSC 422 The Beatles: Their Music and Their Times, Units: 4

Electives (16 units)

Choose four additional courses from the lists above or below. One must be an upper-division course in a department you have not already chosen for the major.

Additional Electives for American Popular Culture Major:

AHIS 100g Introduction to Visual Culture, Units: 4
AHIS 250m Modernity and Difference: Critical Approaches to Modern Art, Units: 4
AHIS 255g Culture Wars: Art and Social Conflict in the Modern World, Units: 4
AHIS 270 L.A. Now: Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, Units: 4
AHIS 364 Myths, Arts, Realities: Visual Culture in California, 1849 to the Present, Units: 4
AHIS 365m African American Art, Units: 4
AHIS 370g Modern Art III: 1940 to the Present, Units: 4
ANTH 240gm Representing 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina, Units: 4
ANTH 263g Exploring Culture through Film, Units: 4
ANTH 380 Sex and Gender in Anthropological Perspective, Units: 4
ANTH 470 Multidisciplinary Seminar in Visual Anthropology, Units: 2 or 4
COMM 206 Communication and Culture, Units: 4
COMM 307 Sound Clash: Popular Music and American Culture, Units: 4
COMM 310 Media and Society, Units: 4
COMM 312 The Business and Culture of Celebrity, Units: 4
COMM 360 The Rhetoric of Los Angeles, Units: 4
COMM 366 Designing Media & Communication Projects for Social Change, Units: 4
COMM 371 Censorship and the Law: From the Press to Cyberspace, Units: 4
COMM 384 Interpreting Popular Culture, Units: 4
COMM 396 Fashion, Media and Culture, Units: 4
COMM 413 Propaganda, Ideology and Public Controversy, Units: 4
COMM 415m African American Rhetoric and Image, Units: 4
COMM 426 Religion, Media and Hollywood: Faith in TV, Units: 4
COMM 432 American Media and Entertainment Industries, Units: 4
COMM 456 Entertainment, Marketing and Culture, Units: 4
COMM 458m Race and Ethnicity in Entertainment and the Arts, Units: 4
COMM 465m Gender in Media Industries and Products, Units: 4
CRIT 371 Art in the Public Realm: Contemporary Issues, Units: 4
CTCS 192gm Race, Class, and Gender in American Film, Units: 4
CTCS 403 Studies in National and Regional Media, Units: 4
CTCS 404 Television Criticism and Theory, Units: 4
CTCS 406 History of American Television, Units: 4
CTCS 407 African American Cinema, Units: 4
CTCS 408 Contemporary Political Film and Digital Media, Units: 4
CTCS 409 Censorship in Cinema, Units: 4
CTCS 411 Film, Television and Cultural Studies, Units: 4
CTCS 412 Gender, Sexuality and Media, Units: 4
CTCS 414 Latina/o Screen Cultures, Units: 4
CTCS 462 Critical Theory and Analysis of Games, Units: 4
CTCS 478 Culture, Technology and Communications, Units: 4
DANC 212g Dance in Popular Culture, Units: 4
DANC 302g Hip Hop Don't Stop: Exploring Black Vernacular Dance, Units: 4
ENGL 341 Women in English Literature before 1800, Units: 4
ENGL 342g Women in English and American Literature after 1800, Units: 4
JOUR 467 Gender and the News Media, Units: 4
LING 375 Sociolinguistics, Units: 4
SOCI 342m Race Relations, Units: 4
SOCI 410 The Sociology of Popular Culture, Units: 4
THTR 488mw Theatre in the Community, Units: 4
THTR 295 Theatre in Los Angeles, Units: 2 (4 units required)