

DEPARTMENT OF LEADERSHIP AND AMERICAN STUDIES

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Faculty

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Assistant Professors: Cusher, Shollen, White

Lecturers: Connable, Dingman, Gagnon

Instructors: Cave, Heuvel, Michel

Emerta: Perkins

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Leadership and American Studies is to offer interdisciplinary learning opportunities in leadership studies and American studies. The department is dedicated to the ideals of liberal learning, scholarship, leadership, and service. Our purpose is to ignite in our students a love of learning, inspire a sense of responsibility and civic duty, and help our students gain the knowledge and confidence to engage as responsible leaders and followers. The department currently offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with a major in American studies along with minors in both leadership and American studies.

CENTER FOR AMERICAN STUDIES

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The Center for American Studies (CAS) seeks to foster a greater civic awareness by promoting excellence in education and scholarship in the area of American studies. The conception for CAS is premised on the belief that the perpetuation of democratic institutions requires a proper understanding of the ways in which America's intellectual foundations have shaped the nation's practices, values, and ideals. Toward this end, CAS provides a forum for intellectual engagement on the foundations, evolution, and future of the American Experiment in liberty, democracy, free-enterprise, and consent-based governance and leadership. CAS brings together scholars from elite institutions to emphasize intellectual engagement and scholarship on the classical texts and foundational documents of the United States' constitutional republic. CAS undertakes these tasks in order to promote sensible notions of liberty and a civic responsibility to defend that liberty locally and globally.

The Bachelor of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, American Studies Major

American studies employs investigative methodologies drawn from multiple disciplines, including attention to historical process, that involve reading, writing, conducting research, and critically thinking about the nature of American life. In American studies, an interdisciplinary approach is used to examine relevant topics such as region, place, cultural forms expressing American identity, America's place in the global community, and social constructs of class, gender, and race. Students will have the opportunity for experiential learning and study abroad. A major in American studies is excellent preparation for graduate and professional schools and for careers in journalism, law, government, education, non-profit organizations, and business.

The major is comprised of four core courses in American studies (AMST) with the remaining courses selected from approved, related courses from various disciplines as determined by the chosen concentration. Students will work closely with an advisor to ensure their curriculum has coherence, depth, and breadth and that it is consistent with the students' future plans. The Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies requires that students fulfill the liberal learning curriculum, American studies core courses and complete a concentration in either constitutional studies, social sciences or humanities as listed below.

Constitutional Studies Concentration

This concentration is open to all students, and is especially useful for those interested in graduate study in social and political science, government, history or law. The constitutional studies concentration requires 24 credits in addition to the required American studies core courses. Only one course (3 credits) may be at the 100 or 200 level; 21 credits must be at the 300 or 400 level.

1. American studies core: AMST 100*, 200*, 300*, 490;
2. GOVT 316 , PHIL 425;
3. Select six (18 credits) courses, five at the 300 level or higher: AMST 210; BUSN 351, 360; CLST 101; ECON 302, 435; COMM 305; GOVT 333, 344, 359, 363; HIST 349, 354; PHIL 205, 321, RSTD 321.

*No more than one A of I course may count toward both the liberal learning core A of I requirement and the major requirement.

Humanities Concentration

Humanities concentration requires 24 credits in addition to the required American studies core courses. Only one course (3 credits) may be at the 100 or 200 level; 21 credits must be at the 300 or 400 level.

1. American studies core: AMST 100*, 200*, 300*, 490.
2. Humanities - Select five from at least two disciplines: AMST 195, 295, 310*, 395, 399, 495, 499; ENGL 341, 342, 343, 381*, 410, 412; FNAR 372*, 375; HIST 121*, 122*, 336, 340/440*, 349*, 350, 351, 352, 354, 355*, 356, 357, 358, 372, 453; MUSC 407W, 408; PHIL 312; RSTD 338; THEA 346, 361W.
3. Social Sciences - Select two: AMST 195, 210*, 295, 395, 399, 495, 499; ECON 302, 375(W), 435, 475*; GOVT 101*, 202, 316, 320*, 323, 332, 333, 344, 354, 359, 382*, 395; RSTD 319*; SOCL 303, 314, 316, 320*, SOWK 368W, 369.
4. Global-Comparative - Select one: AMST 195, 295, 395, 495; ANTH 377; COMM 340*; ECON 385, 470; ENGL 320W*, 425; FNAR 377; GOVT 215, 311W, 358, 368W, 402; HIST 325, 374, 469; HONR 490W; PHIL 315*; PSYC 320*; SOCL 375, 377.

*No more than ONE A of I course may count toward both the liberal learning core A of I requirement and the major requirement.

Social Sciences Concentration

Social science concentration 24 credits in addition to the required American studies core courses. Only one course (3 credits) may be at the 100 or 200 level; 21 credits must be at the 300 or 400 level.

1. American studies core: AMST 100*, 200*, 300*, 490.
2. Social Sciences - Select five from at least two disciplines: AMST 195, 210*, 295, 395, 399, 495, 499; ECON 302, 375(W), 435, 475*; GOVT 101*, 202, 316, 320*, 323, 332, 333, 344, 354, 359, 382*, 395; RSTD 319*; SOCL 303, 314, 316, 320*, SOWK 368W, 369.
3. Humanities - Select two: AMST 195, 295, 310*, 395, 399, 495, 499; ENGL 341, 342, 343, 381*, 410, 412; FNAR 372*, 375; HIST 121*, 122*, 336, 340/440*, 349*, 350, 351, 352, 354, 355*, 356, 357, 358, 372, 453; MUSC 407W, 408; PHIL 312; RSTD 338; THEA 346, 361W.
4. Global-Comparative - Select one: AMST 195, 295, 395, 495; ANTH 377; COMM 340*; ECON 385, 470; ENGL 320W*, 425; FNAR 377; GOVT 215, 311W, 358, 368W, 402; HIST 325, 374, 469; HONR 490W; PHIL 315*; PSYC 320*; SOCL 375, 377.

*No more than ONE A of I course may count toward both the liberal learning core A of I requirement and the major requirement.

The Minor in American Studies (18 credits)

The minor in American studies requires 18 credit hours, including AMST 100, 200, and 300 plus nine additional hours at the 300-400 level chosen in consultation with an assigned departmental advisor from courses approved for the major in American Studies.

The Minor in Leadership Studies (18 credits)

The leadership studies minor, which is open to all CNU students, is interdisciplinary and highly complementary to any liberal arts and sciences or professional education. The Leadership studies minor is required for President's Leadership Program (PLP) students, but also is an attractive curriculum for other interested students.

Leading and following occurs in families, neighborhoods, communities, civic clubs, organizations, states, and nations. The process of leadership involves establishing trust and achieving change through shaping vision, values, and culture. Ethical leaders are needed who can identify important issues, heighten public awareness and understanding, develop imaginative solutions and strategies, and inspire and empower others to give of themselves to achieve the vision of a better tomorrow. Here, the word leader is intended to mean a person acting in a leadership role, not necessarily the occupant of a designated position of authority. The following curriculum is designed to prepare CNU students to engage effectively in the leadership process:

1. Minor core: LDSP 220, 310, 320, 386 and 491;
2. Elective, select one: AMST 100; HONR 335; LDSP 195, 295, 330, 384, 395, 399, 499; MLAN 308; MLSC 401-401L; or MGMT 310.

THE CURRICULUM IN AMERICAN STUDIES**AMST 100. The American Experiment: Formation of Democratic Life (3-3-0) AIWT**

An introduction to the discipline of American Studies. Students will examine the ways in which America was, and is, an experiment in democratic life. This course critically examines the intellectual and cultural foundations of American life as well as the formation of American identities and competing ideals. Students will explore the extent to which America has been shaped by issues such as unity, equality, liberty, individualism, civic engagement, and democratic values.

AMST 195. Special Topics (3-3-0)

These courses allow students to explore major issues, trends, or themes in American Studies. Topics vary.

AMST 200. The American Experiment: Evolution (3-3-0) AIII

An interdisciplinary study of the evolution of the American Experiment as viewed through its changing institutions, ideals, and culture. In this context, topics such as family, education, race, gender, immigration, citizenship, capitalism, poverty, religion, and popular culture will be explored.

AMST 210. Capitalism, American Style (3-3-0) AIWT

This course introduces students to capitalism as an economic system beginning with its philosophical and moral foundations and its evolution in the United States. The principles of free markets will be applied to a variety of historical and current issues ranging from business regulation and labor markets to health care and the environment.

AMST 295. Special Topics (3-3-0)

These courses allow students to explore major issues, trends, or themes in American Studies. Topics vary.

AMST 300. The American Experiment: Global Influence (3-3-0) AIGM

Prerequisite: ULLC 223 with a grade of C- or higher.

A critical evaluation of the American Experiment through the lens of the global community that asks what it means to be an American in an increasingly global world. Students explore post-colonial world views of a number of influential philosophers, scholars, leaders, and policy makers on America's life, culture, and place in the world. Topics may include global rights and duties, resource scarcity, cultural imperialism, public health, and the clash of liberalism with fundamentalism.

AMST 310. The American Economy in Literature (3-3-0) AIII

Prerequisite: ULLC 223.

A study of the workings of the American economy using selections from literature. Course readings will include excerpts and short works by authors including Frost, Steinbeck, and others. Topics to be covered include supply and demand, capitalism, income inequality, public goods and government regulation, and labor markets.

AMST 395. Special Topics (3-3-0)

These courses allow students to explore major issues, trends, or themes in American Studies. Topics vary.

AMST 399. Independent Study in American Studies (credits vary 1-3)

Prerequisite: junior standing or consent of instructor.

The purpose of this junior-level course is to enable a qualified student to enrich her/his program through independent work under the guidance of a faculty member. The topic and method of grading are agreed upon in writing by the student and the supervising faculty member and filed with

the appropriate college offices by the end of pre-registration. A mini-mum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 is required. A student may take a maximum of three hours of independent study in a semester and a maximum of six hours in her/his academic program.

AMST 490. Capstone Seminar in American Studies (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: ULLC 223; completion of 75 credit hours; AMST major; and completion of AMST 100, 200, and 300 with a C or better.

A capstone academic experience in which each student is expected to demonstrate independent research skills, prepare and present a formal paper, and participate in the discussion and analysis of presentations by other members of the seminar. Each student will prepare a research project on an issue of current concern viewed from the perspective of the student's particular focus within the American Studies major. The product of this scholarship will exemplify the student's academic credentials in terms of knowledge, skills, and abilities. In addition, each student will complete a standardized assessment relevant to American Studies.

AMST 495. Special Topics (3-3-0)

These courses allow students to explore major issues, trends, or themes in American Studies. Topics vary.

AMST 499. Independent Study in American Studies (credits vary 1-3)

Prerequisite: senior standing or consent of instructor.

The purpose of this advanced, senior-level course is to enable a qualified student to enrich her/his program through independent work under the guidance of a faculty member. The topic and method of grading are agreed upon in writing by the student and the supervising faculty member and filed with the appropriate college offices by the end of pre-registration. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 is required. A student may take a maximum of three hours of independent study in a semester and a maximum of six hours in her/his academic program.

THE CURRICULUM IN LEADERSHIP STUDIES

LDSP 195. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

LDSP 110. Civic Leadership: Leading for the American Dream (3-2-1)

The desire to live the "American Dream" has brought immigrants to the United States for over two centuries. Freedom from arbitrary authority, equal rights for all citizens, opportunity and empowerment for personal happiness and achievement, and commitment to the dignity and worth of the individual are the fundamental ideals that

under-gird this national vision. Preserving these ideals, however, requires civic leadership. Leadership scholar John W. Gardner stated, “Liberty and duty, freedom and responsibility. That’s the deal.” This course will examine how citizens determine their civic duty and responsibility. Students will learn and experience practical leadership approaches and applications.

LDSP 210. Study in Self Leadership (3-3-0)

Restricted to First Year Students.

Fall.

This interactive course introduces students to the role of self in the leadership process. Through academic study, personal assessment, in-class activities, and assignments, students will gain an understanding of how personal development impacts leadership capabilities and the importance of self-understanding to effective leadership.

LDSP 220. Foundations of Leadership Study and Group Dynamics (3-3-0)

Spring.

This course is an introduction to leadership history and modern leadership theory. Through the study of leadership scholarship and historical and modern leaders, students will gain an understanding of the leadership process, including the role/function/interaction of the process’s three elements (leaders, followers, and context) and an introduction to the basic competencies required. Students will study group development, group think, and the effect of power and communication styles in group dynamics. At the discretion of the course instructor, the small group project may include a fund-raising component.

LDSP 295. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

LDSP 310. Leadership Theory and Research (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: LDSP 220, with a grade of C- or higher, or consent of instructor.

Fall.

This course examines salient theories, approaches, and the accumulated research-based understanding of the theoretical construct of leadership. Emphasis is placed on the evolution of leadership theory and contribution of research to the synthesis of historical leadership perspectives in contemporary leadership models. Enduring elements, ongoing controversies, emerging trends, and contemporary research are examined. The role of leadership is distinguished from that of management.

LDSP 320. Leadership Through the Ages (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: LDSP 220 and LDSP 310, both with grade of C- or higher, or consent of instructor.

Spring.

In attempting to understand leadership in the 21st Century,

one cannot ignore the insights and practices of significant figures from the past. This course is designed to introduce students to some of the most influential historical leaders and thinkers from throughout the world and to examine how their lessons in leadership may or may not be applicable to current leadership issues. Using an interdisciplinary approach, students will study leaders acting in multiple contexts to understand how the contemporary and immediate situational factors influence leadership behavior.

LDSP 330. Cross-cultural Leadership (3-3-0) AIII

Prerequisite: LDSP 220 with grade of C- or higher, or consent of instructor.

Old maps of a “flat” world show the area of origin as the center or middle of the Earth, illustrating the mindset of societal and cultural preeminence. Through investigation of concepts, patterns, and issues that shape society and cultural mores, students learn the importance of society and culture to effective leadership in a global setting and understand how to assess social structure and culture when making leadership decisions.

LDSP 384. Leading Change (3-3-0)

Prerequisites: LDSP 220, GOVT 101, SOWK 260, or BUSN 201 with grade of C- or higher, or consent of instructor.

This course examines models of change with particular emphasis on group processes and the role of leadership. Change is explored as a process that presents opportunities and challenges for internal and external change. The course analyzes resistance to change and how leadership processes can be developed and employed to facilitate and motivate change. Techniques for effective communication, intervention, and conflict resolution are reviewed. Analytical methods to identify the need for change and individuals’ readiness for change are discussed.

LDSP 386. Values Leadership (3-3-0)

Prerequisites: LDSP 220 and LDSP 310, both with grade of C- or higher, or consent of instructor.

This course examines the paradigm of values leadership as a theory and a philosophy. Values leadership is based on selecting, defining, modeling, and promoting values to unify individuals in striving toward a shared vision. Values based leaders create a culture of trust and leverage core values that inspire individuals to a higher level of motivation, morality, and achievement. Terminal, instrumental, and organizational values are explored. The techniques of envisioning, culture shaping, developing self-led followers, fostering trust, and ethical decision making are explored. The course considers the moral responsibilities of a leader toward his or her followers.

LDSP 395. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: LDSP 220, with grade of C- or higher, or consent of instructor.

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

LDSP 399. Independent Study in Leadership (credits vary 1-3)

Prerequisites: consent of instructor and Department Chair.

The purpose of this junior-level course is to enable a qualified student to enrich her/his program through independent work under the guidance of a faculty member. The topic and method of grading are agreed upon in writing by the student and the supervising faculty member and filed with the appropriate college offices by the end of pre-registration. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 is required. A student may take a maximum of three hours of independent study in a semester and a maximum of six hours in her/his academic program.

LDSP 491. Leadership Internship Seminar (3-3-0)

Prerequisites: LDSP 310, 320, with grade of C- or higher and junior standing.

The internship seminar is designed to help students integrate and apply the knowledge and experiences obtained in leadership courses to the internship setting. Using various research methodologies students in the seminar will analyze the leadership of the internship site, assess its leadership effectiveness, and determine strategies for change. Internship to be completed no more than one academic year prior to the seminar semester.

LDSP 495. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

LDSP 499. Independent Study in Leadership (credits vary 1-3)

Prerequisites: consent of instructor and Department Chair.

The purpose of this advanced, senior-level course is to enable a qualified student to enrich her/his program through independent work under the guidance of a faculty member. The topic and method of grading are agreed upon in writing by the student and the supervising faculty member and filed with the appropriate college offices by the end of pre-registration. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 is required. A student may take a maximum of three hours of independent study in a semester and a maximum of six hours in her/his academic program.