Bachelor of Arts

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies is dedicated to the multidisciplinary study of historical and contemporary experiences of Americans of Asian ancestry in local, national, and global contexts. The program explores connections among Asian communities in the United States and around the world in terms of the entangled histories and circuits of migration and the interconnected space through which people, capital, ideas, influences, and activism flow among Asian diasporic communities.

The Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies major and minor are offered by the Department of Ethnic Studies, which also offers a major and minor in Ethnic Studies as well as a minor in Race and the Law.

THE MAJOR CURRICULUM

The Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies curriculum offers students a deeper understanding of the histories and contemporary realities of the different ethnic groups that comprise the “Asian American” category. Through classroom-based and experiential learning, our students engage with critical issues such as labor, health, representation and cultural production, religion, class, gender, generation, law, and social activism.

“AAADS offers students the opportunity to learn about the history of migration, the gendered racialization of Asians, the diversity within the group, and the multiple ways in which they have struggled for belonging and social justice in both national and global contexts.”

– Lok Siu, Associate Professor

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

• Enrich your studies with a summer minor in Race and the Law.
• Volunteer for local organizations such as the East Bay Asian Youth Center or Asian Women's Shelter.
• Complete a senior honors thesis in the major.
ASIAN AMERICAN AND ASIAN DIASPORA STUDIES
Bachelor of Arts

FIRST YEAR
Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements.
Enroll in ETH STD 1AC: Introduction to Ethnic Studies.

SECOND YEAR
Enroll in ASAMST 20AC: Asian American Communities and Race Relations, ASAMST 20B: Contemporary Issues in Asian American Communities or ASAMST 20C: Cultural Politics and Practices in Asian American Communities.
Complete the three lower division prerequisites and meet with your major advisor to declare the major.
Review major guidelines for study abroad.

THIRD YEAR
Focus on upper division requirements and plan for electives you wish to take.
Review your degree progress with your major and college advisors.
Ask the major advisor about the honors program.

FOURTH YEAR
Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
Complete any "bucket list" courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.
Satisfy the ASAMST 799 field study requirement if you haven't done so already.

Explore your major
Connect and build community
Discover your passions
Engage locally and globally
Reflect and plan your future

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Students in the Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies Program gain skills that prepare them for careers in a variety of fields, including teaching, counseling, law, journalism, marketing, community and housing development, radio and television, health and medicine, community and union organizing, social work, and positions in federal, state, and local governments as well as those at the city and county levels.

Jobs and Employers
Director of Community Engagement, Sustainable Economies Law Ctr.
Finance and Operations Manager, National CAPACD
Legal Asst., Weinberg and Miller Senior Public Affairs Representative, Kaiser Permanente
Operations Coordinator, Nourish Co Policy/Comms. Assoc., National Council of Asian Pacific Americans

Graduate Programs
Counseling, Masters
City and Regional Planning, Masters
Data Science, Masters
Education, Masters, PhD
Law, JD
Medicine, MD
Public Administration, Masters
Public Health, Masters
Public Policy, Masters
Social Work, Masters

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates and LinkedIn.