AMERICAN STUDIES HONORS TRACK

The American Studies Honors Program is designed to allow our most talented and motivated students more opportunities for in-depth exploration of interdisciplinary field. These opportunities include self-designed internships and independent studies with professors in particular specialties, taking graduate courses upon approval from the Undergraduate Chair, working with their professors to craft more extensive projects in the upper-division electives for the major, and producing original research projects.

Students wishing to pursue the Honors Track in American Studies must apply to, and be accepted into, the UHM Honors Program. They must complete all Honors Program requirements. These requirements are different depending on whether a student applies as a Selected Studies or as an Upper Division Honors student.

In addition, students must also declare American Studies as their major and must complete all requirements of the major. However, because the American Studies major is designed with similar components to the Honors Program, many courses required for the major and for the Honors Program are interchangeable. This will enable participants in the American Studies Honors Track to graduate with Honors without lengthening the time to completion of their degree. Essentially, American Studies Honors Track adds only six credits to the total load of a regular American Studies major.

Juniors and Seniors who enter the program for an Upper Division Honors designation are required to take the following courses:

- HON 491 Honors Junior Seminar (or by petition, may substitute an AMST graduate course or Study Abroad experience): 3 credits
- HON 495 Introduction to Research (or by petition, may substitute AMST 480 Approaches to American Studies, provided that students complete a written research proposal for the Senior Honors Project and defend and present this research proposal at the semester end conference hosted by Honors): 3 credits
- HON 496 Senior Honors Project (or by petition, may substitute 3 credits of AMST 481 Senior Research Seminar or AMST 482 Senior Capstone Project and provide student and thesis advisor progress reports for HON 496): 6 credits
- Presentation of completed AMST/Honors thesis at the semester end conference hosted by Honors or equivalent public forum
- AMST 381 and AMST 382 Junior Seminars: 6 credits
- Upper-division electives that fulfill the AMST major: 18 credits total
  - First and second year students who enter both the American Studies and Honors Program early can take AMST 150A, the Honors sections of “America and the World” (this course fulfills a Foundations FGB graduation requirement) or AMST 220A, the Honors section of “Introduction to Indigenous Studies” (this course fulfills 2425 Campus Road, Sinclair Library, Honolulu, HI 96822.
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An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution
the Focus HAP graduation requirement). American Studies allows students to count one lower-division course (100-200 level) toward their major requirements.

American Studies Honors Track students are required to meet with the designated Honors advisor in American Studies every semester to make sure that all the requirements are being met in a timely manner.

When writing/producing their Senior Honors Project, students in the American Studies Honors Track are expected to work closely with at least one main advisor, and form a committee with at least one faculty member on it. This committee will provide guidance to the student regarding the research and writing of the Senior Honors Project and at the end of the process, will recommend whether the Senior Honors Project has earned an Honors designation.