American Studies

University of Minnesota

Mural by Rock Cyfi Martinez
Minneapolis Airport
https://www.cyfiart.com/
American Studies

- American Studies is an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the United States, both past and present.
- We use race, indigeneity, gender, sexuality, and disability as analytics to understand America’s past, present and future.
- We interrogate American exceptionalism by acknowledging that the United States is built upon a legacy of empire, marked by genocide, slavery, and dispossession.

Mural by Eduardo Kobra, Downtown Minneapolis
https://www.minneapolis.org/things-to-do/arts-culture/murals-public-art/
Department of American Studies

- American Studies at Minnesota is renowned for its transnational approach which frames American Studies within a global context.
- American Studies is interdisciplinary because it encompasses both social sciences and humanities.

Mural by Gregg Deal, Minneapolis Indian Center
http://greggdeal.com/
Faculty Research
Recent Books

**BLACK IN THE MIDDLE**
An Anthology of the Black Midwest
Edited by Terence L. Williams

**detours**
Travel and the Ethics of Research in the Global South
EDITED BY M. Bianet Castellanos

**SOUNDS FROM THE OTHER SIDE**
Black-South Asian Collaborations in Music Popular Music

**FORTRESS AMERICA**
How We Learned Fear and Abandoned Democracy
ELAINE TYLER MAY
Examples of Senior Papers

- Marguerite Gallagher: Staging Representations: Theater in the Twin Cities
- Erich Korth: America's Echo Chambers: Political Partisanship and the Media
- Holly Hutchins: Lit for Life: using representative Literature in high school classrooms to make our world a better place
- Madeline Brennan: Putting Poststructuralism and Indigenous Epistemologies in Conversation
- Megan Olson: Long Play: A 60's Soundtrack and why the Current Cares
- Johanna Greniger: Playback's A Bitch: (Re)Teaching History Through Music

Gorditas El Gordo Building, Minneapolis
https://www.minneapolis.org/things-to-do/arts-culture/murals-public-art/
What you can do with the major?

• Teach at the elementary, high school, and college level.
• Non-profit sector like YWCA, Chamber of Commerce, and Minnesota Historical Society
• Business managers and marketing executives in companies like Best Buy, PlanetOut Inc., and Target.
• Communications consultant, video curator, and web producers for companies like New York Times and Fairview Health Services
• Government positions like campaign managers, legislative aides, finance directors for local state officials and Congress
• Technical advisor and corporate systems engineer for Google, Boston Scientific, etc.
http://americanstudies.umn.edu/

Photo of Abolish the Police by M. Bianet Castellanos

“Rise” mural by Lulu Danzig, 4310 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis
https://carriecolbert.com/minneapolis-mural-guide/