

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

PREPARATION FOR THE MAJOR

High School Preparation

Recommended as part of or in addition to UC's "a-g" admission requirements:

- English composition and literature,
- Social science and humanities electives.

Transfer Preparation

Any of the courses listed below may be completed at UCSB if equivalents are not available at the community college.

- Introduction to Asian American History, 1850-Present (UCSB's Asian American Studies 1).
- Asian Americans and Contemporary Race Relations (UCSB's Asian American Studies 2) or
- Asian American Personality and Identity (UCSB's Asian American Studies 3) or
- Sociology of Asian America (UCSB's Asian American Studies 6);
- Introduction to Asian American Popular Culture (UCSB's Asian American Studies 4) or
- Introduction to Asian American Literature (UCSB's Asian American Studies 5);
- Asian American Gender and Sexuality (UCSB's Asian American Studies 8).

Please see the UCSB *General Catalog* (www.catalog.ucsb.edu) or your school counselor for more information on course preparation. California community college students should see www.assist.org.

The Department

UCSB's Department of Asian American Studies was one of the very first autonomous academic departments in the United States completely devoted to the study of Asian Americans. Founded by Professor Sucheng Chan, a pioneer in the field, the department over the years has consistently offered students the opportunity to study and understand the experiences of Asian Americans, particularly their histories, communities, and cultures. Our students learn to evaluate the existing literature on Asian American communities, to analyze a variety of data on Asian Americans, and to conduct original research. Professors in the department offer courses informed by approaches from the traditional disciplines, including sociology, law, education, psychology, and literature, as well as from interdisciplinary scholarship in women's studies, law and society, public policy, global studies, cultural studies, and film and media studies.

Although the department offers a wide range of courses through multiple approaches, we share a common commitment to progressive scholarship of the highest caliber. We also share a commitment to engaging directly issues of inequality, both in United States history and in our own time. To that end, the lower-division courses offer a thorough introduction to Asian American history and culture, primarily to show how migration from Asia has profoundly shaped life in the United States at least since the mid-nineteenth century. The upper-division courses further explore Asian American contributions to literature, art, culture, film, and performance, in addition to Asian American struggles for political equality, opportunity, and fairness. These courses also highlight contemporary issues facing Asian American communities, issues that require leadership and meaningful intervention. As Asian American communities continue to grow and develop, we hope that our students will be better prepared to play an active role in confronting the many challenges faced by all of us living in a multiracial, multicultural world.

Asian American Studies and Careers

Students with a bachelor's degree in Asian American Studies may pursue a wide range of career choices. As Asian American Studies majors, students will be exposed to several substantive areas of knowledge and multiple approaches to learning. These should provide a substantial basis for success in any number of careers immediately after graduation. In addition, students are encouraged to consider further graduate studies in literature, history, sociology, and other traditional disciplines. Students are also encouraged to consider professional programs, such as in film production, law, public policy, public health, education, business, and social welfare. Please consult with individual faculty members who work in these fields for any additional advice.

Students interested in teaching and conducting research at the university level should plan to complete the Ph.D. degree. Students interested in teaching at the community college should pursue graduate work at least through the master's degree. Teaching at the high school level requires the California Single Subject Teaching Credential. Students interested in pursuing a California Teaching Credential should discuss their plans with the credential advisor in UCSB's Graduate School of Education early in their academic careers.

For more information on UCSB's Asian American Studies major, please call or write to:

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