



ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES DEPARTMENT The Master of Arts Program

MA Program: The Master of Arts degree in Asian American Studies is designed, through disciplinary and interdisciplinary inquiries and analyses, to provide students with a critical knowledge of the diverse Asian American communities. Students in Asian American Studies are encouraged to study a modern Asian language other than English.

Career Options for Graduates: The MA degree can be used to: (1) enhance work in the Asian American communities; (2) enhance career opportunities in the Pacific Rim areas; (3) prepare for a teaching or other professional career; and (4) prepare for graduate studies or other professional degrees (e.g., MSW, MPH, JD, PhD).

Required Courses, Units, and Grades: The Master of Arts program consists of thirty units in five modules. No more than six units are allowed in Directed Reading or Special Study or a combination of both. A student must perform satisfactorily in the first year of graduate study by maintaining a minimum grade of "B" in all courses taken toward the graduate degree or be subject to dismissal. CR/NC units are not acceptable for the degree. A graduate student in good standing must maintain a "B" (3.00) GPA throughout the course of study.

Program of Instruction:

Module 1: Theory and Research Methods in Asian American Studies - Intensive training in research methodologies as well as data analysis – in both the humanities and social sciences – to develop critical and analytical skills in Asian American Studies as a discipline of inquiry.

Module 2: Seminars in Asian American Studies - Thematic seminars to prepare students in disciplinary and interdisciplinary inquiries.

Module 3: Asian American Community Studies - Interdisciplinary, in-depth study of pertinent issues facing the Asian American communities, particularly issues regarding health and public policy.

Module 4: Electives or Concentration - Courses taken on advisement with prior approval from the graduate advisor that aim to provide flexibility for graduate students to enroll in courses (upper division and/or graduate courses offered within or outside the AAS Department) to pursue a concentration within Asian American Studies (e.g., Asian area studies, counseling, creative writing, education, English studies, cinema, electronic or print journalism, health services, history, international business, international relations, social work, etc.).

Module 5: Culminating Course (Master's Thesis, Creative Project, or Field Study) - An independent and final project, which can be either scholarly or creative/artistic under graduate faculty supervision, as evidence of abilities in both research methodologies and critical analysis or artistic creativity.

Required Courses:

Module 1: Theory and Research Methods in Asian American Studies (3-6 units; minimum 3 units)

AAS 697 Proseminar in Asian American Studies (3 units)

AAS 710 Critical Approaches to Asian American Studies (3 units)

Module 2: Seminars in Asian American Studies (9-12 units; minimum 9 units)

AAS 800 Seminar: Contemporary Asian American Discourse (3 units)

AAS 810 Seminar: Asian American Immigration (3 units)

AAS 822 Seminar: Asian American Literature and Arts (3 units)

AAS 833 Seminar: Asian American Family and Identity (3 units)

AAS 884 Critical Asian American Educational Experience and Pedagogy (3 units)

Module 3: Asian American Community Studies (3-6 units; minimum 3 units)
AAS 865 Asian American Community and Public Policy (3 units)
AAS 875 Asian American Community Health Issues (3 units)

Module 4: Electives or Concentration (3-12 units; minimum 3 units)
Approved courses on advisement

Module 5: Culminating Course (3 units)
AAS 895 Field Study (3 units)
AAS 898 Master's Thesis (3 units)

TOTAL: 30 units (minimum)

Admission to the Graduate Program:

Applicants must first meet the general requirements for graduate program admission at San Francisco State University. Students apply for admission to both the Division of Graduate Studies at San Francisco State University (www.sfsu.edu/~gradstdy) and the Asian American Studies Department. At the university-level, applicants must demonstrate completion of their undergraduate degree with at least a 3.0 GPA.

At the department level, applicants will be evaluated on:

1. how the MA in AAS will contribute to their personal and professional goals;
2. their background in Asian American Studies;
3. their record of community service or student activism;
4. their topic or specific area of interest; and
5. their research, writing, and analytical abilities.

Applicants must also demonstrate an undergraduate proficiency equivalent to three of the following five Asian American courses offered at San Francisco State University: AAS 320, AAS 330, AAS 350, AAS 360, AAS 370, and AAS 510. If judged deficient in undergraduate preparation, the student is required to take additional courses to meet the minimum requirements and to seek additional program advising.

Applicants should check the Division of Graduate Studies website for application deadlines. In addition to submitting the required paperwork to the Division of Graduate Studies, the following items should be sent directly to the MA Coordinator at the Asian American Studies Department:

- o A personal statement to cover points (1) to (4) above
- o A writing sample demonstrating research, writing, and analytical skills to cover point (5) above
- o A copy of all transcripts (this is in addition to the set submitted to Graduate Studies)
- o Two letters of recommendation

Submit the above to:

MA Program Coordinator
Asian American Studies Department
San Francisco State University
1600 Holloway Avenue, EP 103
San Francisco, CA 94132