

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY AMERICAN STUDIES DEGREE?



Using the Major Sheet:

- Large headings indicate **industry** area and subheadings indicate **employers** within that area.
- Use the titles to search for careers and related careers in order to explore your options within different areas of industry. Note that some career titles have multiple names for similar positions.
- An asterisk (*) notes that additional training (certification, graduate school, high level of experience) in order to obtain this career. Make sure to thoroughly research career pathways.

AMERICAN HISTORY

Historical Museums/Societies, Cultural Heritage Organizations, Research Organizations

- Conservation Technician
- Property Disposal Officer
- Assistant Museum Curator
- Fundraiser/Grant Writer
- Assistant Registrar
- Museum Technician
- Museum Guide
- Display Manager
- Gallery Research Technician
- Museum Attendant
- Armorer Technician
- Museum Teacher
- Exhibit Designer
- Museum Educator

Historical/Archaeological Sites, Arts & Humanities Councils, National & State Archives

- Site Guide
- Interpretive Guide
- Grant Proposal Reviewer
- Historic Site Interpreter
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Park Ranger

PUBLIC POLICY

Congress / State Legislature / Local Government

- Congressional/Legislative Aide
- Legislative Research Assistant
- Campaign Staffer
- Committee Staff Person
- Legislative Correspondent
- Constituent Aide
- Press Secretary
- Communications Director

Policy Organizations (Issue-Oriented/Non-Profits/National Associations)

- Public Opinion Interviewer
- Community/Field Organizer
- Program Developer/Coordinator
- Fund-Raiser/Development Associate
- Office Manager
- Lobbyist
- Membership Coordinator
- Political Organizer
- Convention Organizer
- Government Affairs Specialist
- Public Policy Analyst
- Project Manager
- Legislative Liaison
- Conference Coordinator

Research Organizations (Issue-Oriented/Non-Profits/National Associations)

- Project Assistant
- Research Associate
- Public Policy Analyst

Foundations

- Aide
- Researcher
- Proposal Reviewer

LAW / CORRECTIONS / REHABILITATION

- Mediator
- Correctional Caseworker
- Investigative Assistant
- Customs/Immigration Officer
- Police Officer
- Court Appointed Advocate
- Intelligence Support Analyst
- Corrections Officer
- Legal Assistant
- CIA/FBI Agent

GOVERNMENT

Local, State and Federal Agencies (Transportation, Housing, Commerce)

- Population Studies Researcher
- Contract Administrator/Specialist
- Quality Assurance Specialist
- Intelligence Analyst
- Conflict Negotiator
- Urban/Regional Planner
- Researcher/Statistician
- Program Evaluator
- Regional Planner
- Foreign Service Officer
- Public Affairs Officer
- Civil Rights Investigator
- Survey Analyst
- Lobbyist
- Legislative Assistant

HUMAN SERVICES

Advocacy Groups, Government, Non-Profits, Hospitals

- Community Service Agency Worker
- Recreation Coordinator
- Family Services Specialist
- Race Relations Specialist
- Social Service Manager
- Community Outreach Worker
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Caseworker
- Recreation Worker

EDUCATION

High Schools, Colleges, Universities

- Teacher
- Admissions Counselor
- Financial Aid Counselor

HEALTH

Hospitals, Insurers, Government, Non-Profits

- Research Assistant
- Insurance Customer Service Rep.
- Recreation Worker
- Medical Admissions Staff
- Health Educator
- Development Specialist
- Patient Advocate
- Caseworker
- Program Coordinator

BUSINESS

Advertising / Marketing / Public Relations

- Marketing Research Analyst
- Advertising Salesperson
- Consumer Survey Supervisor
- Public Relations Specialist
- Marketing Coordinator
- Special Events Coordinator
- Media Buyer
- Copywriter

Human Resources

- Personnel/Human Resources Asst.
- EEO/Affirmative Action Officer
- Interviewer
- Benefits Coordinator
- Payroll Officer
- Staffing Specialist
- Trainer
- Recruiter
- Job Developer

Insurance

- Claims Representative/Examiner
- Insurance Agent
- Underwriter

Retail / Sales (Book Stores, Museum Shops, Retail Stores)

- Assistant Buyer
- Store/Department Manager
- Sales Representative

Publishing / Journalism

- Editorial Assistant
- Reporter
- Publishing Assistant
- Researcher
- Freelance Writer
- Technical Writer
- Copy Editor
- Indexer/Abstractor
- Promotions Assistant
- Circulation Manager
- News Assistant
- Desk Assistant

Preparation for a Competitive Job Market:

- **Focus on transferable skill sets**, as you pursue a degree in American Studies.
- **Obtain relevant internship, co-op, or volunteer experiences.**
- **Supplement American Studies course work** with **classes** that are **relevant** to your career.
- **Meet with a Career Specialist** to explore options, make decisions, and prepare for career choices.

Additional Career Center Resources:

- **Related Major Sheets (EDUC, ENGL, GWST, HIST, POLI, PSYC, SOCY, VA):**

<https://careers.umbc.edu/tools/majors/>

- **The Vault:** <https://careers2.umbc.edu/tools/vault/>

- Use the top search bar to find these relevant guides:

“[Vault Guide to Journalism Jobs](#)”

“[Vault Guide to Education Jobs](#)”

“[Vault Guide to Social Services Jobs](#)”

“[Vault Guide to Library and Information Science Jobs](#)”

- **Professional Associations:**

American Studies Association: <http://www.theasa.net>

International American Studies Association: <http://www.iasaweb.org/>