

# American Studies

How can I succeed with this major?



RIDER  
UNIVERSITY

## WRITING

### What can I do with this major?

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- Journalism
- Creative Writing
- Freelance Writing
- Copy Writing

### Where do I want to work?

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- Newspapers
- Broadcast media companies including television and movie industry
- Trade, professional, or consumer publications
- Arts organizations; theaters and concert halls
- Magazines

### How to get there...

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- Obtain a minor in English or journalism or take some general writing-focused classes.
- Volunteer to assist or tutor students in a writing center.
- Write for campus publications such as college newspapers, magazines, or department/program newsletters.

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## POLITICS AND LAW

### Where do I want to work?

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- Elected or appointed public officials (i.e., legislators, governors, mayors, judges)
- National political party headquarters
- Political campaigns
- Public interest/advocacy groups
- Law firms

### How to get there...

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- Gain experience and make contacts through internships with government agencies or public officials.
- Participate in student government and campus politics.
- Volunteer to work with public interest groups, political campaigns, political associations, or community service projects.
- Obtain a law degree to work in law or politics. Many politicians begin their careers with a law degree.

### Tips: FYI

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- Research the prerequisites of the area of interest and tailor program of study to meet curricular and skill needs.
- Develop skills by obtaining a leadership role in a school or community organization.
- Part-time, summer, internship, and volunteer experiences are critical.
- Get involved in Student Government.

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## EDUCATION

### What can I do with this major?

- Teaching
- Research
- Public Historian
- Historical Consultant
- Library Science

### Where do I want to work?

- Colleges and universities
- Historic sites and museums
- Vocational-technical educational programs
- Professional or graduate schools including medical

### How to get there...

- Obtain a doctorate degree for opportunities in teaching and/or research.
- Develop one or more concentrations, such as mathematics, medical or business ethics, science, or religion.
- Gain related experience through internships, volunteering, or part-time employment.

## JOURNALISM

### What can I do with this major?

- Broadcast
- Print

### Where do I want to work?

- News departments of local, public, and commercial radio and TV stations
- Syndicated radio services
- Newspapers
- National, state, and regional radio networks

### How to get there...

- Work on campus newspaper, TV, or radio.
- Find summer or part-time work with local commercial TV or radio station.
- Volunteer with public TV or radio.
- Consider obtaining a minor or double major in journalism or broadcasting/electronic media.

### Advice from professors

- Students are exposed to thinking in diverse disciplines and have job opportunities in multiple fields.
- American Studies recognizes that we live in a volatile, interdisciplinary, world where people often change jobs.
- American Studies is an ideal double major with fields such as Education, History, English, Communications, and the Social Sciences.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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