INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies is dedicated to the multidisciplinary study of historical and contemporary experiences of Americans of Asian ancestry in local, national and global contexts. The program explores connections among Asian communities in the United States and around the world in terms of the entangled histories and circuits of migration and the interconnected space through which people, capital, ideas, influences, and activism flow among Asian diasporic communities.

The Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies major and minor are offered by the Department of Ethnic Studies, which also offers a major and minor in Ethnic Studies as well as a minor in Race and the Law.

“AAADS offers students the opportunity to learn about the history of migration, the gendered racialization of Asians, the diversity within the group, and the multiple ways in which they have struggled for belonging and social justice in both national and global contexts.”

– Lok Siu, Associate Professor

THE MAJOR CURRICULUM

The Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies curriculum offers students a deeper understanding of the histories and contemporary realities of the different ethnic groups that comprise the “Asian American” category. Through classroom-based and experiential learning, our students engage with critical issues such as labor, health, representation and cultural production, religion, class, gender, generation, law, and social activism.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

• Enrich your studies with a summer minor in Race and the Law.
• Volunteer for local organizations such as the East Bay Asian Youth Center or Asian Women's Shelter.
• Complete a senior honors thesis in the major.

ADVISING

Students can contact the major advisors to schedule appointments or ask questions by emailing Laura Jimenez-Olvera at lauraj@berkeley.edu or Dewey St. Germaine at deweystg@berkeley.edu.

Advising Hours
Monday - Friday, 9:30-11:30am, 1:30-4pm

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.
ASIAN AMERICAN AND ASIAN DIASPORA STUDIES

Design Your Journey
Bachelor of Arts

Explore your major
Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plan. Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements. Enroll in ASAMST 20A: Introduction to the History of Asians in the United States. Enroll in ETH STD 1A: Introduction to Ethnic Studies.

Connect and build community
Get: mentoring with Berkeley Connect in Ethnic Studies and L&S Mentors Program. Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center. Enroll in UGIS 98: College Success in L&S.

Discover your passions
Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar, L&S 1, or a student-run DeCal course. Attend the Undergraduate Research and Scholarships Fair in October. Get inspired with the collections of the Ethnic Studies Library and Eastwind Books.

Engage locally and globally
Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization. Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center. Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad. Check out Bay Area events like Berkeley Study Abroad.

Reflect and plan your future

First Year
Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plan. Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements. Enroll in ASAMST 20A: Introduction to the History of Asians in the United States. Enroll in ETH STD 1A: Introduction to Ethnic Studies.

Second Year
Enroll in ASAMST 20AC: Asian American Communities and Race Relations, ASAMST 20B: Contemporary Issues in Asian American Communities or ASAMST 20C: Cultural Politics and Practices in Asian American Communities. Complete the three lower division prerequisites and meet with your major advisor to declare the major. Review major guidelines for study abroad.

Third Year
Focus on upper division requirements and plan for electives you wish to take. Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor. Ask the major advisor about the honors program.

Fourth Year
Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate. Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements. Satisfy the ASAMST 297 field study requirement if you haven’t done so already.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?
Students in the Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies Program gain skills that prepare them for careers in a variety of fields, including teaching, counseling, law, journalism, marketing, community and housing development, radio and television, health and medicine, community and union organizing, social work, and positions in federal, state, and local governments as well as those at the city and county levels.

Jobs and Employers

Graduate Programs

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates and LinkedIn.