

Actuarial Science – American Cultural Studies

MKTG	300	Principles of Marketing
QMCS	281	Object-Oriented Design and Programming
QMCS	450	Database Design

Minor in Actuarial Science

ACSC	264	Theory of Interest
ACSC	320	Risk Management and Insurance
MATH	113	Calculus I
MATH	114	Calculus II

Plus eight credits from the following:

Note: At least four credits must not satisfy the student's major field requirement (including allied requirements)

ACCT	205	Introduction to Accounting
ACSC	351	Foundations of Actuarial Mathematics
ACSC	464	Mathematical Finance
ECON	252	Principles of Microeconomics
FINC	321	Financial Management or FINC 300 Finance for non-Business Majors
MATH	200	Multi-Variable Calculus
MATH	313	Probability or MATH 303 Statistics for the Applied Sciences

264 Theory of Interest

A survey of topics in the mathematical analysis of financial transactions which involve payments made over time. Specific areas of concentration will include the time value of money; the analysis of annuities; amortization and sinking funds; and the pricing and rates of return on investments. Both continuous time and discrete time problems will be considered.

Prerequisite: MATH 114.

320 Risk Management and Insurance

This course introduces students to the subjects of insurance—theory and practice—and corporate risk management. In addressing these subjects, students will receive exposure to risk theory, insurance pricing, contract analysis, insurance company operations, reinsurance, regulation and the concepts and principles of business risk management.

Prerequisite: Junior standing or MATH 114

351 Foundations of Actuarial Mathematics

The course covers the theory and applications of contingency mathematics in the area of life and health insurance, annuities and pensions from both the probabilistic and deterministic approaches. Topics will include: survival distributions, actuarial notation, life insurance and life annuities, net premiums and reserves.

Prerequisite: 264 and MATH 313.

352 Actuarial Contingencies

Extension of the analysis of 351 to multiple life functions and multiple decrement theory. Topics will include: multiple life functions and multiple decrement models, valuation of pensions, insurance models including expenses, nonforfeiture benefits and dividends.

Prerequisite: 351

464 Mathematical Finance

The focus of this course is on applications of probability, stochastic processes, and other mathematical tools to problems in finance. Both discrete and continuous models, including binomial, Brownian motion, and geometric Brownian motion models will be used to investigate the effects of randomness in financial markets and the behavior of financial instruments. The mathematical realization of arbitrage and hedging strategies will be examined, including the Arbitrage Theorem and the concept of risk-neutral pricing. Applications will include the pricing of equity options, currency transactions and the use of duration and convexity in fixed income analysis. The course will be of interest to students of actuarial science, mathematics, finance and economics who want to develop a better quantitative understanding of financial risk.

Prerequisites: MATH 313 or MATH 303 and ACSC 264 or a course in FINC approved by the instructor

American Cultural Studies (ACST)

W. Banfield, director

American Cultural Studies is an interdisciplinary minor in which students will have the opportunity to develop a critical perspective on the rich and multiple meanings of two crucial terms: "American" and "culture." Drawing on perspectives from a number of participating departments and programs (e.g. communication, English, history, art history, sociology, music, theology, philosophy, theater, journalism and mass communication, and modern and Classical languages), the American Cultural Studies minor examines the symbols, practices, and histories

College of Arts and Sciences – Interdisciplinary Programs

which contribute to the complexity and variety of the “American” experience, including North America and South America. In addition to making connections among disciplines, students will be encouraged to engage in analysis that discovers linkages and tensions between vernacular and elite culture, as well as among diverse and multiple cultural identities and affiliations. Although the emphasis will be on the analysis of culture as a system, the program may where appropriate offer courses that address the relationship between contemporary cultural phenomena and their historical origins.

The American Cultural Studies minor will appeal to any student who wishes to acquire a critical intellectual framework for:

1. thinking and acting in a diverse and increasingly fragmented society;
2. developing a political, economic, artistic, and spiritual consciousness that is informed by and expressed through popular culture and the technology of mass media and communication.

Given its emphasis on the diversity and multiplicity of cultural experience and its interdisciplinary focus on the various strands that comprise the fabric of a given culture, the minor in American cultural Studies is particularly suited to provide students with the awareness and critical framework necessary to be effective and ethical participants in an increasingly globalized civic and economic environment.

Minor in American Cultural Studies

200 Foundations of American Cultural Studies

Plus:

Twenty additional credits (at least four from each of the categories below and no more than eight from a single department):

American Cultures: History, Society, Politics

GEOG	340	Geography of the U.S. and Canada
HIST	210	Modern Latin America 1800 to the Present
HIST	361	American Thought and Culture since the Civil War
HIST	369	African-American History
POL	301	American Political Behavior
SOC	251	Race and Ethnicity
SPAN	332	Survey of Latin American Culture and Civilization

American Cultures: Literature and the Arts

ARTH	320	Art and Culture of Colonial Mexico
ARTH	391	Native American Art
ARTH	392	American Art
ENGL	215	American Authors II
ENGL	373	Contemporary American Literature
ENGL	395	Issues in Literature and Culture
MUSC	216	Jazz in America
MUSC	217	Music of the Americas
MUSC	218	Black American Music: An Historical Survey
MUSC	222	The Theology of American Popular Music
THR	223	History of Theater III: American

American Cultures: Mass Culture, Popular Culture, and Communication Media

COMM	340	Rhetoric of Race, Class and Gender
COMM	350	Modern American Rhetoric
COMM	360	Television Criticism
COMM	455	Political Communication and Television
JOUR	302	Literary Journalism
JOUR	305	Gender, Race, and Mass Media
JOUR	402	Society, Culture, and the Media
JOUR	404	Media Structure and Power

200 Introduction to American Cultural Studies

Students will explore in an interdisciplinary fashion some of the central ideas, myths, and perspectives that have shaped the American cultural experience. Although primarily focused on the culture of the United States, examination of the historical/cultural phenomena of North, Central, and South American will be considered. Through a critical analysis of various forms of culture expression, students will gain an understanding of how different groups of Americans define themselves and each other; how cultural identity and meaning have been constructed; and how power has been established, maintained, and, at times, diffused and shared. Students will also be exposed to the theoretical and methodological issues current in the field. This course fulfills the Human Diversity requirement of the core curriculum.