

# WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY AMERICAN STUDIES DEGREE?

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## 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):**

<http://careers.umbc.edu/tools/major-sheets/>

- **Links by Major:** <http://careers2.umbc.edu/tools/links.php>

• **Vault:** <http://careers.umbc.edu/students/discover/explore-careers-majors/>

- Click on Vault Career Insider portal link and provide UMBC user ID and password

- Select "Guides" to view relevant guides such as:

"Vault Guide to Journalism and Information Media"

"Vault Guide to Education Careers"

"Vault Career Guide to Social Work"

"Vault Guide to Library Careers"

- **Professional Associations:**

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

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