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
• Legislative Liaison
• Conference Coordinator
Research Organizations (Issue-Oriented/Non-Profits/National Associations)
• Project Assistant
• Aide
• Research Assistant
• Researcher
• Public Policy Analyst
• Proposal Reviewer
Foundations
• Mediator
• Correctional Caseworker
• Investigative Assistant
• Customs/Immigration Officer
• Police Officer
• Court Appointed Advocate
• Intelligence Support Analyst
• Corrections Officer
• Legal Assistant
• CIA/FBI Agent

LAW / CORRECTIONS / REHABILITATION
• 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

GOVERNMENT
Local, State and Federal Agencies (Transportation, Housing, Commerce)
• Mediator
• Correctional Caseworker
• Investigative Assistant
• Customs/Immigration Officer
• Police Officer
• Court Appointed Advocate
• Intelligence Support Analyst
• Corrections Officer
• Legal Assistant
• CIA/FBI Agent
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
- 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
- Indexer/Abstractor
- 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/
- 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 Guide to Library Careers”
- Professional Associations:
  American Studies Association: http://www.theasa.net
  International American Studies Association: http://www.iasaweb.org/

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10/2016