



AMST 7700: Practicum **Internship or Applied Research Project Guidelines**

Prerequisites: AMST 7000 and AMST 7100

This course requires students to apply American Studies knowledge and theory to practical issues, non-academic environments, or to new research questions. The Practicum fosters the ability to 1) read and think critically while using diverse methods to study American cultural products and practices, 2) communicate effective analysis of American culture both orally and in writing, and 3) analyze and critique relationships between cultural products and social values.

Students enrolled in AMST 7700 will:

- Develop connections between theory and practice by applying their interdisciplinary coursework effectively to a field experience or research project
- Practice ways of applying academic knowledge in new contexts

Tracks: Students registering for AMST 7700: Practicum may choose one of two tracks:

1) An INTERNSHIP in the areas of education, public affairs, business, international affairs, or other applicable field, and supporting the needs of the internship site and resulting in a substantial paper or other product.

Students interested in pursuing an internship must consult with the MA Director to discuss identifying appropriate agencies and to develop a project plan that outlines the student's project, goals, intended learning outcomes, work plan (including a breakdown of grading), and final product. The project plan should include all project requirements and a draft calendar. Students will not be permitted to register for AMST 7700 until the project plan is approved.

2) An APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECT developed and implemented by the student and resulting in a substantial paper, interpretive plan, or other product appropriate to the site and desired learning outcomes.

Students interested in pursuing an applied research project are responsible for identifying an appropriate American Studies faculty mentor. Projects may be team-based or student-initiated. In either case, the student will work with the faculty mentor to develop a project plan that outlines the student's project, goals, intended learning outcomes, work plan (including a breakdown of grading), and final product. The project plan should include all project requirements and a draft calendar. Students will not be permitted to register for AMST 7700 until the project plan is approved.