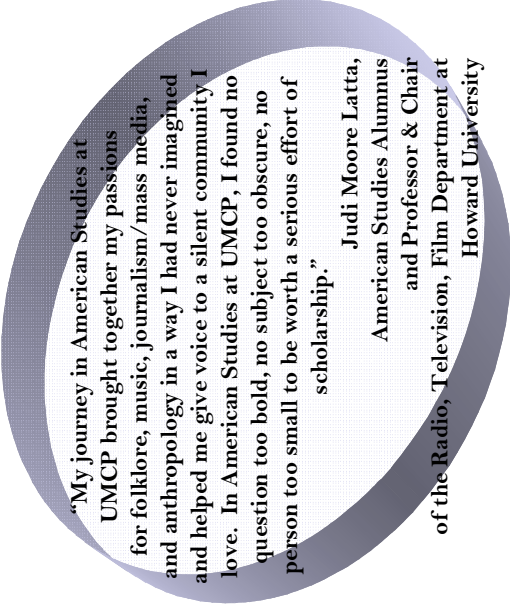


# American Studies Graduate Program at University of Maryland, College Park

## American Studies Intellectual Commitment

Graduate research and teaching in the Department of American Studies are centered around two intellectual themes that we believe lie at the forefront of the field: the cultures of everyday life and cultural constructions of difference and identity. Our students interrogate these themes from the perspectives of established topical lenses that include ethnography and life writing, literature and society, popular culture and media studies, bodies and sexualities, cultural landscapes and material culture, race, and foodways. Graduate scholarship in the Department is also characterized by rigorous training and innovation in the interrelated domains of theory construction, intersectionality, and interdisciplinary methods. On the University of Maryland campus students have access to 12 Department faculty and approximately 70 Affiliate faculty from units such as African-American Studies, Anthropology, Architecture, English, History, Sociology, and Women's Studies.

American Studies at Maryland strives to be an untraditional department. An explicit commitment to social justice often shapes students' research. The Department is firmly committed to supporting excellence and originality in scholarly research and encourages students to explore political, ideological and economic inequalities and construct novel pathways to promote social change. Our students push the boundaries of "traditional" American Studies scholarship in many established and emerging areas, such as hip hop studies, Black feminisms, disability studies, the scholarship of teaching and learning, queer of color criticism, masculinities, performance studies, visual culture, transnational and diasporic studies, and cyberculture studies.



*"My journey in American Studies at UMCP brought together my passions for folklore, music, journalism/mass media, and anthropology in a way I had never imagined and helped me give voice to a silent community I love. In American Studies at UMCP, I found no question too bold, no subject too obscure, no person too small to be worth a serious effort of scholarship."*

Judi Moore Latta,  
American Studies Alumnus  
and Professor & Chair  
of the Radio, Television, Film Department at  
Howard University

## Departmental Faculty

**John L. Caughey**, Professor  
(Ethnography, Life Writing, and Comparative Culture Studies)

**Christina Hanhardt**, Assistant Professor  
of American Studies and LGBT Studies  
(LGBT and Queer Studies, Critical Race Theory,  
and Urban Studies)

**R. Gordon Kelly**, Professor  
(Popular Fiction, History, and Cultural Studies)

**Myron Lounsbury**, Associate Professor  
(Media Studies and Film & American Culture Studies)

**Jeffrey Q. McCune, Jr.**, Assistant Professor  
of American Studies and Women's Studies  
(Popular culture, Performance Theory, and African-American  
Literature & Culture)

**Jo B. Paoletti**, Associate Professor and  
Director of Undergraduate Studies  
(Children & Textiles and Critical Pedagogy)

**Sheri L. Parks**, Associate Professor  
(Culture, Family, & Gender, Popular Culture,  
and Ethnography)

**Larry Hajime Shinagawa**, Associate Professor  
and Director of Asian American Studies  
(Social Demography of Racial Groups and  
Asian American Culture and Community)

**Mary Corbin Sies**, Associate Professor and  
Director of Graduate Studies  
(American Suburbia, Cultural Landscape Studies, and  
Material Culture Studies)

**Nancy L. Struna**, Professor and Chair  
(Popular Culture, Body, Sexuality and Society)

**Psyche Williams-Forson**, Assistant Professor  
(Cultural Studies, Material Culture, and Food Studies)

**Lawrence E. Mintz**, Associate Professor Emeritus  
(American Popular Culture and Humor Studies)

## Financial Aid Resources

Ph.D. Students in American Studies have held the following fellowships:

Bode-Wise Fellowship in American Studies

CrISP Fellowship, Consortium on Race,  
Gender, and Ethnicity

Ann Wylie Dissertation Fellowship

Mary Savage Snouffer Dissertation Fellowship

David C. Driskell Center Predoctoral  
Fellowship

Ford Foundation Minority Fellowship

Smithsonian Institution Predoctoral  
Fellowship

Soros Justice Fellowship

Winterthur Fellowship

Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship

American Association of University  
Professors Predoctoral Fellowship

Many M.A. and Ph.D. students also hold Graduate Assistantships in advising, teaching, research, and administration on the University of Maryland campus.

For more information on financial aid, contact the Director of Graduate Studies at: [marycorbinsies@yahoo.com](mailto:marycorbinsies@yahoo.com)

## Additional Resources

Our connections with a wide variety of faculty from departments across campus offer American Studies students a chance to take part in projects such as the Consortium on Race, Gender, and Ethnicity (CRGE), the David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the Arts and Culture of African Americans and the African Diaspora, and the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH), attend joint-sponsored lecture series and polyseminars, and engage in a dialogue with the broader community of Americanists on campus.

The American Studies Department also offers students the opportunity to receive certificates in programs such as Historic Preservation, the joint University of Maryland/Smithsonian Institution Program in Museum Scholarship and Material Culture, and Women's Studies. Students can also make use of the extensive resources housed in the Smithsonian Institution, the National Archives in Washington and College Park, the Library of Congress, and other Washington-Baltimore area museums, libraries, and government agencies.

“At Maryland’s AMST department, there is a home for me and my many passions, and for that I am eternally thankful. I have never been more intellectually and spiritually engaged, nor have I ever felt as at home institutionally since my time there at “the house.”

Okorie Johnson,  
Morehouse College Alumnus and doctoral student  
in the Department of American Studies, UMCP

## Working Groups

Many events, works in progress, and scholarship emerge from the Department’s Working Groups:

### The Carceral Studies Working Group

Johonna R. McCants

### The Latina/o Studies Working Group

Robb Hernandez

### The LGBTQ and Sexuality Studies Working Group

Christopher J. Pérez

### The Life Writing Project

Dr. John Caughey

### Material Culture/Visual Culture Working Group Research Program Area, Consortium on Race, Gender & Ethnicity

Co-Directors: Dr. Angel David Nieves  
& Dr. Mary Corbin Sies

### The Media Studies Working Group

Dr. Myron Lounsbury

### The Project on Religion, Culture, and Globalization

Asim Ali

## Contact Information

For more information about the Department of American Studies, please contact:

American Studies  
University of Maryland  
1102 Holzapfel Hall  
College Park, MD 20742

[americanstudies@umd.edu](mailto:americanstudies@umd.edu)

Phone: 301.405.1354

Fax: 301.314.9453

Or visit us on the web:

[www.amst.umd.edu](http://www.amst.umd.edu)



cultures of everyday life & cultural constructions of identity and difference

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