

BA Program
in English

BA in American Studies

2026/2027

Information for Candidates



UNIVERSITY
OF WARSAW



American
Studies
Center



ABOUT US

Welcome to the ASC!

The American Studies Center at the University of Warsaw is the second largest American Studies department in Europe. Its research and teaching profile spans five disciplines of cultural and literary studies, history, sociology, and political science. This interdisciplinary perspective equips our students with intellectual tools to truly understand the United States, Americas, and the world in all their complexity. Committed to fostering analytical and critical thinking, ASC prepares graduates to successfully pursue diverse careers, including academic research, journalism, creative industries, and politics-adjacent roles such as analysts or advisers.

Follow us!



@ascwarsaw



@ascwarsaw



@ascwarsaw



American Studies Center, University of Warsaw

LOCATION

The ASC is located in a modern and accessible building, located in the very center of Warsaw, in close proximity to the main campus, the University of Warsaw Library (BUW), numerous cafes and restaurants, the Vistula Boulevard, and the historic city center.



50th Anniversary

Did you know that our Center celebrates its 50th birthday this year? Established in 1976 as a research institute, the Center first opened its MA program in 1992.

Learn more
about our celebrations!



BA IN AMERICAN STUDIES

Why Study with Us

Do you really want to understand the United States? Most people assume they do — few actually get there. At ASC, we offer a unique, interdisciplinary American Studies program that brings together cultural studies, literature, history, social sciences, and political science. All courses are taught in English and draw both Polish and international students, making for a genuinely diverse classroom. You'll explore everything from current American affairs to the deeper historical forces behind them. Our strongest students also have the opportunity to study at partner universities across Europe and the United States.

What We Offer

From American wars and histories of tariffs and embargoes, to social movements and transformations of political parties in the U.S., to film and science fiction, our coursework curriculum has it all and much more! Beyond classes, our Student Council runs events like Thanksgiving celebrations, Oscar movie nights, and end-of-year picnics. Whether

BA IN AMERICAN STUDIES

you're into research, activism, or just making new friends, we support students in launching their own projects—both academic and social. You can join groups like the Weird Fictions Research Group or Leadership Research Group to dive deeper into your passions. Our faculty includes professors from the U.S. and Mexico as well as visiting scholars of international standing, keeping you connected to current research from around the world.

What You Get

ASC nurtures in its students both critical thinking and critical skills that will give you — yes! — critical advantage for both further education and job market. Our graduates pursue careers in academia and education, journalism and media, diplomatic service, and creative industries. And the tools we give you to truly understand the United States will serve you equally well in understanding the rest of the world in its complexity.

COURSES

Migrants, Refugees, Exiles: Literature, Visual Culture, Theory

**Prof. Karolina
Krasuska**



How to think about the ongoing migration crisis and refugees? The class familiarizes students with the multitude of migratory/refugee national contexts and shows the importance of literary and visual representations in shaping the field of thinking about refugees, exile and migration. The aim of the classes is also to critically analyze cultural texts in relation to the title concepts, thus preparing students to analyze the phenomena of contemporary culture.

COURSES

Chicago. Rise, Crisis and Current Social Problems of Modern Metropolis

**Prof. Anna Sosnowska-
Jordanovska**



In this course, we will explore the growth of Chicago from a swamp to a global city. As we explore Chicago's development, we will also look to understand the meaning of urban change for the lives of everyday people in the city. From early settlers to labor radicals to immigrants from across the globe, the city has been home to many types of people—what do their experiences tell us about the changing metropolis?

COURSES

House of Dread: Contemporary American Horror Fiction

**Dr. Agnieszka
Kotwasińska**



We will learn how contemporary horror writers bring into focus fears and anxieties of contemporary American society; fears related to racialization, gendered violence, economic destabilization, ecological collapse, social anomie, political polarization, and biomedical advancements. The classes will be divided into four thematic modules, each devoted to a particular aspect of contemporary horror production and its role in American cultural imaginary: places, objects, media and flesh.

COURSES

American Science Fiction in the 20th and 21st Century

Prof. Paweł Frelik



Don't believe those who look down on it — there is no other genre that helps understand the now-and-here better than science fiction. In this course we learn how to decode fantastic figures, motifs and scenarios and discover what *The Expanse*, *Blade Runner 2049*, and *Cyberpunk 2077* say about our world. (We also mention *Transformers*, but — sadly — not in a good way.)

COURSES

Anti-Americanism in Contemporary World

Prof. Bohdan Szklarski



America has always aroused passionate reactions. This course focuses on the negative perceptions of the USA in the 21st century. It will be a discussion of various forms of Anti-Americanism as well as a search for explanations of its sources. Is it policies? Is it values? Is it people? Is it power? Is it culture? We shall also examine how the negativity towards America plays in America: whether it reinforces isolationism? produces a backlash in the form of feelings of superiority? Contributes to perceptions of vulnerability? Finally, we shall look at a very indigenous variation of anti-Americanism, namely its domestic variation.

COURSES

Politics in the Age of Social Media, Fake News, and Conspiracy Theories

Dr. Jan Smoleński



Free flow of information is a bloodstream of democracy, however, as recent events in the US and around the world demonstrate, it can be abused and facilitate the spread of fake news and conspiracy theories. The aim of this class is to explore the very topical issue and the critical role of social media in political mobilization, political polarization, and political decisions on individual and collective levels. By looking at various theories and case studies, students will investigate the potentials and limitations of the political use of social media as well as their multifaceted and ambivalent impact on democratic politics.

TRAVEL AND STUDENT EXCHANGES

Study abroad

Our Center has Erasmus+ agreements with numerous universities in Europe. You can spend up to two semesters studying in Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Turkey, France, Bulgaria, and Greece.

Is Europe too close for you?

Apply for a semester- or year-long exchange at foreign universities outside Europe through bilateral agreements. Among these you'll find McGill University in Canada, Northeastern Illinois University and University of Florida in the U.S., Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara in Mexico, and many more. Every year, our BA and MA American Studies students successfully apply in the International Relations Office (BWZ UW) for exchanges in the U.S. and Canada.

Our mobility coordinator, Ludmiła Janion, will be happy to help you find a perfect destination and suitable courses, and to collect the required documents.



Looking back, I fell in love with the little life I created for myself during my exchange at the University of Sussex. From the tranquility of the student campus and the dynamic academic environment to trips around southern England and lively moments in Brighton, my time there was filled with excitement, growth, and inspiration. Being surrounded by people from different parts of the world, all brought together by the shared experience of the program, felt magical – almost like an unspoken, private bond. I didn't expect my travel exchange to be such a moving experience, and I'm forever grateful for those memories and friendships.

Natalia, an exchange student at the University of Sussex, England, 2025

TRAVEL AND STUDENT EXCHANGES



During my time at UF, I had the incredible opportunity to immerse myself in a variety of academic disciplines, including politics, literature, art, media studies, and even Spanish courses. This provided me with a well-rounded educational experience. The vibrant student life was also a highlight. I attended football games and cheered on the Gators together with the whole student body and the two mascots, Albert and Alberta. Campus life was like stepping into a movie: I experienced everything from frat parties to lively class discussions. American students' friendly attitude made me feel right at home, and I made friends for life. Overall, my exchange experience at UF left a lasting impression on me because apparently "once a gator, always a gator." I will carry the Florida experience in my heart wherever I go. GO GATORS!

Penelopa, exchange student at University of Florida, United States, 2023



My student exchange in Basel, Switzerland – which was also my first time abroad – was like a breath of fresh air in my student life. Switzerland is a beautiful and culturally diverse country; I met so many people from different backgrounds and learnt about their traditions first-hand. At the English Department of the University of Basel, I improved my critical reading and writing skills. Beyond the academic benefits, I gained confidence by stepping out of my comfort zone, learned responsibility, and polished my speaking skills in both English and German. What surprised me the most was how well organized the university system is, as well as how open, kind, and helpful people in Switzerland are. My stay in Basel brought me a lot of new experiences, joy and – most importantly – valuable connections that will surely last a lifetime.

Magdalena, an exchange student at the University of Basel, Switzerland, 2025

STUDENT LIFE

ASC Students' Union and Student Initiatives

The ASC Students' Union organizes many fantastic events, such as Thanksgiving Dinner, ASC Picnic, Super Bowl Watch Party and Oscars' Movie Night, giving our students opportunities to integrate, support their grassroots initiatives and learn more about American culture. You can also throw your cap at the annual graduation ceremony!

The ASC Students' Union is an exceptional place that allows one to fully celebrate being a student. Also, active work in such a student organization teaches you numerous skills that will certainly help you in the future on the job market and in interpersonal relationships. It's a great opportunity to gain many experiences and test yourself in new challenges. There is no better place to contribute to this community, meet amazing people and make memories. Without the Students' Union, my time at the university would have felt incomplete. I highly recommend this adventure to everyone!

Franek, Vice-President of Students' Union 2025-2026

At the ASC, student life means good company, shared traditions, and a real sense of belonging — whether you're playing games at a rooftop picnic on the 4th of July, sitting down to a Thanksgiving dinner (with plenty of vegan options), or ringing in Christmas together. These aren't just events; they're what make this place feel like home.

Joining a student organization can be a life-changing experience! Follow the ASC Students' Union on social media:



SPECIAL EVENTS

Classes not enough? The ASC offers a robust selection of academic and non-academic events and forms of engagement, including special events, lectures, and workshops.

If you want to expand knowledge of Americanist topics, we run the monthly **American Studies Colloquium Series** with its slew of international scholars sharing cutting-edge research on politics in social media, science fiction, or the role of aviation in international politics. That's not all! The ASC runs lectures, book launches, and panel discussions featuring diplomats, authors, and journalists in conversation with our faculty and students.

You want a more hands-on experience? Consider participating in events organized by ASC's research groups: **Weird Fictions**, **Leadership**, and **Gender/Sexuality** offer an array

of opportunities to pursue topics you love.

Already set on becoming an academic? We have you covered with student and regular conferences organized at the ASC, including past events such as **the Senses of Science Fiction: Visions, Sounds, Spaces** (2019), **Gender/Sexuality Student Conferences** of 2022 and 2024, and **Forgotten, Misplaced, Marginalized: Speculations We Don't See** (2025), and **Anti-gender Campaigns and the Politics of Knowledge Production** (2025).

And it's not just academic events that fill our calendar. The Student Union and other student bodies run **Oscar Nights**, **seasonal barbecues** (vegan friendly, of course), **Super Bowl**, and **other fun social gatherings** where students, staff, and faculty can enjoy themselves outside of the strictures of a classroom.

STATUS **QUEER**

"Statuts quo / status queer konferencja studencka
Ośrodka Studiów Amerykańskich i Instytutu Stosowanych Nauk Społecznych UW

26-27 kwietnia 2024

WEIRD FICTIONS RESEARCH GROUP
FOLLOW US AND CHECK FOR EVENTS AT: @THEWEIRDGROUP

WEIRD VEGETATION

LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS
2025/2026 3 02N

CINDLE American Studies Center

www.forgottensf.net

FALL 2025/2026

Thursday, October 30
Funded by the U.S. Embassy grant.
Cristiane Miller (Buffalo University)
"Early Dickinson Mediated: How Archives and Editions 'Slant' Presentation of their Authors"

Thursday, November 20
Aaron Leonard (Independent scholar)
"Menace of Our Time: The Long War Against American Communism"

Thursday, November 27
Nekesa Chawelowska-Szklifier (Niedzielski University)
"The Era of Political (Not)Kidding: How Politics Became a Strategically Ambiguous Joke"

Tuesday, December 2
Michael Davidson (University of California San Diego)
"Distressing Language: Disability and the Poetics of Error"

Thursday, December 11
Jennifer Scappetone (University of Chicago)
"Poetry After Barbarism: The Invention of Motherless Tongues and Resistance to Fascism"

Thursday, January 22
Katerina Kolářová (Charles University)
"Yearning for Crisp Horizons: Crisp Theory for Postsocialist Spaces"

All talks are held in person, at 4:45 p.m., at Dobra 55, room 2.118

For details and links, check out:
→ www.asc.uw.edu.pl/events/american-studies-colloquium-series/
→ facebook.com/ascuw

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ANTI-GENDER CAMPAIGNS
AND THE POLITICS OF KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION

11-12 DECEMBER 2025

American Studies Center
University of Warsaw
Dobra 55, Warsaw, Poland

KEYNOTE LECTURES

Mieke Verloo: Mobilising the Politics of Knowledge for the Politics of Autocratization
Adriana Zaharijević: Knowledge is Political. What's the Trouble with the Claim?



FORGOTTEN MISPLACED MARGINALIZED
SPECULATIONS WE DON'T SEE
MAY 8-10, 2025

Deadline for submissions: December 15, 2024

MEET THE ALUMNI

Once you Graduate

Our focus on culture and society helps our graduates build strong communication skills, cultural awareness, and critical thinking—key assets for careers in business, nonprofits, museums, government, research, and education. By elevating students' English skills and fostering their curiosity about the world, our program can be a gateway to exciting fields, including film, journalism, arts, tourism, international business, and much more.



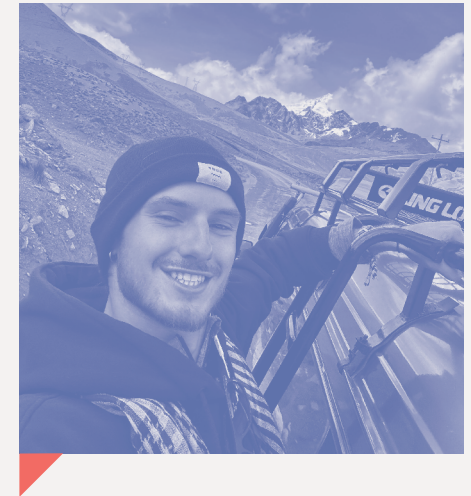
MEET THE ALUMNI



Kamila Klavia Bagińska

BA graduate of 2023

Choosing the BA program at the ASC has been the best decision in my academic journey! Every day I got to learn from scholars who are truly passionate about their fields and were able to notice the uniqueness of every student. During my studies, I always had guidance in turning my knowledge into practice, which opened many doors in both my professional and academic career. American Studies Center is a place unlike any other faculties for its openness to new ideas and student-focused approach that will shape you into the best version of your academic self.



Wiktor Dydyński

BA graduate of 2024

Studying at the American Studies Center has been the best decision I could have made. Due to its broad catalog of electives you can study what interests you the most. ASC is not only an academic institution but also a close-knit community where faculty and like-minded students can come together and make this experience truly unforgettable. Graduating with a BA gave me numerous tools, which helped me to immediately find a job in South America. Our center fosters individuals' interpersonal skills, which are essential in any environment. Cheers from Peru!

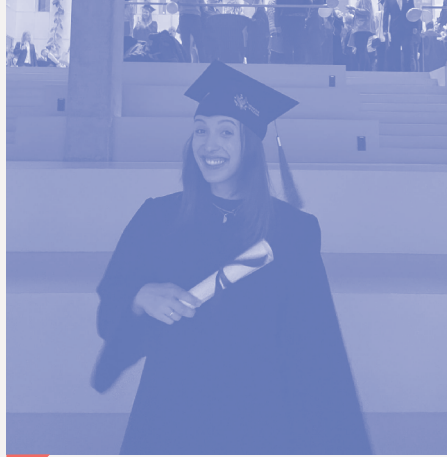
MEET THE ALUMNI



Maurycy Jędrzejewski

🎓 BA graduate of 2024

Studying at the ASC has literally changed my life. Apart from meeting amazing people, the studies have broadened my interest in literature, which has now become a massive part of my life. Ultimately I wrote my BA thesis on American literature, and I am grateful for being able to learn about things that actually interest me. My knowledge of English skyrocketed and I feel much more comfortable using it now. I can't recommend the ASC enough!



Julia Wajdziak

🎓 BA graduate of 2023

The time I spent as a BA student at the ASC was one of the most valuable experiences of my life. The program helped me develop invaluable skills like critical thinking and teamwork. I was able to work with passionate scholars thanks to whom I grew academically. Thanks to the program I had the opportunity to spend a semester at the University of Florida where I had a chance to work with top class scholars and meet many people from all around the world. The ASC is an eye-opening place with a student-focused mindset thanks to which you can develop your interests!

STUDENT RESOURCES

Scholarships and Financial and Social Aid

Every year several ASC students are awarded the Rector's Scholarship for high GPA, significant academic or artistic work, and achievements in sport. University of Warsaw offers a wide array of social services to aid students financially. These include awards, stipends, one-time financial assistance, health insurance, and **university accommodation**. We also support students' best work through research grants. Students who need assistance due to disabilities or chronic illnesses are supported by the Office for Persons with Disabilities (BON).

ASC Writing Lab

If you ever find yourself in need of extra help with your written assignments you can visit our Writing Lab! We will give you constructive feedback on how to strengthen arguments, refine writing style, enhance research techniques, implement academic conventions and citation styles, and generally improve writing practices. Mindful of your individual needs, **we will provide feedback on your written work and guide you through the revision process** before you turn in your paper to be graded.



RECRUITMENT 2026

Admissions to the BA Program

Admission requirements for the BA program in American Studies include, but are not limited to, a high school diploma and an appropriate grade in “extended level” English on the High School Leaving Examination. These criteria vary depending on the type of exam taken. Candidates with foreign diplomas must undergo a two-stage process that includes an additional oral exam covering contemporary US social, political, and economic issues, as well as basic history and geography.

Detailed admission requirements and application instructions can be found on the **University of Warsaw’s Internet Recruitment System (IRK)** <https://irk.uw.edu.pl/en-gb/home/>. To apply for our program, you need to set up an account in the IRK system, follow the instructions, and pay an application fee by the required deadline.

Information about deadlines for the admissions process is published on the ASC website in the “Admissions Overview” section: Admissions | American Studies Center, University of Warsaw



Scan the code to learn more about 2026 recruitment!



If you have any questions about the admission requirements, please get in touch with the Head of the Admissions Committee, **Grzegorz Kosci**, at rekrutacja.osa@uw.edu.pl

CONTACT

Dobra 55
00-312 Warszawa
+48 22 55 333 21
asc@uw.edu.pl
www.asc.uw.edu.pl

PHOTO CREDITS:

Katarzyna Rainka (p. 20),
Uniwersytet Warszawski / Biuro Promocji / M. Kaźmierczak (p. 4-5, 6-7, 23, 24-25),
Marcin Runowski (s. 2, 27).
Private archive

The ASC Prospectus 2026

CONCEPT AND PREPARATION:

Agnieszka Kotwasińska and Zuzanna Michątek

GRAPHIC DESIGN:

Joanna Bębenek



Rzeczpospolita
Polska

Dofinansowane przez
Unię Europejską



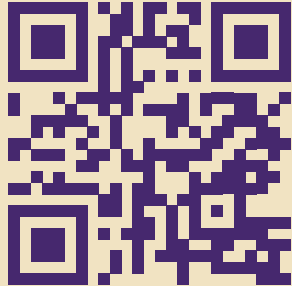
ZINTEGROWANY PROGRAM
ROZWOJU DYDAKTYKI



DISABILITY ASEXUALITY GENDER SCI-FI AMERICAN SOUTH VIDEOGAMES HORROR WESTERN HEMISPHERE PHILOSOPHY DIPLOMACY FEMINISM RELIGION POPULISM INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BIPOC DEMOCRACY COMICS MIGRATIONS CONSTITUTION JEWISHNESS MASS MEDIA CINEMA US GOVERNMENT SOCIAL MOVEMENTS INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION SOCIOLOGY CULTURE WARS HISTORY ANTHROPOLOGY RACE ELECTIONS POLITICS FOOD LATINX POETRY LEADERSHIP LITERATURE POTUS PHOTOGRAPHY QUEER DISABILITY

BA Program
in English

Apply Today!



www.asc.uw.edu.pl

BA in American Studies

2026/2027

Information for Candidates



UNIVERSITY
OF WARSAW



American
Studies
Center

MEDIA CINEMA US GOVERNMENT SOCIAL MOVEMENTS INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION SOCIOLOGY CULTURE WARS HISTORY ANTHROPOLOGY RACE ELECTIONS POLITICS FOOD LATINX POETRY LEADERSHIP LITERATURE POTUS PHOTOGRAPHY QUEER DISABILITY ASEXUALITY SCI-FI GENDER AMERICAN SOUTH VIDEOGAMES HORROR WESTERN HEMISPHERE PHILOSOPHY DIPLOMACY FEMINISM RELIGION POPULISM INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BIPOC DEMOCRACY COMICS MIGRATIONS CONSTITUTION JEWISHNESS MASS MEDIA CINEMA US GOVERNMENT SOCIAL MOVEMENTS INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION SOCIOLOGY CULTURE WARS HISTORY ANTHROPOLOGY RACE ELECTIONS POLITICS FOOD LATINX POETRY LEADERSHIP LITERATURE POTUS PHOTOGRAPHY QUEER DISABILITY ASEXUALITY GENDER SCI-FI AMERICAN SOUTH

