American Cultures & Global Contexts Specialization

The American Cultures & Global Contexts (ACGC) Specialization offers students an opportunity to study authors and topics drawn from a broad historical range. We also encourage students to develop a comparative understanding of the field. In practice, this includes exploring how different aspects of American cultures interact and interrogating the ways regional, hemispheric, and global trends shape—and are shaped by—American cultural expressions.

Below is the current list of courses that count toward the ACGC Specialization. Please see the next page for more information about course requirements. If you would like to take a course that is not listed here for credit for the ACGC specialization, please petition the Director of the specialization.

For more information, please visit the American Cultures & Global Contexts Center at http://acgcc.english.ucsb.edu/. To receive emails, please send your name, affiliation, and email address to acgcc@english.ucsb.edu.

2023–2024 ACGC Specialization Course List

Fall 2023

ENGL 122RC Reading the Caribbean Through Carnival (Thomas)
ENGL 141ME Global Environmental Literatures (Amin-Hong)
ENGL 143HE Humor and Ecology (Shewry)
ENGL 192SC Science Fiction: Speculations in Color (Thomas)
ENGL 197 Poetry Lab (Huang)

Winter 2024

ENGL 50 Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Literatures (Blake)
ENGL 132PR Studies in American Writers: Philip Roth (Maslan)
ENGL 133TL Transpacific Literature (Huang)
ENGL 134 TBD (Batiste)
ENGL 134NA The Body as Archive (Salomón)
ENGL 176BC Performance of Literature (Batiste)

Spring 2024

ENGL 50 Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Literatures (Rana)
ENGL 134RJ Creative Imagination of Racial Justice (Rana & Shahriar)
ENGL 147GM Global Media (Ghosh)
ENGL 165 TBD (Blake)
ENGL 165NJ TBD (Salomón)
ACGC Specialization Requirements

Students who complete any four (4) upper-division elective courses devoted to American culture will satisfy the specialization requirement. Please note that one lower-division elective is allowed.

Please note that the upper-division American literature courses that satisfy requirements for the English major—English 103A and English 104A—will not count towards the specialization, although these courses are recommended.

A senior seminar, English 197, in American Cultures & Global Contexts is advisable but not mandatory.

Courses that Qualify as ACGC Specialization Electives

- English 24G: Ghosts of the Gothic
- English 34: Pan-Latinx Literatures of Transformation
- English 40BB: African American Literature 1930s–Present
- English 50: Introduction to U.S. Minority Literature
- English 122AA–ZZ: Cultural Representations*
- English 124: Readings in the Modern Short Story
- English 131AA–ZZ: Studies in American Literature*
- English 132AA–ZZ: Studies in American Writers*
- English 133AA–ZZ: Studies in American Regional Literature*
- English 134AA–ZZ: Studies in Literature of Ethnic and Cultural Communities of the United States*
- English 137B: Poetry in America since 1900
- English 140: Contemporary American Literature
- English 165AA–ZZ: Topics in Literature*
- English 192AA–ZZ: Science Fiction*
- English 193: Detective Fiction*
- English 197: Upper-Division Seminar*

* when taught by an ACGCC-affiliated instructor