PhD in American & New England Studies at Boston University

bu.edu/amnesp bu.edu/cas/admissions



Deadline December 15, 2023

The American & New England Studies Program (AMNESP) is a nationally recognized leader in American Studies. Our students and faculty study the disparate yet interconnected cultures of the United States as seen in the ideas and actions of its people, and as expressed in a range of forms, especially culture, the arts, media, literature, and institutions. We are attuned to the global and national dimensions of the US experience and to the importance of race, gender, sexuality, and inequality. The program was founded in 1970 with an emphasis on New England; over the last thirty years especially we have covered all regions of North America, from the colonial period to the present. Intellectually vibrant, our interdisciplinary program also seeks to give students, at all levels, skills that will prepare them for careers both in and outside the academy.

Funding Opportunities

PhD students receive full funding for five years, during which they take courses, teach in their fields and disciplines of interest, and develop and write dissertations. The fellowship package guarantees **two years of dissertation fellowship** with no service obligations. Additional funding is available from Boston University for travel to conferences, for archival research, and for internships.

Current students have recently received outside fellowships from the Fulbright Foundation, the American Antiquarian Society, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Huntington Library, the Beinecke Library, the Corning Museum of Glass, the New Bedford Whaling Museum, and the American Historical Association.

The Program's own independent Graduate Student Association (GSA) is comprised of elected PhD students who sponsor events and programs for developing professional skills, while representing our students' interests to the governing faculty.

Current Student Fellowships



Perri Meldon American Conservation Experience (ACE) Disability History Fellow, National Park Service



Emily Palombella Graduate Research Fellowship, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Yale University



Arthur Kamya New England Regional Fellowship Consortium Award, Massachusetts Historical Society

At the point of admission, PhD students are assigned an advisor from among a network of 60 affiliated faculty from 12 departments. From this deep pool PhD students select academic advisors and dissertation directors to match nearly any interdisciplinary pursuit in American Studies. We have recently welcomed new affiliated faculty in the fields of African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Latinx Studies, Musicology and Ethnomusicology, Native American & Indigenous Studies, and Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies.

Incoming students are also assigned a peer mentor with a few years' experience in the program.

Selected PhD Faculty Advisors and Disciplines of Study

Daniel Abramson History of Art & Architecture

Paula Austin African American & Black Diaspora Studies; History

Ross Barrett History of Art & Architecture

Michael Birenbaum Quintero College of Fine Arts, Ethnomusicology

Brooke Blower History

Japonica Brown-Saracino Sociology

Wade Campbell Archaeology Louis Chude-Sokei African American & Black Diaspora Studies; English

André de Quadros College of Fine Arts, Music Education

Maia Gil'Adí English

Charlotte Howell College of Communication, Film & Television Studies

William Huntting Howell English

Deborah Jaramillo College of Communication, Film & Television Studies Brendan McConville History

Susan Mizruchi English William Moore

Material Culture Ianna Hawkins Owen

African American & Black Diaspora Studies; English

Anita Patterson English

Anthony Petro Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies; Religion

Sarah Phillips History Carrie Preston Women's Gender, & Sexuality Studies; English

Joseph Rezek English

Takeo Rivera English

Andrew Robichaud *History*

Kim Sichel History of Art & Architecture

Bruce Schulman History

Career Outcomes

Recent graduates are employed as tenure-track professors, public historians, museum curators, directors at major cultural and historical institutions, and in a wide variety of positions in the public and private sectors. AMNESP alumni currently work at Duke University, NYU, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, the University of Texas at Austin, Penn State Harrisburg, Northeastern University, the University of San Diego, the Yale University Gallery, the Library of Virginia, the Shelburne Museum, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Peabody Essex Museum.



Mariah Kupfner, PhD (2021) Assistant Professor of American Studies and Public Heritage Penn State, Harrisburg





Sean Case, PhD (2023) Post-doctoral Fellowship, International Relations Yale University



Jessica S. Samuel, PhD (2021) CEO & Founder Radical Education & Advocacy League, LLC

Boston University Arts & Sciences American & New England Studies Program

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