

# COMMUNITY STUDIES 2009-10

communitystudies.ucsc.edu

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**CMMU 100A-Z, Theory and Practice**  
5 units, Fall or Winter

**CMMU 101 Social Movements**  
5 units, Winter

**CMMU 102, Preparation for Field Study**  
5 units, Spring

**CMMU 198, Full-Time Field Study**  
30 units  
Summer/Fall

**CMMU 194, Analysis of Field Materials**  
5 units, Winter

**4 upper division directed electives**  
20 units  
Electives must be chosen from four areas: race, class and privilege; political economy; cultural politics and representation; and regional/historical.

For more information:

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## What is Community Studies?

Community studies is an interdisciplinary department that integrates scholarship and community engagement in both research and teaching. Since its founding in 1969, the department has maintained a focus on identifying, analyzing, and helping to construct sites for social change and cultural transformation. To this end, we address principles of social justice and the dynamics of racial and class inequity as we explore constructions of community and their implications. The major offers students a lively choice of concentrations in which to specialize, including public health and health politics, political economy, agriculture and food justice, race and racism, historical and contemporary social movements, globalization, politics of culture, and systems of documentary representation. With the intellectual guidance of a faculty adviser and a field study coordinator, students choose field placements related to one of the department's areas of focus. Placements have been with health centers, immigrant rights organizations, newspapers, minority media outlets, city planning departments, neighborhood organizations, civil rights groups, farm-to-school programs, battered women's shelters, legal clinics, programs for seniors, tenant unions, government agencies and the offices of elected officials, trade unions, and other organizations committed to and working for social justice in communities.

## Requirements for the Major/Admissions Process

Prior to the junior year, or upon arriving at UCSC, students should attend an orientation held at the beginning of Fall and Winter quarters (time and location listed in the Schedule of Classes and/or the department website).

The process of declaring the community studies major begins when a student attends the first class of a CMMU 100(A-Z), Theory and Practice seminar. Prospective majors must choose a seminar that matches their own social justice and field study focus. These seminars are offered during the fall and winter quarters only. Because of their small size, the seminars are enrolled by "interview only". Although they are open to all students, prospective community studies majors enjoy priority enrollment. After being admitted to a 100(A-Z) seminar, prospective majors prepare an essay outlining how their social justice focus matches the emphasis of their theory and practice seminar. The essay should also describe their academic plan, including relevant upper division electives and their tentative field study plans. Students then meet with the professor in charge of their 100(A-Z) seminar to review and discuss the essay and other application materials. Occasionally, a student is not accepted into the major because the student's social change and field study focus are poorly matched with the department's

theory and practice areas.

## CAPSTONE REQUIREMENT

**Senior Essay** - An essay analyzing local, global, and theoretical contextualizations of field study; it should incorporate essays completed in other courses, including CMMU 100(A-Z) and field study along with essays written in CMMU 194.

**Senior Thesis** - Comprised of linked essays combining local/global contextualizations of field study and theoretical and historical analysis of social justice issues at the heart of the field study. Must involve significant post-field study research using primary source materials.

**Senior Project** - A project in other genres including film/video production, photography, sound production, creative writing, theatre or dance. Requires a significant analytical essay describing the project conceptualization rationale, methodology, and evaluations.

**Student Directed Seminar** - Under the direction of a faculty advisor, student may develop and teach a seminar that relates to the student's field study and social justice focus. A final written report is also required. Students should meet with their advisor prior to the full-time field study to begin the planning process.