



MA

American Studies by Research

Year of entry 2019/20

WHY AMERICAN STUDIES BY RESEARCH?

The MA by Research in American Studies gives you an opportunity to develop your research interests in the history, politics, literature and/or culture of the United States in a supportive environment, with the guidance of a supervisor who is an expert in their field. At Canterbury Christ Church University, we have a small team of experienced American Studies MA by Research supervisors who are committed to supporting research students to reach their potential.

20% Alumni discount

UK and EU Christ Church alumni are eligible for a 20% discount on self-funded Postgraduate Taught Masters and Masters by Research.

WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?

The programme is aimed at both recent graduates and returners to education who are passionate about a research area related to the United States. If you enjoyed researching and writing your undergraduate dissertation, have a desire to expand your knowledge of a US topic that has sparked your interest, or you want to pursue an established interest through a formal degree, then an MA by Research in American Studies may be for you.

Students who complete an MA by Research often go on to MPhil or PhD study in American Studies or a related discipline, such as History, Political Science, or English Literature.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study your own research area under the guidance of an experienced supervisor in your field. We recommend that you contact potential supervisors when you are developing your research proposal so that we can advise you on the feasibility of your project and provide support and guidance through the application process.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

On this programme you will gain research, written communication, time-management, and independent study skills that are invaluable to a range of careers.

You could also continue to further study, such as an MPhil or PhD.

LEARNING AND TEACHING

The emphasis of this programme is on independent research. That said, you will have regular meetings with your supervisor, and you will have the opportunity to attend sessions with the Graduate School's Researcher Development Programme.

All supervisory teams will include access to an experienced supervisor.

You will also be invited to attend the regular American Studies Research Seminar—a guest speaker programme—which will allow you to network with academics in the field, and hear about some of the cutting edge research taking place in American Studies both in the UK and Internationally.

FEES AND ADDITIONAL COSTS

Fees

2019/20 tuition fees for this course

	UK/EU	Overseas
Full-time	£4,327	£12,160
Part-time	£2,597	N/A

Alumni of Canterbury Christ Church University are eligible for a 20% discount on this course, subject to terms and conditions.

Tuition fees for all courses which last more than one academic year are payable on an annual basis, except where stated.

There will be an annual inflationary increase in tuition fees for this course. The fees for this course are set in line with the Research Councils UK Indicative fee level for Doctoral courses, which usually increases year on year in line with the GDP deflator (in recent years this has resulted in year on year tuition fee increases of approximately 1.5-2.0%). The tuition fees for the following academic year are usually confirmed in the preceding February.

Government loans of up to £10,906 are available for some postgraduate Master's courses for students starting their course from 1 August 2018. Loans are subject to both personal and course eligibility criteria.

The rules around course eligibility mean that in some cases it may depend on how you are studying (full-time or part-time) as to whether you can apply for a postgraduate loan. To check whether your course is eligible, you can email the Student Fees Team or call **01227 923 948**.

Read more about [postgraduate masters student loans](#).

Students may self-fund their course or a sponsor may fund or part-fund. Bursaries, scholarships and fee discounts may also be available.

Further information

- See information about financial support available for postgraduate studies
- If you would like information about paying your fees, please contact accounts.receivable@canterbury.ac.uk
- For specific fee queries, please contact fees@canterbury.ac.uk

Additional course costs

Although we aim to minimise any additional costs to students over and above the course tuition fee, there will be some additional costs which students are expected to meet.

Costs applicable to all students

Category	Description
Text books	Own purchase text books

Category	Description
Travel to other sites	Where travel to other sites is required, this will be payable by the student
Library Fees and Fines	Where students fail to return loaned items within the required time they will be responsible for the cost of any library fees and fines applicable
Printing & Photocopying	The cost of printing and photocopying undertaken by students to support their individual learning are payable by the student
Graduation ceremonies	It is free for the student to attend the ceremony itself. Guest tickets and robe hire / photography are additional costs payable by the student

Course specific costs

Category	Description
Possible US travel	Depending on the project, you may need to travel to the US to visit specialist archives (or have copies of materials sent to you). You will receive advice from your supervisor about the necessity of these costs as you plan your research project.

General principle policy

The University's general principles policy for additional course fees are set out here

Category	Is the cost Included in the tuition fee?	Is the cost an additional cost to students?
Field trips (including trips abroad and trips to museums, theatres, workshops etc)	The costs of Field trips are not included in the Tuition fee unless the trip is a compulsory element of the module.	Yes, unless the Field trip is a compulsory element of the module.
Travel and accommodation costs for placements	This varies depending on the Course - please refer to individual course webpages for further information about additional costs of travel and accommodation for placements.	This varies depending on the Course - please refer to individual course webpages for further information about additional costs of travel and accommodation for placements.
Purchase of own text books	No – students are expected to purchase their own text books.	Yes – students are expected to purchase their own text books.

Category	Is the cost Included in the tuition fee?	Is the cost an additional cost to students?
Data & Barring Service (DBS) Checks	This varies depending on the Course - please refer to individual course webpages for further information.	This varies depending on the Course - please refer to individual course webpages for further information.
Occupational Health Checks	This varies depending on the Course - please refer to individual course webpages for further information.	This varies depending on the Course - please refer to individual course webpages for further information.
Professional Body registration	No - students are expected to pay for their own Professional Body registration, if applicable.	Yes - students are expected to pay for their own Professional Body registration, if applicable.
Travel to other sites	No – students are expected to pay for the cost of any travel to other University sites, however a mini bus service is provided free of charge between Old Sessions House and Polo Farm / Hall Place in Canterbury. Visit the shuttlebus webpage for more information.	Yes - students are expected to pay for the cost of any travel to other University sites, however a mini bus service is provided free of charge between Old Sessions House and Polo Farm / Hall Place in Canterbury. Visit the shuttlebus webpage for more information.
Clothing / Kit	Yes, where the clothing / kit is essential for Health & Safety reasons the cost is included in the tuition fee (a maximum of one set of clothing provided per student). Further information can be found on course webpages.	Yes, where the clothing / kit is essential for Health & Safety reasons the cost is included in the tuition fee (a maximum of one set of clothing provided per student). Further information can be found on course webpages.
Learning materials	Essential learning materials (excluding text books) in connection with the course are included in the Tuition Fee. Specific course related information can be found on course webpages.	Students must pay for additional materials beyond the standard provision essential for the course, or where the costs are determined by the student's area of interest and the outputs are retained by the student. Specific course related information can be found on course webpages.
Library fees and fines	Yes – all Library fees and fines are an additional cost payable by the student.	Yes – all Library fees and fines are an additional cost payable by the student.

Category	Is the cost Included in the tuition fee?	Is the cost an additional cost to students?
Printing and photocopying	A £15 print / photocopying credit is provided to all students each academic year on their University Smartcard. Any additional print / photocopying costs must be paid for by the student.	A £15 print / photocopying credit is provided to all students each academic year on their University Smartcard. Any additional print / photocopying costs must be paid for by the student.
Social events	The tuition fee does not include the cost of any social events, unless the event forms an essential part of the course.	Yes, the costs of social events are an additional cost payable by the student unless the event forms an essential part of the course.
Graduation ceremonies	The cost of the Graduation ceremony itself is included in the tuition fee for the student to attend the ceremony. However, guest tickets and robe hire/ photography are additional costs payable by the student or their guests.	The cost of the Graduation ceremony itself is included in the tuition fee for the student to attend the ceremony. However, guest tickets and robe hire/ photography are additional costs payable by the student or their guests.

ASSESSMENT

The MA by Research is awarded by dissertation.

Supervised by a panel of experienced researchers, you'll meet regularly with your first supervisor and present your work in progress to the full panel at a review meeting halfway through your registration period. Following advice from this review meeting, you'll complete the writing up of your 25-30,000 word dissertation.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply Direct / Part-time study

Location	Length	Start	
MA by Research in American Studies			
Canterbury	18 months full-time	September 2020	APPLY
MA by Research in American Studies			APPLY

Location	Length	Start	
Canterbury	18 months full-time	February 2021	
MA by Research in American Studies			
Canterbury	30 months part-time	September 2020	APPLY
MA by Research in American Studies			
Canterbury	30 months part-time	February 2021	APPLY

Further information about the application process and what you will need to do to prepare.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

'The guidance and support from my supervisors has been excellent. Their tuition has allowed me to develop an idea I had as an undergraduate into a Masters dissertation and has made me want to carry on to further study!'

Andrei Ryniejski (current student)

'I've gained so much knowledge and experience doing the MA by Research in American Studies. The American Studies Programme at CCCU is actively engaged in research which helped me feel part of the academic community, I was able to take part in numerous discussions and contribute to my ideas to many different aspects of American Studies, not just my own research area. The entire school is friendly and supportive and made me feel at home. I received so much support and encouragement from my supervisors, their guidance and advice was invaluable. Their help enabled me to develop my interests from undergraduate in Native American studies but also helped me to discover the field of Women's and Feminist studies, areas I have gained a strong interest in. My Master's by Research has made passionate about these areas of study and has given me the confidence and skills to discuss and share my ideas.'

Becky Newton (current student)

RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

The American Studies team are part of the larger School of Humanities, which has been recognised as producing world leading research in the results of the 2014 National Research Excellence Framework (REF). 94% of our submitted research in History, English Language and Literature, and Theology and Religious Studies was classed as world leading (4*), internationally excellent (3*) or internationally recognised (2*).

Read more about the latest American Studies research projects.

SUPERVISORS

For information on our supervisors' fields of interest, please see our staff profiles.

FACT FILE

UCAS institution code

C10

Length

1 year full-time

2 years part-time

Entry requirements

A 2:2 honours degree in American Studies or a relevant discipline is required.

Holders of other qualifications will be considered individually.

Location

Canterbury

School

Humanities

[Our Staff](#)

[Legal & Cookies](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Student Terms & Conditions](#) | [Modern Slavery Act Statement](#)

Course Enquiries:

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