

PhD in American & New England Studies at Boston University

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BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

Deadline December 15, 2022

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 began in the 1970s 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 Mellon Foundation, the Fulbright Foundation, the American Antiquarian Society, the Huntington Library, the National Parks Service, 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



Madeline Webster
2022-2024 Fellow in the Boston Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics



Alyssa Kreikemeier
Fellowship in Aerospace History, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)



Julia Carroll
Archival Fellowships at the Huntington Library and the American Antiquarian 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, and Women's, Gender, and 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

Ross Barrett

History of Art & Architecture

**Michael Birenbaum
Quintero**

College of Fine Arts,
Ethnomusicology

Brooke Blower

History

Japonica Brown-Saracino

Sociology

Louis Chude-Sokei

English, African American
Studies

André de Quadros

College of Fine Arts,
Music Education

William Huntting Howell

English

Deborah Jaramillo

College of Communication, Film
& Television Studies

Brendon McConville

History

Susan Mizruchi

English

William Moore

Material Culture

Anita Patterson

English

Anthony Petro

Religion, Women, Gender &
Sexuality Studies

Sarah Phillips

History

Carrie Preston

English, Women's Gender, &
Sexuality Studies

Joseph Rezek

English

Takeo Rivera

English

Andrew Robichaud

History

Kim Sichel

History of Art & Architecture

Nina Silber

History

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, The University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Central Michigan University, the University of San Diego, the Yale University Art Gallery, the Library of Virginia, the Shelburne Museum, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Newport Art Museum.



PJ Carlino, PhD (2019)
Assistant Professor, Design Studies
California State University, Sacramento



Rachel Kirby, PhD (2022)
Lecturer in History & Literature
Harvard University



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

