

American Culture and Difference FAQs

1. What is this minor about?

The minor in American Culture and Difference (ACD) allows you to explore the broad diversity of American culture and helps you develop valuable critical thinking skills, enabling you to read the diverse texts that make up our world. The minor provides a window into the vast array of American experiences and lives, focusing especially on historically marginalized communities. In ACD classes, you analyze a range of texts (for example, street murals, advertisements, film, folklore, music, political and historical documents, and television).

2. Are there a lot of required classes?

There is one required class and a zero credit capstone. The other courses can come from your general core classes, your major classes, and other allied requirements or electives.

3. I am not sure about my major. Would this be a good minor to consider?

Faculty in American Culture and Difference come from a broad array of disciplines, including Communication and Journalism, English, Film, History, Music, Political Science, Sociology, and Women's Studies, so in many ways, classes in this minor can help you choose your major. Moreover, because our approach is interdisciplinary and because our content focuses on matters related to diversity, we ask questions in our courses that are relevant to every discipline.

4. Can I major in American Culture and Difference?

Yes, you can. We just had two students ACD majors graduate in May 2020, and we have had others in the past years. In most cases, your first step is to make an appointment to meet with Dr. Kanishka Chowdhury, the program director, at americancd@stthomas.edu or (651) 962-5600 to