ALUMNI UPDATES



When students tell friends they're majoring in American Studies, a common response is, "Exciting! But... What can you do with that?" Well, the answer is just about anything. Recent alums in American Studies showcase the diversity of careers which their major allows: law, the entertainment industry, and more. The interdisciplinary courses taken by American Studies students help them to explore their diverse interests and prepare future graduates to pursue practically any path in academia, government, public service, or the private sector once they leave the Farm.

ADELINA ACUÑA '06 After graduation. Adelina Acuña spent three years working as a paralegal at Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, LLP in San Francisco, a plaintiffs firm focused exclusively on class action and mass tort litigation. She still lives up in the city, but she is now completing her first year at Stanford Law School. She hopes to practice in the public interest sector after graduation, probably either in consumer protection or employment litigation.

AMY ANIOBI '06 Amy Aniobi's American Studies concentration as an undergraduate was Mass Media and Consumer Culture. After graduating, she moved to Paris, France, where she worked in commercial production for a year and a half, and then moved back to the States in late fall 2007. Since then, she has lived in Los Angeles, where she has worked for E! Networks and as a TV consultant. Now she is back in school in the MFA Screenwriting program at UCLA, pursuing the TV Showrunner Track in hopes of one day creating content for TV.

JUDY ASUZU '08 This coming fall, Judy Asuzu will be attending the

Higher Education Administration M.A. program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

LARA BURENIN '06 As an undergraduate, Lara Burenin focused on Urban Politics and Education in American Studies; afterward, she completed the Stanford Teacher Education Program (STEP) to earn her master's in education and her elementary teaching credential in 2007. She taught 5th grade in East Oakland for two years and currently teaches 3rd and 4th grade at East Palo Alto Academy. Lara worked extensively with elementary and middle school students from East Palto Alto during her undergraduate career at Stanford, so she is pleased to return to the community and teach

NATALIE CHLADEK '09 Natalie Chladek just couldn't bear to leave the sunshine, so she decided to coterm and will graduate in June with a master's degree in sociology. She is also in her fourth year working for the Stanford men's basketball team, and she both works in the office and writes for the team. The day after graduation, Natalie will leave for Italy to attend the 50th anniversary celebration of the Stanford in Florence program, after which she hopes to pursue a career in sports.

JULIA CHERLOW '07 After graduating in 2007, Julia Cherlow worked for two years as a management consultant with the Boston Consulting Group. While there, she worked in a variety of industries, from luxury car manufacture to biotech to environmental logistics at the Port of Los Angeles, and she notes that the comparative analytic skills she learned in American Studies played

an important role in her duties. In 2009, after many amazing experiences and many late nights, Julia left BCG to begin law school back at Stanford. This summer, she is clerking for a judge at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague, Netherlands.

LISA COFFEE '04 After graduation, Lisa Coffee immediately started working for Google. She spent a couple years in a customer support role, then worked as a Product Specialist for several years. She is now a Product Marketing Manager, working closely with engineers and product teams to launch new features for AdWords Advertisers.

BRANNON CULLUM '04 After completing his degree in 2004, Brannon Cullum taught middle school Social Studies and English in Austin, Texas, before heading to Georgetown University to complete a master's degree in Communication, Culture and Technology. His thesis is entitled "Informing Development: Mobile Telephony, Governments, and Local Stakeholders." He will graduate in May 2010 and will be moving to New York, NY. He hopes to pursue a career that incorporates the fields of social media, mobile technologies, and international development.

JENNIFER DAWSON '06
Jennifer Dawson graduated from
Harvard Law School last May. After
taking the bar exam and spending
several months traveling in India
and Ecuador, she started work at
a law firm in Boston in January,
which is where she still works.

MEGAN DOHENY '09 Megan Doheny has been working as a

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Development Associate for the Independent Institute, a non-profit public policy think tank based in Oakland, CA. At the Institute, she has been able to continue pursuing her love for American Studies by keeping abreast of current issues and helping frame the political debate from a scholarly angle.

MEREDITH ELY '08 Meredith Ely is currently finishing her commitment for Teach for America in Chicago. Teaching preschool in a diverse and low-income neighborhood for two years has given her incredible insight into the structural problems within early childhood education and the roots of the achievement gap. Over the summer, she will be traveling through Europe before moving back to the Bay Area. In keeping with her love of interdisciplinary learning, she plans to work in a corporate setting to develop her understanding of operations strategy and systems management so that she can open a charter preschool founded on a solid business model.

BRIAN K. GOODMAN '06 After working and living in New York City for the past three years, Brian Goodman will be entering Harvard's History of American Civilization Ph.D. program this coming fall.

ANNA MUNGER GUMPORT '04 just graduated from UCLA School of Law. After spending the summer studying for the bar exam and then doing some traveling, she will begin work at the Los Angeles office of Sidley Austin.

SARAH GRIFFIN '04 Sarah Griffin is currently finishing up her fourth year at Penn, working on her Ph.D. in English Literature. She got married last August and is

currently living in Chicago while she writes her dissertation.

KATIE HARRIGAN '06 Katie Harrigan is living in NYC, where she is a Development Officer and Summer Internship Program Manager at the All Stars Project, Inc., a grassroots nonprofit that sponsors after-school performancebased programs for inner-city youth. Through this position, Katie has learned an incredible amount about community organizing, philanthropy, and the development gap created by insufficient sources of opportunity within inner-city communities. She plans to move back to the West Coast in the fall.

ERIKA ROLDAN HULSE '06 Erika Roldan Hulse currently lives in Nashville. She takes psychology courses at Tennessee State University at night and is a counselor with the Living Well Ministry, a nonprofit that helps mentor birth parents whose children are in foster care so they can navigate the court system and regain custody of their children. She also works at Family and Children Services, an old nonprofit in Nashville, as a phone counselor helping people through crises or connecting them with local social services. She recently applied to graduate programs in counseling psychology, with an emphasis on marriage and family therapy. She is happily married and has two sons!

ALLISON HUNTER '04: After graduation, Allison Hunter spent two years working in publishing, first in New York for a start-up magazine and a literary agency and then in Los Angeles for a small independent literary publicity firm. In the fall of 2006, she started law school at the University of Chicago. She graduated in 2009

and is spending this year as the Family Law Fellow at the Volunteer Legal Services Program of the Bar Association of San Francisco. In October she will join Latham & Watkins as a litigation associate.

BEN HUSTON '05 Ben Huston graduated from Harvard Law School and now practices Health Care Law at a law firm in San Diego.

KATHRYN E. JONES '09
Katie Jones teaches 4th grade
on the Rosebud Reservation in
South Dakota through Teach
for America. She will spend this
summer in Washington, DC on a
Native American Congressional
Internship that she was awarded
by the Native Nations Institute
for Leadership, Management, and
Policy.

VICTORIA KAUER '08 Victoria Kauer is currently a second-year Teach for America member teaching 4th grade at the East Palo Alto Charter School. She lives in San Francisco.

JOE KAY '09 Since graduation, Joe Kay has been traveling around the world—the U.S., Canada, Alaska, Ecuador, Peru, Columbia, and more. He is about to start off on a cross-country road trip, after which he will work in Washington, D.C.

TANYA KOSHY '06 Tanya Koshy has been working at Google Inc. for the past three and a half years, first in sales with some of Google's largest advertising clients and now in product development for the AdWords product. She will be pursuing her MBA at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University in the fall.



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DANIELLE LEVINE '07 After graduating from Stanford, Danielle Levine worked in online advertising at Google in San Francisco and is currently finishing up her second year of law school at UC Hastings. She is moving down to LA to work at a firm for the summer and will be clerking for a federal judge in the fall.

NOAH LICHTENSTEIN '04: After graduation, Noah Lichtenstein launched a corporate safety company that streamlines safety training and products for corporations like Google and First Republic Bank. Later, he built a unique start-up launched by former Google executives called WeatherBill, which helps companies and individuals protect themselves (and their wallets) from bad weather. After two years at WeatherBill, Noah left in January to help launch an exciting new company HomeRun, with another Stanford alumnus which combines the power of collective buying (like Costco) with social media (like Facebook) to help consumers find great deals at top local businesses and helps local businesses reach new customers. Outside of work, Noah joined the Board of Directors of the United Way last year and has been active in working with the organization to reach its mission of creating pathways out of poverty.

ELIZABETH MACLEAN '08
Elizabeth MacLean is currently living in San Francisco and working in Palo Alto at a tech company called Ning. She applied to medical school earlier this year and is planning to attend UNC medical school. She may defer a year before starting, however, to spend some more time in the

glorious Bay Area.

LAUREL MATHEWSON '05 After graduation, Laurel Mathewson worked initially as a research assistant in Oregon, she helped develop a literacy resource center for the education department. In 2006, she headed to Washington, D.C., to work as an editorial assistant at Sojourners magazine, and then in 2008 she moved with her husband (Colin Mathewson '02) to San Diego and took an administrative position at the University of San Diego. After a year of writing, she worked this past year for the Episcopal Church in campus ministry at UCSD. This fall, she will enter seminary at the University of the South, where she and her husband will both be studying and preparing to be Episcopal priests.

MICHELLE MELLARD '07 Michelle Mellard is in her first year of the two-year MBA program at the University of Notre Dame. She has an internship at Nike this summer and will be graduating in 2011

ARI NEUMANN '07 Ari Neumann is just finishing his final year of law school at the University of Washington in Seattle. After graduation, he will be headed to Washington, D.C., to take the bar exam and pursue yet-to-bedetermined career opportunities.

TRACY OLIVER '08 Since graduating, Tracy Oliver has been attending the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts where she is a second year student in the Peter Stark Producing Program. At USC, her short film, *La Patisserie*, won the 2009 Peter Stark Filmmaker's Award. She was also selected as a Women in Film scholarship

recipient and a 2010 Coca Cola Refreshing Filmmaker finalist. She graduated from USC in May 2010.

ANGELA RECKART '07 Angela Reckart is currently in Rome, where she is studying philosophy and working on the organizing committee for an international student congress held in Rome every year.

BAILEY RICHARDSON '09
Bailey Richardson graduated last
June and headed off to SFMOMA,
where she worked in their
marketing and communications
department, as well as their private
gallery. She is now working quite
happily for UGALLERY, an online
gallery that sells affordable, original
art by emerging artists.

NELL SELANDER '07 Nell Selander is finishing up her second year as the program coordinator of Bing Stanford in Washington. She will be attending the Wagner School of Public Service at NYU in the fall, pursuing a master's in urban planning.

JENAIS ZARLIN '04 Jenais Zarlin is the Director of Business Development at Thanksgiving Coffee Company, a family-owned, artisan, and sustainable coffee roasting company in Mendocino. The company works directly with small family farms and Fair Trade Cooperatives in nine countries around the world, and it acts as a bridge to bring the story of these farmers and their communities to customers here (along with some of the world's best coffee). Coffee touches many hands on its journey from seed to cup, and Jenais is thrilled to introduce a new level of transparency and justice by offering fair pricing to an industry that has historically been incredibly exploitative.