Asian American Studies is an interdisciplinary field of study that examines the histories, literatures, cultures and lived experiences of people of Asian descent living in the Americas. This field of study holds an important role in exploring not only the Asian American experience as framed within the larger intellectual inquiries of race and ethnicity in national and global contexts but also issues of transnationality and diaspora.

Williams College is yet to build an Asian American Studies concentration or program. Before that happens, students interested in Asian American Studies can take the following courses related to Asian American Studies located in several different academic units. Students are strongly encouraged to take courses on Race, Ethnicity, and Diaspora in American Studies. Students interested in various disciplines about Asia (e.g. anthropology, art, history, literature, linguistics, music, religion, political science, sociology etc.) can take courses in Asian Studies.

In Fall 2018, the Curricular Planning Committee (CPC) is going to form an Asian American Studies Working Group to discuss the possibility of establishing an Asian American Studies concentration or program at Williams. Students interested in pursuing a concentration or major in Asian American Studies should consult with the faculty members of the CPC Asian American Studies Working Group.

Offered 2018-19

AMST 125 (F) Introduction to Asian American Studies
AMST 239 (S) Asian American and Pacific Islander Sporting Cultures
DANC 214 (S) Asian-American Identities in Motion: Global Approaches to Dance
HIST 284 (S) Introduction to Asian American History
HIST 380 (F) Comparative American Immigration History
HIST 468 (S) Race, Empire, and the Birth of the American Century
WGSS 119 (S) Asian American Femininities