This program is the only one of its kind in the world. Learn from interdisciplinary scholars in the fields of anthropology, history, literature, political science, psychology, sociology, urban planning, and women and gender studies.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Transborder Studies

This PhD program in transborder studies is intended for graduate students who seek rigorous study of transborder and transnational economic, political, artistic, social, psychological, ecological and cultural dynamics, with implications not only for the Mexican-origin and Latina/o communities in the U.S. or the U.S.-Mexico border region but also for other border communities around the world. This transdisciplinary degree program is designed for students with serious interest in the many ways border processes affect society; study addresses the past, present and future.

Due to the focus on transborder experiences in people's everyday lives, both regionally and globally, this program equips students with the knowledge, skills and competencies for transborder research, scholarship and innovation — all of which are highly needed by current and future scholars in order to better grasp the complexity of contemporary societies in the 21st century.

Students gain the ability to communicate findings, creations or productions to an academic and community public; the ability to create pedagogical models, learning units and assessment protocols for the transmission of learned concepts, theories and methods; and the ability to design and develop transdisciplinary research. They learn how to display and apply concepts, methods and theories in courses and research projects; gain competency in the most pertinent theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of transborder and transnational contexts; and acquire historical understanding of the development of transborder ecologies, economies, social relations, migration and health, culture, power, language and expressive culture, and media.

At a Glance
Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a foreign language exam, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Required Core (6 credit hours)
TSS 502 Foundations of Transborder Studies (3)
TSS 503 Epistemologies and Transborder Thought (3) or TSS 504 Tools for Transborder Research (3)

Electives and Research (36 credit hours)

Dissertation (12 credit hours)
TSS 799 Dissertation (12)

Additional Curricular Information
When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree. If students do not already have a master's degree in a related field, then the remaining 30 credit hours are made up of electives and research that equal the 84 credit hours required for the doctoral program.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in a related field such as anthropology, economics, education, sociology, literature or psychology from a regionally accredited institution. Applicants who have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in another discipline must align their scholarly interests with the program's mission.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. writing sample
5. resume or curriculum vitae
6. three letters of recommendation (from academicians)
7. GRE scores
8. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. For more information, students should visit https://admission.asu.edu/international/graduate/english-proficiency.

The personal statement should include an explanation of past experiences and current scholarly interests but concentrate on potential areas of research that draw upon the specific resources of the department and faculty.

Application Deadlines
Fall

Contact Information
School of Transborder Studies | INTDSB 165
sts.grad@asu.edu | 480-965-5091