



MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

Prepared By: Christopher P Riley

Date: September 2017

COURSE TITLE

The American Experience

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Dept.: HIST

Course Num: 110

(Formerly:)

CIP Code: 54.0102

Intent Code: 11

Program Code:

Credits: 5

Total Contact Hrs Per Qtr.: 55

Lecture Hrs: 55

Lab Hrs: 0

Other Hrs: 0

Distribution Designation: Social Science SS

COURSE DESCRIPTION (as it will appear in the catalog)

A brief history of the United States, this course combines a chronological and thematic approach to answer a few essential questions—the most important of which being, what does it mean to be an American? Critical periods in American History are examined with an eye toward their lasting impact upon American culture and politics. These periods include the colonial and revolutionary era, the age of reform (1830s/40s), the Civil War and Reconstruction, the Age of Industrialization, and world wars, and the Cold War. Essential questions will examine such things as democracy, opportunity, justice and equality. Please note: This course includes information also covered in greater detail in HIST&136 and HIST&137.

PREREQUISITES

None

TEXTBOOK GUIDELINES

An appropriate text(s) chosen by the instructor in consultation with the department faculty.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate the following knowledge or skills:

1. Identify important people, developments, and ideas that have shaped American history between the colonial period to the 1990s, including ways historical events and processes have been organized into definable but often tenuous chronological periods
2. Analyze how and why definitions of American and national identity and values have developed, focusing specifically on citizenship, constitutionalism, foreign policy, assimilation, and American exceptionalism.
3. Examine how and why the various people who moved to and within the United States both adapted to and transformed their new social and physical environments.
4. Examine and compare how different social and political groups have influenced society and government in the United States, as well as how political beliefs and institutions have changed over time.
5. Identify and analyze the factors behind the development of systems of economic exchange, particularly the role of technology, economic markets, and government

6. Analyze the roles that ideas, beliefs, social mores, and creative expressions have played in shaping the United States, assessing how various identities, culture and values have preserved or changed in different contexts of U.S. history.
7. Analyze the interactions between nations that affect North American history in the colonial period, and on the influence of the United States in world affairs.
8. Identify and articulate parallels between challenges of the past and the issues of today in order to provide a better basis for personal responsibility, critical analysis, and empathy for other members of contemporary society/
9. Analyze, synthesize, and present information and knowledge pertaining to the American Experience.
10. Demonstrate communication skills, both written and oral, by employing primary evidence in support of carefully formed conclusions regarding the historical record

INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES

None

COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE

- 1) 1585-1620 New Found Land: Imagining America
- 2) 1620-1750 A City on a Hill: The Origins of a Redeemer Nation
- 3) 1750-1783 The Cause of All Mankind: From Colonies to Common Sense
- 4) 1783-1790 Self-Evident Truths: Founding the Revolutionary Republic
- 5) 1790-1840 The Last, Best Hope of Earth: Toward the Second American Revolution
- 6) 1840-1865 Westward the Course of Empire: From Union to Nation
- 7) 1865-1898 A Promised Land: Gateway to the American Century
- 8) 1898-1920 The Soldier's Faith: Conflict and Conformity
- 9) 1920-1940 Beyond the Last Frontier: A New Deal for America
- 10) 1940-1960 A Land in Transition: America in the Atomic Age
- 11) 1960-2000 Armies of the Night: Counterculture and Counterrevolution

DEPARTMENTAL GUIDELINES *(optional)*

PO4 should be assessed: Students will be able to recognize or articulate personal/interpersonal aspects of, or connections between, diverse cultural, social, or political contexts.

PO5 should be assessed: Students will be able to solve problems by gathering, interpreting, combining and/or applying information from multiple sources.

DIVISION CHAIR APPROVAL

DATE