

HIST 050: AMERICAN POPULAR CULTURE

Originator

sbutler

Justification / Rationale

textbook update

Effective Term

201930

Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Subject

HIST - History

Course Number

050

Full Course Title

American Popular Culture

Short Title

POP CULTURE

Discipline**Disciplines List**

History

Modality

Face-to-Face

Catalog Description

This course is an interdisciplinary examination of popular culture's changing nature in American society. Using the lens of popular culture, this course will examine social and political institutions, such as the federal and California state governments, and various values that shape American popular culture. The course considers the contributions of Latina/o, African-American, Asian-American, Native-American, and Jewish communities in shaping contemporary popular culture. The course also examines the role women have played as both producers and consumers of popular culture.

Schedule Description

An interdisciplinary examination of American popular culture, its historical and political significance, and the contributions made by various minority groups. Prerequisite: HIST 018 IGETC: 3B, 4

Lecture Units

3

Lecture Semester Hours

54

Lab Units

0

In-class Hours

54

Out-of-class Hours

108

Total Course Units

3

Total Semester Hours

162

Prerequisite Course(s)

HIST 018

Required Text and Other Instructional Materials**Resource Type**

Book

Open Educational Resource

No

Formatting Style

APA

Author

Foy, Joseph

Title

Homer Simpson Goes to Washington: American Politics through Popular Culture

Edition

2nd

City

Lexington

Publisher

University of Press of Kentucky

Year

2009

College Level

Yes

Flesch-Kincaid Level

12

ISBN #

0813192544

Resource Type

Book

Open Educational Resource

No

Formatting Style

APA

Author

Ashby, LeRoy

Title

With Amusement for All: A History of American Popular Culture since 1830

Edition

1st

City

Lexington

Publisher

University Press of Kentucky

Year

2012

College Level

Yes

Flesch-Kincaid Level

12

ISBN #

978-0-8131-4107-7

For Text greater than five years old, list rationale:

Both books are the most current editions and the most current ACADEMIC texts on the history and politics of popular culture. Other academic texts, albeit published recently, focus less on history and politics and more on mass communication theory. These books will be heavily supplemented with current documentaries, journal articles, etc.

Class Size Maximum

45

Entrance Skills

Understand the contributions to U.S. history and society by various ethnic and religious minorities.

Prerequisite Course Objectives

HIST 018-Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the diversity of groups and peoples who have participated in the shaping of American history.

HIST 018-Describe the struggles of various immigrant groups to participate in American life.

Entrance Skills

Analyze the overlap between history and politics.

Prerequisite Course Objectives

HIST 018-Analyze the interrelationships between economics, political history and societal life.

Entrance Skills

Demonstrate an understanding of 20th century U.S. history

Prerequisite Course Objectives

HIST 018-Identify some of the most salient, recurring patterns in American history, an example of which are the ongoing conflicts and contrast between American ideals, such as those set forth in the Declaration of Independence, and patterns of discrimination and exclusion.

HIST 018-Describe America's role as a world power since 1898, including the impact of World War I, World War II and the Cold War.

Course Content

A. Introduction to American popular culture

- What is culture?
- What is popular culture? Various definitions of popular culture
- Past and present definitions of popular culture
- Past and present critiques of popular culture
- The importance of youth culture to contemporary America

B. Survey of popular culture/genres

- Literary culture
- Theatrical culture
- Musical culture
- Visual culture
- Sports culture
- Advertising

C. Government and popular culture

- War and popular media
- American politics and the news media
- The political cartoon in American media
- Technology and government: From telegraph to television and beyond
- Government regulation: Radio, comic books, television, and music
- Political satire
- Popular media and the working class
- Popular media and the California Dream

D. Innovators and contributors: Women, Asian-Americans, African-Americans, Latinos, Native-Americans, and the Jewish Community

- Stereotypes
- Music
- Theater
- Literature
- Film
- American entertainment industry

E. Popular culture's benefits and drawbacks

- The role of the culture critic in popular culture
- Defenders of popular culture
- Critiques of popular culture

F. The future of popular culture

- The potential: choice, access, and affordability
- The role of globalization
- Americanization and cultural contagion

Course Objectives

Objectives	
Objective 1	Examine the nature of popular culture in the United States.
Objective 2	Analyze the changing interpretations and critiques of American popular culture.
Objective 3	Compare the various kinds of popular culture in the American experience.
Objective 4	Critically assess the individual's relationship to the national and state governments through popular culture.
Objective 5	Compare the significant contributions and cultural influences on American popular culture by women, Asian-American, Latino, African-American, Native-American, and Jewish communities.
Objective 6	Critically evaluate contemporary and historical debates over popular culture's effect on consumers, producers, and society as a whole.
Objective 7	Evaluate how popular culture continually evolves in the United States.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:	
Outcome 1	Describe the key turning points and developments in the evolution of American popular culture.
Outcome 2	Explain the role popular culture has on shaping politics and government in the past and present.
Outcome 3	Evaluate the role of globalization on various cultures and peoples across the world.

Methods of Instruction

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each instructional method will be used in this course.
Activity	Group and individual activities like creating commercials, magazine advertisements, etc.
Discussion	Class discussions that ensure students can articulate their thoughts.
Technology-based instruction	May use LMS to deliver materials to students.
Participation	May assign in-class written assignments for participation points.
Lecture	Required to give context for the readings.
Other (Specify)	Videos either to be watched in or out of class to help students understand the readings.

Methods of Evaluation

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each evaluation method will be used in this course.	Type of Assignment
Written homework	Can be given every class or every few classes to ensure students complete the required reading.	Out of Class Only
College level or pre-collegiate essays	In addition to a major research paper, usually assign 2-3 shorter essays (3-4 pages).	Out of Class Only
Mid-term and final evaluations	Typically, exams with either or both multiple choice and short essays.	In Class Only
Tests/Quizzes/Examinations	Typically given, along with midterm and final cumulative exams, 2-3 exams throughout the semester.	In Class Only
Term or research papers	At least 1 major research assignment. Minimum 5-7 pages.	Out of Class Only
Group activity participation/observation	Typically, students will be given assignments to complete in class, as a group. They can be shorter assignments (1-2 paragraphs) or longer assignments/group projects (videos, presentations, etc.).	In Class Only
Guided/unguided journals	Reflective assignments. A few paragraphs asking students to connect their personal experiences to the readings. Can be given every week or every few weeks.	In and Out of Class

Assignments
Other In-class Assignments

May include, as appropriate:

- Participate in class discussion and take detailed notes on lecture
- Graded individual, written reflections or summaries of the out-of-class assigned material
- Small group discussions
- Large group discussions
- Class debate and/or presentations in which students are assigned roles (team member, moderator, active audience members, etc.) and graded on their individual performance
- Examinations of various types, such as essay, short answer, multiple choice

Other Out-of-class Assignments

May include, as appropriate:

- Readings in the textbook and in supplemental literature
- Viewing of films and providing answers to questions and/or summaries
- Examinations of various types, such as essay, short answer, multiple choice
- Completing written assignments

Grade Methods

Letter Grade Only

Comparable Transfer Course Information**University System**

CSU

Campus

CSU Fullerton

Course Number

AMST 300

Course Title

Introduction to American Popular Culture

Catalog Year

2016-17

Rationale

This is an upper division, introductory course.

University System

CSU

Campus

CSU Long Beach

Course Number

AMST 360

Course Title

Explorations in American Popular Culture

Catalog Year

2016-17

Rationale

This is an upper division, introductory course.

University System

CSU

Campus

San Jose State University

Course Number

AMS 179

Course Title

American Popular Culture

Catalog Year

2016-17

Rationale

This is an upper division, introductory course.

COD GE

C2 - Social and Behavioral Science

C3 - Arts, Humanities, and Culture

CSU GE

C2 - Humanities
D6 - History

IGETC GE

3B - Humanities
4F - History

MIS Course Data**CIP Code**

54.0101 - History, General.

TOP Code

220500 - History

SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Basic Skills Status

Not Basic Skills

Prior College Level

Not applicable

Cooperative Work Experience

Not a Coop Course

Course Classification Status

Credit Course

Approved Special Class

Not special class

Noncredit Category

Not Applicable, Credit Course

Funding Agency Category

Not Applicable

Program Status

Program Applicable

Transfer Status

Transferable to both UC and CSU

Allow Audit

No

Repeatability

No

Materials Fee

No

Additional Fees?

No

Approvals

Curriculum Committee Approval Date

02/05/2019

Academic Senate Approval Date

02/14/2019

Board of Trustees Approval Date

03/15/2019

Course Control Number

CCC000583741