



AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVILIZATION SYLLABUS

Basic data of the subject			
Academic Unit:	Faculty of Philology		
Course title:	American History and Civilization		
Program:	English language and literature		
Level:	Bachelor		
Course status:	O		
Study year:	II		
Number of hours per week:	2+2		
Credit value – ECTS:	6		
Time / location:	Friday, 10:00-11:30, room 109		
Lecturer:	Besmir Shishko and Marta Kajzogaj		
Contact details:	+383 44 184 031, besmirs@gmail.com		
Course description:	The main objective of this course is to provide students with basic knowledge regarding aspects of American history and its development, bring awareness to various groups of people within the American story.		
Course objectives:	This course is meant to make second-year “Ukshin Hoti” English-language literature students more knowledgeable and understanding of American institutions, various belief systems, aspects of social and cultural components of life, as well as to improve students’ language, writing, and presentation skills overall.		
Learning outcomes:	1. Receive information about American history, language, society and culture. 2. Knows and becomes increasingly aware of different aspects of cultural, social, and philosophical movements throughout American history. 3. Further understand and appreciate achievements and contributions from various groups of American people, along with causes, forms of government, development, and overall progress. 4. Students will become more prepared to appreciate, understand, express, and apply the American story in future contexts and for a variety of reasons. 5. Ignite and expand students’ overall intellectual curiosity about American culture and people over the centuries		
Contribution on student load (must correspond with learning outcomes)			
Activity	Hours	Days/week	Total
Lectures	4	15	60
Theoretical Exercise	2	15	45



Practical work	1	10	10
Contacts with the teacher/consultations	20 min	15	5
Field exercises	5	2	10
Test, seminar paper	2	2	4
Homework	1	10	10
Learning (in the library / at home)	3	10	30
Final exam preparation	2	5	10
Time spent in assessment (test, quiz, final exam)	2	2	4
Projects, presentations, etc.	2	3	6
Total			150 hours (6 ECTS)
Teaching methods :	Combination of lectures and seminar hours. Since the core of this subject consists of various historical and literary works, articles, essays, and videos, students should do their best to read assigned works for particular weeks. During lectures and practice classes, students will be expected to engage in group discussions, to write blog posts about a variety of subjects, and to complete “panel presentations”		
Evaluation methods:	The evaluation will be based on the continuous results of the course, including the activities in the classroom, the performance of the tasks, mid-term test and the final exam. Distribution of the percentage for determining the assessment/grade: Attendance and active participation in discussions during the lectures 10%; Assignment (research, presentation) 20%; Mid-term test 30%; Final exam 40%.		
Literature			
Basic Literature:	1. David Mauk and John Oakland .<i>American Civilization: An Introduction</i> (5th Edition). London and New York: Routledge, 2009. 2. Neil Campbell, Alasdair Kean. <i>American Cultural Studies: An Introduction to American Culture</i>. London and New York: Routledge, 2009. 3. Holt McDougal. <i>The Americans</i>. Orlando, Florida: Hough Miffin Publishing Company, 2012. 4. Eric Olin Wright and Joel Rogers. <i>American Society: How it Really Works, Second Edition</i>. New York and London: W.W. Norton & Company, 2015 5. Various “History Channel” Informational Webpages (https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/stamp-act), (https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/battles-of-lexington-and-concord), (		



	sense-revolution) STUDENTS ARE TO CHECK GOOGLE CLASSROOM FOR POSTED READING MATERIAL AND/OR ARTICLES (from outside sources) ***(We may use select readings from the textbooks below, but students will be notified in advance of pages/chapters)***
Additional Literature:	See Above

Designed study plan:		
Week	Lectures	Exercises
<i>First week:</i>	Importance of understanding how Stereotypes, Discrimination, and Various Bias might play a role in interpreting history and stories of various Americans/ “Sacred Rac” Text	Indigenous People/Native Americans Intro.
<i>Second week:</i>	North American Colonies, 1600-1650	First Colonists/ Life in the New Colonies
<i>Third week:</i>	New England and the Southern Colonies	Emergence of the 13 Colonies and the Slave trade
<i>Fourth week:</i>	American Revolution (1775–1783)	Importance of the Declaration of Independence
<i>Fifth week:</i>	Comparison between the Southern Colonies’ dependence on agriculture/ slave labor and industrial and economic development in Northern Colonies	American Civil War (1861-1865)
<i>Sixth week:</i>	Women in America Native Americans African Americans Asian Americans Latin Americans	Civil Rights Movements of the 1960s
<i>Seventh week:</i>	Mid-term test	Test results/consultations
<i>Eighth week:</i>	Political Institutions Federal Government/Branches of Government Constitutional Framework	Equal Rights Amendment (1972-1982)



	Political Parties	
<i>Ninth week:</i>	Migration to the USA	Complexities of Migration/Historical Cases
<i>Tenth week:</i>	A closer look into discrimination in American life/development	Discrimination
<i>Eleventh week:</i>	Foreign Policy Neutral and separate nation? American approach to the world Affairs from neutrality to isolation (1776-1830) Expansionism up to imperialism (1783-1914) Prohibition Period Isolation and Internationalism (1914-1945) The Cold War Era (1946-1992) The Sole Superpower in the post- Cold War Era	Various discussions and activities related to the controversy and America's involvement in Vietnam, Prohibition, Significant moments from the Cold-War Period, etc.
<i>Twelfth week:</i>	Counterculture/ Hippie Movement in the 1960s/70s, and historic riots	Attempting to understand counterculture, "anti-war" movements and reasons for riots
<i>Thirteenth week:</i>	The role of the American Economy Social Classes and Inequality Industry and Production (criticism and journalism in response to this) Agriculture, Forestry, National Parks Environmental standards	Contemporary American Religion Role of Christianity in the development of the United States Separation of Church & State (Notable events relating to this)
<i>Fourteenth week:</i>	End of term test	Student Presentations
<i>Fifteenth week:</i>	Grade consultations	Grade consultations
Academic policies and rules of conduct:		
Students are required to attend classes, conduct properly during lectures and practice classes, and participate actively in them.		