

Instructor: Bennaa Youcef

American Civilization M01

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Course Description:

This Course provides students of American Civilization with the perfect background and introductory information on contemporary American life. It covers all the central dimensions of American society from geography and the environment, government and politics, to religion, education, media and the arts. This course:

- covers all core American studies issues , and provides students with future research topics
- contains essential historical background for American studies students at the start of the twenty first century
- analyzes gender, class and race, and America's cosmopolitan population

Course Goals and Objectives:

Upon completion of the American Civilization course, students will:

- Discuss long-standing and modern issues in United States history and culture.
- Report on careers and contributions of noteworthy persons in United States history.
- Understand the American experience through the ideological debate and struggle between the Left and Right.

This Course reinforces the Following General Education Skills objectives:

- **Objective # 1:** Students will **read** analytically and critically in a variety of genres.
- **Objective # 2:** Students will **write** in a variety of forms using valid logic, persuasive rhetoric, and correct grammar, and punctuation.
- **Objective # 3:** Students will be able to **orally deliver a presentation (in the second semester if covid-19 is lifted)** with a clear central idea that is logically developed, supported by convincing evidence and valid reasoning, and expressed using correct language

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

1-Readings: The following books are the required reading material for this course, I will make sure to provide you with the PDF versions of these books upon meeting:

American Civilization: An Introduction. By John Oakland and David Mauk (2002)

America: A Concise History. By James Henretta and David Brody (2010)

2-Participation and Attendance^o: Attendance and participation are absolutely necessary for the course to be successful. Participation will help you, dear students, to better process and understand the material we cover. You SHOULD come to class ready and prepared to ask questions, generate ideas, and discuss the topic of that particular session.

The policy regarding the absences is to be determined according to the English department guidelines. (° **this is scheduled for Second semester, hopefully**)

Class and home Assignments: Of course, you'll be assigned some in-class and home-bound activities and assignments that will make up a portion of your final grade.

FIRST SEMESTER

Syllabus

- **Four Schools of American Foreign Policy**
- **The Cold War: Containment Policy Cuba Missile Crisis**
- **Black Americans and the Civil Rights Movement**
- **The Tumultuous Seventies: Protests of Minority Groups**
- **Ronald Reagan's Administration: Domestic Affairs and Foreign Affairs**
- **The Gulf War and USSR Dissolution**
- **The End of the Cold War**