

Course description

Descriptif du cours

Department : English Department

Instructor (s): Leila Ameer Jouini

Academic year: 2021-2022

Level: 2nd Year (Licence Fondamentale)

Course title: US History: Immigration, Religion and the Growth of a New Nation

Course outline:

A General Introduction (1 week)

- Geography of the USA
- Population and the notion of “The Promised Land”

Semester 1:

Chapter 1: Immigration to the New World/the USA (4 Weeks)

- America: “A Nation of Immigrants”
- Causes of Immigration (Push and Pull factors)
- Waves of Immigration
- U.S. Immigration Law

Chapter 2: The Melting Pot Vs Pluralism (4 Weeks)

- The Birth of a New American Identity

- The Melting Pot ideal vs. Pluralism/Cultural Diversity
- The Slavery Issue (The Negro Problems)
- Racism and the “Black Lives Matter” movement today

Semester 2

Chapter 3: Religion in America (4 weeks)

- The Protestant Reformation
- Puritanism and Religious Diversity in the New World
- The Great Awakening and “the Age of Reform”
- The Changing Face of Religion in America today

Chapter 4: The Frontier Movement (4 Weeks)

- The Stages of the Westward Expansion (Manifest Destiny and the Monroe Doctrine)
- Life in the Frontier
- The Native American Issue
- J.F. Kennedy and the New Frontier

Course objectives:

This course is meant to introduce second-year students to certain facts in American history which progressively gave birth to particular values and trends portraying American life today. Its main purpose is to shed the spotlight on major historical events where immigration, puritan values, and politically driven ambitions played a significant role in the transformation of the wilderness and the emergence of the United States of America. To achieve this purpose, the course will be divided into weekly lectures and TD courses, pertaining to specific aspects of each of the themes described in the following course outline. The selected reading texts are meant to supplement their knowledge about the themes under study, and further illuminate specific concepts of the course that students might find difficult to make sense of. Globally speaking, the U.S. History course takes issue with three important themes:

1-The history of immigration to the New World/the USA

2-The key role of religion and Puritan values, in building a powerful nation

3-The Westward movement to expand, geographically, the U.S.

By the end of this course, students will acquire a great deal of historical data about the growth and expansion of the American nation, the challenges met and the underlying values that fuelled this unique experience. The ultimate objective of the course is to equip students with historical facts and key concepts that will enable them to analyze historical patterns, and think critically about immigration, religion, and the frontier movement; key themes in American history and contemporary America.

Method of evaluation:

Students are tested on two different occasions during the academic year:

- The progressive test that takes place once each semester
- The final exam that takes place at the end of each semester

References:

- Ahlstrom, Sydney E. *A Religious History of the American People*, Yale University Press, 1972.
- Billington, Ray A. *The Far Western Frontier, 1830-1860*, Harper Collins, 1962.
- Bodnar, John. *The Transplanted: A History in Urban America*, Indiana University Press, 1985.
- Degler, Carl N. *Out of Our Past: The Forces that Shaped Modern America*, 3rd ed. Harper & Row, 1984.
- Dinnerstein, Leonard et al. *Natives and Strangers: Blacks, Indians and Immigrants in America*, 2nd ed. Oxford University Press, 1990.
- Foner, Eric, *The New American History*, Temple University Press, U.S. 1997.
- Hanlin Oscar, *The Uprooted: The Epic Story of the Great Migrations That Made the American People*, Brown and Company, 1951.
- Jones, Maldwyn Allen, *American Immigration*, The University of Chicago Press, 1965.
- Nash, Gary B et al. *The American People: Creating A Nation and A Society*, (2 vols.) 2d ed., HarperCollins, 1990.
- Johnson Paul, *A History of American People*. Harper Perrenial, 1999.
- Sowell, Thomas, *Ethnic America: A History. Basic Books*, 1975, 1983.
- Takaki, Ronald, *A Different Mirror: A History of Multicultural America*.
- Tindall, George B. and David E. Shi, *America: A Narrative History*, 3d ed. W.W. Norton & Co., Inc., 1992.

- Westley Addison, United States History, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1986

Course description

Descriptif du cours

Department : English Department

Instructor (s): Leila Ameer Jouini

Academic year: 2021-2022

Level: 1st Year (Preparatory cycle)

Course title: Intro. To Modern Britain: The Development of Democracy in Britain

Course outline:

Introduction

- Introducing the UK
- Historical Union of the British Isles

Chapter I: From Absolute Monarchy to Parliamentary Democracy

- The British Monarchy
- Decline of Monarchy and Rise of Parliament
- The Future of Monarchy

Chapter II: The British Parliament

- Britain's Unwritten Constitution
- Parliament (the House of Lords, the House of Commons)
- Her Majesty's Government

Chapter III: Political Parties and Elections

- The British Party System: Historical Background

- Britain's main political parties
- Elections in Britain

Chapter IV: Devolution

- Devolution to Scotland
- Devolution to Wales
- Devolution to Northern Ireland

Course objectives:

The course is mainly designed to introduce first-year preparatory students to the UK and to help them explore and analyze key concepts in British political culture. It is also intended to investigate different issues that have triggered modern political debates and shaped contemporary British politics. The course covers contemporary challenges for the British state such as the controversies over the relevant powers of the British political institutions and the controversial relationships between them, the constitutional reforms, the changing party system, and devolution, etc.

Method of evaluation:

Students are tested on two different occasions during the academic year:

- The progressive test that take s place once each semester
- The final and oral exams that take place at the end of each semester

References:

Adams, Ian *Ideology and Politics in Britain Today*. XB 11672

Brenman, O. *Political Issues*. XB 9166

Coxall, B. *Contemporary British Politics. An Introduction*. XB 11958

Genver, D. *Elections and Voters in Britain*. XB 11958.

Forman, F.N. and Baldwin, N.D.J. *Mastering British Politics*. XB 12331

Jones J, *Politics UK*. XB

Kingdom, J. *Government and Politics in Britain. An Introduction*. XB

Leach, Robert. *Political Ideology in Britain*. XB 12335