

COURSE OUTLINE

HIST 202

Issues in History

3 credit hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course is designed to allow students to study the historical background to current social, economic, cultural, and political issues. The specific topic, which may change from semester to semester, will be selected by the history faculty based on current events that are in the public consciousness. The thrust of this course is to offer students the historical basis for timely issues and events. Prerequisite: ENGL-121. (3 hours weekly)

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Describe and analyze a current issue or event occurring in society
2. Compare and contrast this issue/event to other current ones
3. Describe how this issue/event arose over time
4. Develop a timeline for the development of this issue/event
5. Explain how this issue/event fit into a culture at the time of its emergence
6. Describe how a culture/society dealt with the matter at different times
7. Describe what changes occurred over time regarding this issue/event
8. Demonstrate the ability to analyze the economic, political, and social aspects of the issue
9. Translate changes in human values that led to cultural change(as applied to the issue studied)
10. Analyze traditional and revisionist historical perspectives as applied to the issue studied
11. Evaluate the above historical perspectives in light of the current time and culture
12. Explain and evaluate the issue studied in terms of continuing problems and opportunities
13. Deliver a formal presentation in class on an assigned topic relevant to the subject
14. Demonstrate active listening skills by objectively restating, in his/her own words, material which has been verbally transmitted.
15. Demonstrate the physical ability to speak effectively so that the receiver(s) can understand. This will include diction, pronunciation, enunciation, pace, pitch, and volume.
16. Communicate an abstract or concrete idea so that the receiver(s) clearly perceives the intended message.
17. Effectively deliver a formal oral presentation in front of a group.
18. Demonstrate the ability to communicate using appropriate language.

Major Topics

- I. Introduction to the topic to be studied (describing and defining the issue/topic)
- II. The current state of the issue/topic to be studied
- III. The historical background to the issue/topic
- IV. Primary and secondary sources dealing with the issue/topic
- V. How the issue has changed over time
- VI. The impact of specific cultural, economic, political, and social events that produced changes in human values

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member, but may include exams, quizzes, written assignments, research papers, and class participation. Specific writing assignments (including research papers) will require at least 2,500 words of formal academic writing. In-class participation will explore historical theories, ideas, and current perspectives. Research assignments will focus heavily on historical analysis of primary and secondary sources.

Other Course Information

This course is a Social and Behavioral Science Core course and a History Core course.