

COURSE OUTLINE

HIST-205

A History of Race, and Ethnicity in the United States

3 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course focuses on a "neglected dimension" in American History and society, namely the study of the diverse racial and ethnic and other non-traditional communities in the United States. The impact of the Anglo-core culture on our political, religious and economic institutions - Democracy, Protestantism, Capitalism - is the major frame of reference. Assimilationist and power conflict sociological models are applied to white, ethnic, Native-American, Afro-American, Hispanic-American and Asian-American groups. Immigration policies and hatred towards diverse groups are studied from historical and contemporary perspectives. Prerequisite: ENGL-121. (3 hours weekly)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Be able to identify and give the significance of the following terms: race (early and late terms); racism; ethnic group (broad and narrow definitions); minority group; prejudice; stereotyping; ethnocentrism; the four types of discrimination.
2. Be able to apply the following assimilationist models in analyzing specific racial and ethnic groups: Anglo-conformity; Melting pot (assimilation); salad bowl (cultural pluralism).
3. Be able to apply the following power conflict models in analyzing specific racial and ethnic groups: Caste; Class (Marxism) and Internal Colonialism.
4. Examine the migration patterns of the English to the United States from 1607 to the present.
5. Analyze the impact of the Anglo-core culture on our political and legal institutions (Republicanism), religion (Protestantism) and the economy (Capitalism).
6. Define Nativism and explain how different groups were discriminated by the core cultural groups.
7. Critically analyze the history of two or three major white ethnic groups - Irish-Americans, Italian-Americans, Jewish-Americans - and explain how they become part of the core-culture of America.
8. Critically analyze the history of six major non-white groups - Native-Americans, Afro-Americans, Mexican-Americans, Japanese-Americans, Chinese-Americans, Korean-Americans, Vietnamese-Americans - and explain how they remain outside of the core culture of modern America.
9. Examine the current racial and ethnic makeup of the United States and project immigration policies for the next twenty years.
10. Examine the contemporary hate groups who espouse a philosophy of white supremacy and place these groups within the American nativist tradition.
11. Critically analyze the controversy surrounding the multicultural, historical and sociological perspectives on America.

Major Topics

- I. Introduction
 - a. Definition of key terms: race, racism, ethnic group, minority group, prejudice, stereotyping, ethnocentrism, discrimination.
 - b. Assimilationist perspectives on racial and ethnic relations: Anglo-conformity; melting pot (assimilationist); salad bowl.
 - c. Power conflict perspective on racial and ethnic groups: Caste; Class (Marxism); Internal Colonialism

- II. Anglo-Core Culture
 - a. English migration patterns - 1607 to the present
 - b. Impact on Anglo-core culture on politics and law (Democracy), religion (Protestantism), economy (Capitalism).
 - c. Nativist attitudes of core culture towards other racial and ethnic groups.

- III. History of Non-English Racial and Ethnic Groups to U.S.
 - a. White ethics: Irish-Americans, Italian-Americans, Jewish-Americans.
 - b. Non-white groups: Native-Americans; Afro-Americans; specific Hispanic-Americans; specific Asian-Americans.

- IV. Contemporary Policies and counter-reactions
 - a. Current immigration policies and future projections.
 - b. Current hate groups and white supremacy.
 - c. Controversy surrounding multicultural perspectives.

Course Requirements

Grading/Exams:

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Writing

Specific writing assignments will be determined by the individual faculty member but will require at least 2,500 words of formal writing. The papers required are intended to communicate with a specific audience and meet the minimum standards of proficiency. At least three exams will be required. Periodically students will use writing in class as a means to learn, to integrate information, to review what they have learned, to review what they have learned, and to clarify their response to assigned works.

Other Course Information

This course is a Social Science elective and an Arts and Science elective.

This course fulfills the cultural diversity requirement.