Date: February 18, 2014

ROSE STATE COLLEGE

Division Course Syllabus

Division  Humanities  Course Prefix and Number  HUM 2413
Course Title  American Cultural Experience
Semester and Year Submitted  Spring 2014  Credit Hours 3
Prepared by  Sherri Mussatto and Lori R. Morrow
Hours Per Week: Class 2  Lab 2

Course Description (as it appears in the Catalog):
This course is designed to acquaint the student with a variety of cultures within the United States including art, literature, music, theater, and other forms of creative expression. To experience these cultures, attendance at a variety of cultural events is required. May be taken as credit for Humanities General Education Requirements. Prerequisite: ENGL 1113 or Concurrent Enrollment

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Text(s):
Title  None
Author
Publisher
Copyright Date
 ISBN #
Reading Level
Supplemental Materials: (Other books, audio visuals, etc.)
None
Rationale:
Due to the strikingly diverse nature of its citizenry, America is in the process of becoming a universal nation. Therefore, it is important that students have at least a basic knowledge of the various cultures and belief systems that interact within the United States. This course, designed around numerous experiential learning opportunities, will expose students to a wide variety of American cultures, methods of artistic expression, belief systems, and perspectives in order to promote awareness and appreciation of our nation’s unique cultural diversity. By taking this course, students will be better prepared to analyze the interdependence among people from various backgrounds and to encourage tolerance and understanding.

Expected Outcomes:
1. Discuss the value of having an awareness of and appreciation for the customs of cultures within the United States.
2. Judge the importance of experiencing a variety of cultures within the United States.
3. Compare different cultures’ perspectives on the same issue.
4. Analyze major works of art, literature, music, theater, and other forms of creative expression of a variety of cultures within the United States.
5. Identify and explore samples of art, literature, architecture, history, geography, religion, music, and other representative elements of cultures studied.
6. Compare and contrast differing values, religions, and customs of cultures within the United States.

Methods of Instruction:
Methods may vary by semester. Methods may include but are not limited to:

- Experiential learning opportunities such as visits to museums, performances, religious sites, etc.
- Research presentations
- Audio-Visual resources and assignments
- Discussion board topics to be used as an online journal
- Lecture
- Group projects
- Tests/Quizzes

Assessment (Including Critical Thinking Measurements):
Research Projects/Presentations 30%
Participation in field trip experiences 30%
Journal Discussion Topics 20%
Tests/Quizzes, and Assignments 20%
At least 10 pages of credited writing for assessment, inquiry, learning, thinking, and/or communication. (These pages may include but are not limited to the following: journals, exploratory writing, and discussion board postings, etc.)
Learning Objectives:

Unit I: Social Customs (Expected Outcomes: 1-6)
1. Define the social customs of various cultures within the United States.
2. Compare and contrast the social customs of those cultures studied.
3. Demonstrate the importance of having an awareness of and appreciation for the customs of different cultures within the United States.
4. Discuss the experience of social customs from American cultural events attended during the class.
5. Discuss the role and influence of American social customs on society.

Unit II: The Arts
1. Define a variety of art forms within the United States. (Expected Outcomes: 4, 5)
2. Analyze major works of art, literature, architecture, music, theater, and other forms of creative expression of a variety of cultures within the United States. (Expected Outcomes: 4, 5)
3. Identify a variety of major artists of the United States and describe their works of art. (Expected Outcomes: 4, 5)
4. Compare and contrast a variety of art, literature, architecture, music, theater, and other representative elements of cultures within the United States. (Expected Outcomes: 1-6)
5. Discuss the role and influence of American culture on society and art. (Expected Outcomes: 1-6)
6. Discuss the experience of art from American cultural events attended during the class. (Expected Outcomes: 1-6)
7. Describe a variety of major socio-historical events from the United States and analyze their effects on the art world. (Expected Outcomes: 1-6)

Unit III: Religious Beliefs (Expected Outcomes: 1-6)
1. Identify and explore religious diversity within the United States.
2. Demonstrate understanding of a variety of religious beliefs in America.
3. Compare and contrast the religious beliefs of those cultures studied.
4. Discuss the experience of a variety of religious beliefs from American cultural events attended during the class.
5. Describe a variety of major socio-historical events from the United States and analyze their effects on religion.

Unit IV: Current Events (Expected Outcomes: 1-6)
1. Demonstrate an understanding of current events that affect various cultures within the United States.
2. Analyze how current events often affect minority or subcultures differently than they do the majority culture.
3. Compare and contrast different cultures’ reactions to current events within the United States.

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