

Dakota College at Bottineau

Course Prefix/Number/Title: HIST 224: American Studies 1

Number of credits: (3 credits)

Course Description: American Studies is an interdisciplinary seminar class in the culture of the United States. Subjects vary from year to year and will be topical focusing on a specific era or theme in American culture.

Pre-/Co-requisites: none

Course Objectives: By the end of this course students will be able to **explain** in their own words the social conditions that shape American society throughout the 20th century. Students will **identify** a chronological and thematic progression of shifting ideologies in American culture. In doing so, students will acquire and **employ** a working vocabulary of technical terms associated with a specific period in U.S. History.

Instructor: Dr. Zahra M. Moss

Office: TH 2209

Office Hours: Monday 11-11:50 & 2-2:50pm Wednesday 2-2:50pm

Phone: 701-228-5445

Email: Zahra.moss@dakotacollege.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule: T/R 11-12:15pm

Textbook(s): Storey, John. *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction*. 8th Ed. Routledge: New York, 2018.

Additional Texts available on the course Blackboard.

Course Requirements:

Item	Value	Totals
10 Quizzes	10points	100
2 In Class Assignments	25 points	50
Midterm	50 points	50
Final	50 points	50
		250 total points

Tentative Course Outline:

Course will examine several themes that impact the development of American culture. These include:

Week 1: Buzzwords for American Studies:

Weeks 2-3: American Exceptionalism^{*1}

Weeks 4-5: American Empire (politics and economies)*

Weeks 6-7: Mythology

Weeks 8: Symbolism

Weeks 9-10: Imagined Communities

Weeks 11-12: Race and Class in America*

Weeks 13-14: Gender and Sexuality in America*

¹ Themes that are noted with an (*) are core concepts that will be emphasized in this course.

Weeks 15-16: Geo-Politics and Cultural Studies

General Education Goals/Objectives:

This course aligns with the specific general education guidelines established by Dakota College at Bottineau. Specifically students will address the following goals: Students will be able to analyze musical forms using the appropriate terminology, evaluate the social events that influenced their production and coherently explain the relationships between the arts, humanities and society as outlined in Goal 7². Specifically Objectives 2 and 4.³

Relationship to Campus Theme:

This course uses the campus theme of "Nature, Technology and Beyond," in part to explore how Americans draw inspiration from the natural world to define national identity. Moreover we explore the complex dynamic relationship between science, nature and art to describe the world at specific moments in time.

Classroom Policies: Cell phone use is prohibited in the classroom. Extenuating circumstances in which the students' needs to make or receive a phone call are allowed as long as the student leaves the room in a manner that is not disruptive.

Student E-mail Policy

The Dakota College at Bottineau campus community is increasingly dependent upon electronic communication among faculty, staff and students. Because of its convenience, cost-effectiveness and speed, e-mail has replaced much of the paper correspondence of the past. Because of this acceptance of and reliance upon electronic communication, e-mail is considered an official form of communication at Dakota College at Bottineau. A student's campus-assigned e-mail address will be the only one recognized by the campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via email because of a failure to access a campus-assigned e-mail address rests with the student.

Academic Integrity: At DCB the academic community operates on the basis of honesty and integrity. We expect that all students adhere to the standards outlined in the code of conduct established by the University system. This means that students are required to:

- Submit their own work, which should not be plagiarized.
- Students should not coordinate on oral or written examinations that are evaluated for points towards the final grade without the express authorization of the Instructor.

Violations of the expressed academic principles (cheating, plagiarism and other academic improprieties) will be subject to review in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Student Handbook on pages 18, 19 and 37.

<http://www.dakotacollege.edu/handbook/>

Disabilities and Special Needs: **ADA Compliance**

Students who require special accommodation, or services, should be registered with the University's Resources Center, located in TH2213; E-mail: Jacalyn.migler@dakotacollege.edu. Once registered, please request that the DRC officially notify me of your accommodations/needs as soon as possible. Also, please plan to meet with me to discuss any required modifications to modes of instruction, assignments, or course requirements.

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² Goal 7 stipulates that students will demonstrate the ability to create and analyze art; evaluate aesthetics; and synthesize interrelationships among the arts, the humanities and society. <https://www.dakotacollege.edu/academics/general-education-goals-objective-skills>

³ Objective 2: Analyzes art, Objective 3: evaluates aesthetics, Objective 4: Synthesizes interrelationships among arts, languages, the humanities and societies.