

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Course Syllabus

Course Title: Topics in American Studies

Course #: ENG 229/HIS 229

Course Description: 3 Credits

This seminar will examine the historical and literary definitions of what it means to be an American. Through film, historical documents, novels, short stories, and other printed sources, students will investigate how various events and ideas intertwined to define important aspects of American culture. The class will be run as a seminar with emphasis placed on individual reading and class discussion. Students will be responsible for class presentation on several topics.

Pre-requisite: ENG 101(C- or better) or permission of instructor

Goals:

- To provide a framework for the interdisciplinary study of the history, literature, and culture of the United States.
- To promote understanding of significant themes which have affected U.S. history and culture.
- To focus on particular events, ideas, movements, and individuals which have shaped American culture.
- To provide an opportunity for students to conduct individual inquiry in areas of personal interest.

Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify important themes present in American culture
- Analyze primary and secondary historical and literary sources
- Use literature and historical information to create an interdisciplinary view of American culture
- Discuss important figures of the American past such as (but not limited to):
 - Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Beecher Stowe
 - General George Armstrong Custer, Ulysses S. Grant,
 - F. D. R., Herbert Hoover,
 - J. F. K., Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon
- Analyze the role of important literary movements in the American canon such as Romanticism, Transcendentalism, Naturalism, Local Color, Realism, and Modernism
- Describe the role that gender, race and class played in the American past

College Policies

Plagiarism: Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty are not tolerated at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. Violators of this policy will be subject to sanctions ranging from failure of the assignment (receiving a zero), failing the course, being removed/expelled from the program and/or the College. Please refer to your "Student Handbook" under "Policy on Student Rights," the Section entitled "Student Discipline," or the College catalog for additional information.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented learning, physical, or psychiatric disabilities. Students should notify Dr. Christine Woodcock, the Counselor for Students with Disabilities. She is located at

Green Woods Hall, in the Center for Student Development. Her phone number is 860-738-6318 and her email is cwoodcock@nwcc.edu.

School Cancellations: If snowy or icy driving conditions cause the postponement or cancellation of classes, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations and posted on the College's website at www.nwcc.edu. Students may also call the College directly at **(860) 738-6464** to hear a recorded message concerning any inclement weather closings. Students are urged to exercise their own judgment if road conditions in their localities are hazardous.

Use of Electronic Devices: Some course content as presented in Blackboard Learn is not fully supported on mobile devices at this time. While mobile devices provide convenient access to check in and read information about your courses, they should not be used to perform work such as taking tests, quizzes, completing assignments, or submitting substantive discussion posts.

Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team: NCCC is committed to creating a community that is safe and supportive of people of all gender and sexual identities. This pertains to the entire campus community, whether on ground or virtual, students, faculty, or staff.

Sexual assault and intimate partner violence is an affront to our national conscience, and one we cannot ignore. It is our hope that no one within our campus community will become a victim of these crimes. However, if it occurs, NCCC has created the SART Team - Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team - to meet the victim's needs.

SART is a campus and community based team that is fully trained to provide trauma-informed compassionate service and referrals for comprehensive care. The team works in partnership with The Susan B. Anthony Project to extend services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week throughout the year.

The NCCC team members are:

Ruth Gonzalez, Ph.D.	860-738-6315	Green Woods Hall Room 207
Susan Berg	860-738-6342	Green Woods Hall Room 223
Kathleen Chapman	860-738-6344	Green Woods Hall Room 110
Michael Emanuel	860-738-6389	Founders Hall Annex Room 308
Seth Kershner	860-738-6481	Library
Jane O'Grady	860-738-6393	Founders Hall Annex Room 212
Robin Orloski	860-738-6416	Business Office Room 201
Patricia Bouffard, Ex-Officio	860-738-6319	Founders Hall Room 103
Savannah Schmitt		Student Representative

At NCCC we care about our students, staff and faculty and their well-being. It is our intention to facilitate the resources needed to help achieve both physical and emotional health.