

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE 020 – AMERICAN CULTURE II

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

Second course in American culture for students to practice applied reading, writing, listening and speaking skills gained in the third and fourth levels of the ESL program. Various aspects of American culture such as lifestyles, attitudes, government, customs and traditions will be studied. **Pass/No Pass only. Non-degree applicable.**

Prerequisite

None

Course Content

- 1) Vocabulary relating to American culture such as marriage customs, college life, capitalism, etiquette, travel and holidays
- 2) Reading skills include utilizing vocabulary in context, skimming, scanning and idiom comprehension
- 3) Writing skills include paragraphs about personal perceptions of American culture that include titles, topic sentences, supporting sentences and a conclusion
- 4) Listening and speaking skills include conversations and formal presentations using new vocabulary about American cultures and other cultures
- 5) Viewing and analyzing television and movie presentations which explore American culture

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Describe several aspects of American culture such as lifestyles, attitudes, customs and traditions in conversations and short presentations.
- 2) Learn more advanced vocabulary related to the above aspects and correctly use it in writing and listening/speaking activities.
- 3) Define vocabulary in context while reading.
- 4) Explain in presentations the differences between American culture and other cultures.
- 5) Write standard paragraphs about American culture.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Homework assignments
- 2) Quizzes, tests
- 3) Written in-class midterm, final exam
- 4) Participation

Special Materials Required of Student

- 1) Dictionary
- 2) Electronic storage media

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Smart classroom

Method of Instruction

- 1) Pre-reading exercises and discussion will be used before passages are read. Follow-up exercises include comprehension, discovering main ideas, writing margin notes and learning new vocabulary. Whole group, small group or paired discussions on cultural aspects of reading passages.
- 2) In-class reading assignments may be used to illustrate a writing format, to introduce new vocabulary or as a model for conversations and presentations.
- 3) Students may write journals on assigned or free topics or in response to readings. Journals may be used as a base for conversations and presentations.
- 4) Write clear sentences and connect those sentences into standard paragraphs.
- 5) Specific reading, writing and listening/speaking skills are reinforced through use of tapes and videos.
- 6) Work collaboratively to create short and formal oral presentations.

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Reading assignments
- 2) Short writing assignments
- 3) Short research assignments

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative example): Wright, Erik Olin and Joel Rogers. *American Society: How it Really Works*. (2nd Edition.) W.W. Norton and Company, 2015.
- 2) Supplemental: None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Produce simple English paragraphs explaining different cultural aspects of American society.
- 2) Present understandable ideas orally before peers concerning the differences in the culture of the United States and other countries.