UNIVERSITY COLLEGE of the FRASER VALLEY



COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2006
COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED: March 2010
(Four years after UPAC final approval date) (MONTH YEAR)

# OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.
Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department and the material will vary - see course syllabus available from instructor

FACULTY/DEPARTMENT: **History**

| **HIST 375** | | **4** |
|---|---|---|
| COURSE NAME/NUMBER | FORMER COURSE NUMBER | UCFV CREDITS |

**The United States since 1945**
COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine the American experience abroad and at home since World War II. It will explore, among other themes, America's rise to superpower status and the role that it played in international affairs from the Cold War to the Persian Gulf wars; the domestic impact of foreign policy, including anti-communism and more recent violations of civil liberty; the economic achievements, limitations, and cultural manifestations of the postwar "Affluent Society"; the shaping of a postwar liberal "consensus" and its critics; and the rise of a powerful conservative majority since the mid-1960s.

PREREQUISITES: Nine credits of lower-level history, which must include HIST 242 or 243; or HIST 370 or HIST 380.

COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S)
(a) Replaces: _____ *(Course #)*
(b) Cannot take: _____ *(Course #)* for further credit.

SERVICE COURSE TO: _____ *(Department/Program)* _____ *(Department/Program)*

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 60

STRUCTURE OF HOURS:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lectures: | 40 | Hrs |
| Seminar: | 20 | Hrs |
| Laboratory: | | Hrs |
| Field Experience: | | Hrs |
| Student Directed Learning: | | Hrs |
| Other (Specify): | | Hrs |

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION
LENGTH OF COURSE: _____
HOURS PER DAY: _____

MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT: **36**
EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERINGS: **Every second year**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only) | ☐ Yes | ☐ No |
| WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department) | ☐ Yes | ☒ No |
| TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE: | ☐ Yes | ☒ No |

AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:

Course Designer(s): Dr. Sylvie Murray/Bob Smith
Chairperson: *(Curriculum Committee)*
Department Head: Dr. Sylvie Murray
Dean: Dr. Eric Davis
UPAC Approval in Principle Date:
UPAC Final Approval Date: March 31, 2006

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES / GOALS / OUTCOMES / LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1) familiarize students with some of the major issues and historical debates relevant to post-1945 US history, including:
   a. US foreign intervention since World War II;
   b. the impact that US foreign policy has had on domestic developments since 1945;
   c. the nature of the postwar economic prosperity and its limitations;
   d. the attempts to challenge the postwar liberal consensus (from the left and the right) and their relative success or failure.
2) introduce historiographical debates in the field
3) enhance students' analytical, communication and historical research skills.

**METHODS:**

Lectures, seminars, and use of audio-visual-material (including films).

**PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):**

Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR (Please check:) ☒ Yes ☐ No

**METHODS OF OBTAINING PLAR:**

Exam.

**TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:**

[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example of texts for this course might be:]

William H. Chafe, Harvard Sitkoff and Beth Bailey, eds. A History of Our Time: Readings on Postwar America, 6th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.

William H. Chafe. The Unfinished Journey: America since World War II, 5th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Coursepack (select articles, essays, and primary documents).

Mary Lynn Rampolla, Pocket Guide to Writing in History, 4th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2004.

**SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:**

None

**STUDENT EVALUATION:**

[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

Book review (week 3): 25%
Research paper:
-journal assignment: 10%
-thesis statement and annotated bibliography: 10%
-paper (10-12 pages): 20%
Final exam: 25%
Participation: 10%

**COURSE CONTENT:**

[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

1) Introduction

2) America's wartime and reconversion experience, and impact on economic, racial and gender roles--the G.I. Bill of Rights as a blueprint for postwar America

3) Rise to superpower status: origins and course of the Cold War; doctrine of containment, nuclear arms race, rise of national security state, the Cuban missile crisis, and détente.

4) Impact of the Cold War at home: anticommunist policies; civil defense and nuclear age culture; shaping of the Cold War liberal consensus and dismantling of the left as an effective challenge to postwar liberalism.

5) The "Affluent Society": Keynesian economic policies, rise of the middle class, homeownership subsidies, unionization, and poverty in the midst of affluence (up to the 1960s).

6) Cultural malaise: the consumerist, suburban, tv culture and its critics (from C. Wright Mills to the Beats, rock and roll, and Betty Friedan).

7) Liberal reforms: the Great Society; civil rights reforms; proposed ERA; the Warren Court decisions from Brown (1954) to Roe (1973).

8) The making of a quagmire in Vietnam and the "law and order" crisis at home: Black Power and urban riots; the anti-war movement; radical feminism; assassinations; Watergate.

9) Further challenges to the status quo: the Chicano, American Indian, and environmental movements.

10) The rise and triumph of "grassroots" conservatism: from Barry Goldwater to Phyllis Schlafly.

11) Reaganomics and the New Poverty.

12) America's new wars: Persian Gulf; wars on crime, drugs, and terror; their impact at home and on American prestige in the world.

13) Conclusion and review for the final exam.