

HUM 14 Course Outline as of Summer 2025**CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: HUM 14 Title: POPULAR CULTURE, USA

Full Title: Popular Culture in the United States

Last Reviewed: 2/24/2020

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly: HUMAN 14

Catalog Description:

This class examines the relationship between individual identity and large-scale historical forces for the creation of popular culture.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:**Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:**Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: This class examines the relationship between individual identity and large-scale historical forces for the creation of popular culture. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities	Spring 1999	
	G	American Cultures/Ethnic Studies		

CSU GE:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	C2	Humanities	Fall 1999	

IGETC:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	3B	Humanities	Fall 1999	

CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1999	Inactive:
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UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1999	Inactive:
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CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Critique the representative elements of popular culture as it relates, interacts, and changes the contemporary culture.
2. Analyze theoretical issues relevant to understanding the dynamic interactions between social class, ethnicity and gender in United States culture.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Relate contemporary cultural expressions to the historical or cultural context of the United States.
2. Critique, analyze, compare and contrast contemporary works in order to weigh arguments, examine values, and integrate materials from several disciplines.
3. Locate information on popular culture through a variety of multimedia sources.

Topics and Scope:

The course may be arranged chronologically or thematically:

- I. Periods in American Culture
- II. Popular Culture through a Variety of Theoretical and Ideological Frameworks (a minimum of four required)
 - A. eco/cultural/socialist feminism
 - B. environmentalism (such as conservation and preservation, evangelical)
 - C. media, advertising, semiotics, branding
 - D. economic, cultural globalization
 - E. colonialism
 - F. religion and spirituality
 - G. literature and the performing arts from music to dance to theater

3. Contemporary Expressions of Popular Culture in Historical Contexts
4. Cultural Expressions of a Variety of Ethnic Groups in the U.S.
5. Cultural Expression or Cultural Participation in the U.S.
 - A. class
 - B. sexual orientation
 - C. gender
 - D. ethnicity

Assignment:

1. Weekly reading and analysis of assigned texts and sources of information including blogs, videos, websites and other electronic media.
2. Visual projects including a final project such as photo essay, photography, drawing or graffiti.
3. Two to six written essays of 1000-1500 words each, requiring the student to analyze representative works of popular culture (that may include assigned and in-class exercises).
4. Quizzes, tests, mid-term(s) and final
5. Participation in cultural activities, including museum visits, concerts, poetry readings, lectures, and (optional) field trips.

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written Essays	Writing 25 - 50%
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Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None	Problem solving 0 - 0%
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Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None	Skill Demonstrations 0 - 0%
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Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes, tests, mid-term(s) and final	Exams 25 - 50%
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Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Visual projects; participation in cultural activities, including museum visits, concerts, poetry readings, lectures, and/or (optional) field trips	Other Category 10 - 25%
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Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Instructor prepared materials consisting of primary and secondary sources.

Potential texts such as, but not limited to:

Black Popular Culture (Discussions in Contemporary Culture). Dent, Gina. New Press. 1998. (classic)

The Cultural Front: The Laboring of American Culture in the Twentieth Century. Denning, Michael. Verso. 1998 (classic)

The Sociology of Culture. Williams, Raymond. University of Chicago Press. 1995 (classic)

Understanding Popular Culture. Fiske, John. Routledge. 1999 (classic)

What is Popular Culture? Storey, John. University of Georgia Press. 2008 (classic)