

Typical General Education Courses Available for First Year Students

Basic Communication

Speech 130 – Public Speaking

Description:

This course prepares students in the following areas of effective expository and persuasive public speaking: audience analysis; topic selection; appropriate use and documentation of supporting material; organization and outlining techniques; aspects of delivery which include appropriate eye contact, posture, use of notes, elements of voice such as rate and volume, and the use of presentational visual aids. Group discussion and problem solving exercises will also be provided, and students will engage in peer feedback throughout the course.

English 101 – Composition 1 – College Writing

Description:

This is the first part of a required sequence in college essay writing. Students learn to view writing as a process that involves generating ideas, formulating and developing a thesis, structuring paragraphs and essays, as well as revising and editing drafts. The focus is on the development of critical and analytical thinking. Students also learn the correct and ethical use of print and electronic sources. At least one research paper is required. A grade of C or higher is a graduation requirement.

American History:

History 121 – U.S. History to Reconstruction (regular section)

Description:

A discussion of the development of the US from its English background through Reconstruction, shows that a new civilization arose out of revolution, independence, new governmental institutions, and egalitarianism, and illustrating the results of the westward movement and the causes and consequences of the Civil War.

History 122 – U.S. History Since Reconstruction (regular section)

Description:

A historical evaluation of American society, assessing Reconstruction, immigration, the nature of Imperialism, Progressivism, World War I and II, the Cold war, and contemporary American life.

Western Civilizations:

History 114 – Western Civilization I (regular section)

Description:

A brief survey of ancient and medieval civilizations, followed by extensive treatment of the ascendancy of early modern Western civilization, together with its social, economic, and political revolutions, from 1500 through the Napoleonic era.

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History 115 – Western Civilization II (regular section)

Description:

Traces the spread of Western civilization, from the Congress of Vienna to the modern world, by examining the impact of the forces of romanticism, nationalism, industrialism, and intellectual creativity

Other World History

History 117 – World Civilization I (regular section)

Description:

A survey of major non-Western civilizations and their interaction with one another, as well as with the European West from antiquity up through the Early Modern Period. The course will explore ancient polytheistic traditions, the foundations of major world religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam), and the rise of Christianity as a global faith. It will also address non-Western social, political, and economic systems in East Asia, South Asia, the Muslim World, Sub-Saharan Africa, and pre-Columbian America.

History 118 – World Civilization II (regular section)

Description:

A survey of the developing world and its interaction with the West since 1700. The course will explore the chaotic effects of the non-Western world's interaction with European imperial powers, the United States, and Soviet Union, focusing on social, economic, cultural, and political change in East Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America. The major themes of the course will center on imperialism, nationalism, modernization, the World Wars, and the Cold War.

Geography 211 – The World and Its Peoples

Description:

This course is an exploration of the rich diversity of cultures and societies of the contemporary world, as well as an introduction to world geography and how it has shaped major developments global history. Critical readings of recent ethnography will be used to examine themes such as ethnicity and migration, rural life and traditionalism, and family and kinship. Students will also be familiarized with the growth of cities, demographic changes, the development of a leisure culture, and attitudes towards work as we survey the major world regions (Southern Asia, the Pacific Rim, Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa and the Middle East, the Americas, Europe, and Oceania). Furthermore, we will examine the interaction between humans and their physical environment, interrogate the role of language on national identity among peoples, and trace the evolution of world religions.

Social and Behavioral Science

Economics 156 – Principles of Macroeconomics

Description:

A macroeconomic study of the household, business, and government sectors of the American economy, supply-demand analysis, and an overview of national income accounting, business cycles, and the nature and effect of monetary and fiscal policies.

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Economics 157 – Principles of Microeconomics

Description:

Discusses the American economy in microeconomic terms, the operation of supply, demand, and elasticity, marginal utility and indifference curve analysis, the business firm in competition and monopoly, and the economic and political significance of shifting currents in the nation's balance-of-payments and balance-of-trade transactions.

Politics 105 – Introduction to Politics

Description:

This course introduces students to the study of politics and to the discipline known as Political Science. Focusing on fundamental concepts of power and authority, the course will examine topics central to each of the main subfields of Political Science: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Philosophy. It will also explore some contemporary issues and debates that captivate US politics.

Politics 250 – American National Government

Description:

Explains the operation of the executive, legislative, and judicial functions in the American system of national government, and illustrates the meaning of federalism, the essentiality of civil liberties, and the role of political parties and other interest groups in a democracy.

Psychology 101 – Introduction to Psychology

Description:

This course is designed to present basic psychological concepts and to introduce students to the scientific study of behavior. Core topics include methods of psychological research, the biological basis of behavior, principles of learning, personality, and psychopathology. Other selected topics to be covered would include the following: motivation and emotion, life-span development, social psychology, health psychology, sensation and perception, memory and cognition, intelligence, human sexuality, statistics and altered states of consciousness.

Sociology 122 – Introduction to Sociology

Description:

This is an introductory course designed to help the student develop insights into human social interaction in terms of the group, across groups and the impact that group has on individuals. We study sociological concepts and theories and apply them to key aspects of our lives and society (such as culture, family, education, work, media, stratification, and social change).