COURSE DETAIL

THE AMERICAN ESSAY: INTRODUCTION TO CALIFORNIA STUDIES
Country France
Host Institution University of Bordeaux
Program(s) University of Bordeaux
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) History English
UCEAP Course Number 114
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title THE AMERICAN ESSAY: INTRODUCTION TO CALIFORNIA STUDIES
UCEAP Transcript Title AMERICAN ESSAY
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

This course introduces the field of California Studies in its plurality, combining elements of literary and film studies, notions and texts from civilization studies, as well as cultural studies. Starting from the question of what constitutes a “Studies” discipline, it then examines specific works and documents – literature, film, essays, and poetry – that provide insight into the specificities of California culture and its representation. Sometimes trivialized, California has a significant place in the spheres of cultural, artistic, and economic development which has had a vast impact on not only American but also Western and global cultures. Californian representations and themes are often a perfect paradox of dominant and subcultural elements, and the course explores several works and aspects of this construction. As such, it is a perfect laboratory through which to ask broader questions about culture and cultural productions. Authors studied range from Richard Henry Dana to Kem Nunn to Frederick Kohner, and films include titles such as the independent film Humboldt County (2008). In keeping with the Puissance du mode minor thematic, not only odes the course explore this smaller Studies discipline but it also looks at alternative positions in the examination of the works discussed. Students are also encouraged to explore works or concepts linked to the topic and to relate them to their own fields of emerging specialization. This is a seminar rather than a lecture, and active participation in discussions and various activities is expected.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
1MIAM55

Host Institution Course Title
THE AMERICAN ESSAY: INTRODUCTION TO CALIFORNIA STUDIES

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

UNIVERSITE BORDEAUX MONTAIGNE

Host Institution Faculty
UFR LANGUES

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
ANGLAIS

Course Last Reviewed
2024-2025

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