

COURSE DETAIL

RHETORICS OF CONTINUITY AND CHANGE: A SURVEY OF AMERICAN CULTURAL HISTORY

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Free University of Berlin

Program(s)

Free University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

History American Studies

UCEAP Course Number

150

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

RHETORICS OF CONTINUITY AND CHANGE: A SURVEY OF AMERICAN CULTURAL HISTORY

UCEAP Transcript Title

AMERICN CULTRL HIST

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course provides an extended overview of American cultural history ranging from the period of British settlement in the 17th century to contemporary issues in US society. Students read influential texts (speeches, legal documents, essays, etc.) by authors such as John Cotton, Thomas Jefferson, Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, Martin Luther King, Betty Friedan, and Ta-Nehisi Coates. Throughout the readings, the class explores public rhetoric as a key factor shaping the cultural trajectory of the United States. After a brief introduction to basic methodologies of cultural analysis, students investigate the rhetorical, structural, and discursive features of the primary texts through close readings. The course explores select representations from the fields of visual culture, art, and film, and a selection of key terms that are essential for understanding the evolution of American public discourse and intellectual history.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

32100

Host Institution Course Title

RHETORICS OF CONTINUITY AND CHANGE: A SURVEY OF AMERICAN CULTURAL HISTORY

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.fu-berlin.de/vv/en/lv/989830?m=361251&pc=701222&sm=934771>

Host Institution Campus**Host Institution Faculty**

Host Institution Degree**Host Institution Department**

John-F-Kennedy-Institut für Nordamerikastudien

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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