

ANG 1023

Contemporary American Culture

Autumn 2022

Professor:

Sorel Friedman *3M National Teaching Fellow (2008)*

sorel.friedman@umontreal.ca

Schedule*:

Wednesday 9h-12h

September 7 – December 14, 2022

Room:

TBA

PRELIMINARY COURSE DESCRIPTION

*This course is presented in a **HYBRID** format. See dates and instructions below.



This course is designed to introduce students to major elements of the culture of the United States in the period from 1945 to the present. Texts, discussions, audio-visual and multimedia materials will focus primarily on the social and cultural changes in the United States following the Second World War. Themes to be studied may include the various social changes of the fifties, the Civil Rights Movement, the counter-cultural movements of the sixties, the rise of the "second-wave" of feminism in the late sixties and seventies, and the current "culture war" debates surrounding abortion and gun rights.

In addition, because 2022 is a midterm election year, we will be following the election results so that students will be able to understand the electoral process in the United States.

By the end of the course, the student will have acquired a better general understanding of social institutions and attitudes in the United States.

EVALUATION:

This course requires your close participation and attendance. The course also has an important on-line component as well, to be delivered via StudiUM.

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------|---|
| Personal projects (3) | 60% | (To be explained in first class) |
| Final Exam | 40% | |

| WEEKLY SCHEDULE - subject to modification | |
|--|--|
| September 7 | Introduction to the course – IN PERSON |
| September 14 | THEME ONE: “ <i>CONTEMPORARY</i> ” – IN PERSON |
| September 21 | ZOOM CLASS |
| September 28 | Asynchronous class |
| October 5 | ZOOM CLASS – EVALUATION 1 |
| October 12 | THEME TWO: “ <i>AMERICAN</i> ” – IN PERSON |
| October 19 | ZOOM CLASS |
| October 26 | MIDTERM BREAK – READING WEEK |
| November 2 | Asynchronous class |
| <i>November 8 (Tuesday)</i> | <i>ELECTION NIGHT – midterm elections</i> |
| November 9 | THE ELECTION – results and discussion ZOOM CLASS - EVALUATION 2 |
| Nov 16 | THEME THREE: “ <i>CULTURE</i> ” – IN PERSON |
| Nov 23 | Asynchronous class |
| Nov 30 | ZOOM CLASS |
| Dec 7 | Review, questions, and discussion – ZOOM CLASS - EVALUATION 3 |
| Dec 14 | Final Exam IN PERSON |

DEFINITIONS:

IN PERSON: Teacher and students meet in the classroom at the scheduled time.

ZOOM CLASS: Teacher and students meet in the ZOOM CLASSROOM (Online); possibility of working in groups, inviting guests, etc. A ZOOM link will be provided before the first class.

Asynchronous class: Material will be provided for you on StudiUM. You are required to complete the material (readings, videos, etc.) during the week. You can organize your time as you wish, but the material must be completed within the indicated week. You are responsible for this material, as it may be evaluated during the final exam.