



COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Information about the programme

1.1 Higher Education Institution	Babes-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	European Studies Faculty
1.3 Department	International Relations and German Studies
1.4 Field of study	International Relations and European Studies
1.5 Study level	MA
1.6 Programme of study/ Qualification	Transatlantic Studies

2. Information about the discipline

2.1 Module	American History and Civilization						
2.2 Course holder	Lecturer Gabriel Gherasim PhD						
2.3 Seminar holder	Lecturer Gabriel Gherasim PhD						
2.4 Year of study	1	2.5 Semester	2	2.6. Type of assessment ¹	E.	2.7 Type of module ²	OB

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 No. of hours per week	2	3.1 of which for course	1	3.3 of which for seminar	1
3.4 Total no. of hours in the curriculum	28	3.5 of which for course	14	3.6 of which for seminar	14
Time distribution:					11
Study by using handbook, reader, bibliography and course notes					2
Additional library/specialised online research, field research					1
Preparation of seminars/laboratories, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					2
Tutoring					2
Examinations					1
Other activities:					
3.7 Total no. of hours for individual study	3				
3.8 Total no. of hours per semester	28				
3.9 No. of ETCS credit points	5				

4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1 of curriculum	• none
4.2 of competencies	• none

¹ E - exam, ME - multi-term examinations, C - collocutional examination/assessment test

² OB - core module, OP - elective module, F - extracurricular module

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1 For the development of the course	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• none
5.2 For the development of the seminar/laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• none

6. Specific skills acquired

Professional skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding the historical evolution of the United States of America• Correlating historical events to civilization processes• Arguing for the exceptional character of American history and civilization• Understanding why and how the American civilization model has remained exemplary for the model of Western civilization
Interdisciplinary skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting deadlines and carrying out tasks rigorously, efficiently and responsibly, by respecting the ethical principles of scientific research and correctly applying citation rules• Applying team building techniques; developing interpersonal communication, negotiation and diplomatic skills and taking on specific roles during team work on specific case studies

7. Course objectives (based on list of acquired skills)

7.1 General objective	The course's fundamental goal is that of explaining how the US historical contexts and events have shaped an exceptional model of civilization; it also makes an analysis of the ways in which the American model of civilization has played a crucial role in modern and postmodern international relations.
7.2 Specific objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. familiarizing students with the general outline of the evolution of American history and civilization2. analyzing the ways in which the American civilization has pervasively influenced democratic and emancipator processes all over the world.

8. Contents

8.1 Lecture	Teaching methods	Observations
1. The beginnings of the American adventure and the development of early colonies (from the first Atlantic explorers to the founding of Pennsylvania)	Interactive lecture	
2. The political and cultural life of the colonies: forms of government and peculiarities (throughout the 17th century)	Interactive lecture	
3. The Great Awakening and its consequences (until the early events leading to the American revolution)	Interactive lecture	
4. The American War of Independence	Interactive lecture	
5. The Constitution and the creation of the American federation of states (until the war of 1812 and the Treaty of Ghent)	Interactive lecture	

6. The political, economic and cultural situation of the USA before the Civil War (1815-1850)	Interactive lecture	
7. The Civil War period (until the second congressional reconstruction)	Interactive lecture	
8. Post-reconstruction, industry, and crisis in America, 1870-1912. War with Spain	Interactive lecture	
9. The First World War	Interactive lecture	
10. Inter-war America. Wilsonianism, The Great Crash, and New Deal Reforms	Interactive lecture	
11. The Second World War	Interactive lecture	
12. American History and Civilization during the Cold War, 1945-1991	Interactive lecture	
13. America at the end of the 20 th century and after 9/11	Interactive lecture	
14. General overview. Revisiting the fundamental traits of American history and civilization	Interactive lecture	
Bibliography: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beard, Charles A. and Beard, Mary R., <i>History of the United States</i>, New York: The Macmillan Company, 1921; 2. Geise, Robert D., <i>American History to 1877</i>, New York: Barren's Educational Series, 1992; 3. Johnson, Paul, <i>A History of the American People</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1997; 4. Lundestad, Geir, <i>The United States and Western Europe since 1945</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2003; 5. Reeves, Thomas C., <i>Twentieth-Century America. A Brief History</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000; 6. Remini, Robert V., <i>A Short History of the United States</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2008; 7. Whitfield, Stephen J. (ed.), <i>A Companion to 20th Century America</i>, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2004; 8. Zinn, Howard, <i>A People's History of the United States, 1492-Present</i>, New York: Harper & Row Publishers, 1980. 		

8.2 Seminar / Laboratory	Teaching methods	Observations
<p>Week 1. McMaster, John B., <i>A Brief History of the United States</i>, Blackmask Online, 2002, ch. I-III, pp. 3-19; Remini, Robert V., <i>A Short History of the United States</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2008, pp. 1-13; Beard, Charles A. and Beard, Mary R., <i>History of the United States</i>, New York: The Macmillan Company, 1921, Part I, ch. I, pp. 1-19</p> <p>Week 2. Geise, Robert D., <i>American History to 1877</i>, New York: Barren's Educational Series, 1992, Theme 2, pp. 8-19; Remini, Robert V., <i>A Short History of the United States</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2008, pp. 13-30</p> <p>Week 3. Johnson, Paul, <i>A History of the American People</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1997, pp. 81-86; Calloway, Colin G., <i>The Scratch of a Pen. 1763 and the Transformation of North America</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2006, pp. 19-46</p> <p>Week 4. Marston, Daniel, <i>The American Revolution 1774-1783</i>, Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 2002, pp. 8-90</p> <p>Week 5.</p>	Text readings and interpretations	

<p>Beard, Charles A. and Beard, Mary R., <i>History of the United States</i>, New York: The Macmillan Company, 1921, pp. 139-185; Geise, Robert D., <i>American History to 1877</i>, New York: Barren's Educational Series, 1992, pp. 46-63</p> <p>Week 6. Johnson, Paul, <i>A History of the American People</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1997, pp. 191-281; Remini, Robert V., <i>A Short History of the United States</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2008, pp. 95-126</p> <p>Week 7. Gallagher, Gary W., Engle, Stephen D., Krick, Robert K. & Glatthaar, Joseph T., <i>The American Civil War</i>, Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 2003, pp. 17-79, 101-145, 160-223, 236-290, 308-313</p> <p>Week 8. Johnson, Paul, <i>A History of the American People</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1997, pp. 338-412; McMaster, John B., <i>A Brief History of the United States</i>, Blackmask Online, 2002, pp. 192-214; Whitfield, Stephen J. (ed.), <i>A Companion to 20th Century America</i>, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2004, pp. 3-18</p> <p>Week 9. Reeves, Thomas C., <i>Twentieth-Century America. A Brief History</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 61-80; Remini, Robert V., <i>A Short History of the United States</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2008, pp. 199-205; Whitfield, Stephen J. (ed.), <i>A Companion to 20th Century America</i>, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2004, pp. 19-27</p> <p>Week 10. Whitfield, Stephen J. (ed.), <i>A Companion to 20th Century America</i>, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2004, pp. 28-53; Remini, Robert V., <i>A Short History of the United States</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2008, pp. 215-230; Johnson, Paul, <i>A History of the American People</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1997, pp. 466-506; Reeves, Thomas C., <i>Twentieth-Century America. A Brief History</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 81-118</p> <p>Week 11. Remini, Robert V., <i>A Short History of the United States</i>, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2008, pp. 231-244; Whitfield, Stephen J. (ed.), <i>A Companion to 20th Century America</i>, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2004, pp. 54-70; Reeves, Thomas C., <i>Twentieth-Century America. A Brief History</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 119-138</p> <p>Week 12. Whitfield, Stephen J. (ed.), <i>A Companion to 20th Century America</i>, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2004, pp. 71-122; Reeves, Thomas C., <i>Twentieth-Century America. A Brief History</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 139-276; Lundestad, Geir, <i>The United States and Western Europe since 1945</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2003, pp. 27-248</p> <p>Week 13. Lundestad, Geir, <i>The United States and Western Europe since 1945</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 2003, pp. 249-294;</p>		
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Whitfield, Stephen J. (ed.), <i>A Companion to 20th Century America</i> , Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2004, pp. 123-140; Reeves, Thomas C., <i>Twentieth-Century America. A Brief History</i> , New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 277-300; Remini, Robert V., <i>A Short History of the United States</i> , New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2008, pp. 305-336 Week 14. General overview of bibliography		
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9. The correspondence between the content of the course and the expectations of the academic community, professional associations and representative employers in the field:

Various professional organizations and communities could benefit from graduates' understanding and application of those practices that have shaped the Western civilization in general, under the impact of the American experience.

10. Assessment

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Percentage of the final grade
10.4 Course	Based on course lectures, the master students will understand the history and civilization processes in the US and its impact all over the world.	Research paper	70%
10.5 Seminar	The students will analyze and interpret one bibliographical text which forms the basis of the final research paper to be handed in at the end of the semester.	Oral presentation and discussions	30%
10.6 Minimum standard of performance			
Obtaining the minimal passing grade, 5.			

Date

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Course holder signature

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Seminar holder signature

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Date of departmental approval

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Head of department signature

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