

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
5210 Grand Avenue
P. O. Box 3649
Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649
479-788-7000

General Syllabus

HIST 3473 United States History, 1945-Present

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

The political, economic, social, and diplomatic development of the United States since 1945.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze the history, society, and foreign relations of the United States during the period since 1945, identifying, discussing, and comparing recurrent and variable concepts and themes.
2. Define the concept of the Cold War.
3. Evaluate the evolution of the branches of government since 1945.
4. Describe America's military actions since 1945.
5. Describe American involvement in the Middle East, Latin America, and Asia.
6. Describe the impact of technology on American society since World War II.
7. Use tools of historical analysis to recover, research, and write about the American past.
8. Evaluate the complexity of both change and continuity over time in American society and culture.
9. Identify the influence of historical interpretation and historiographical schools of thought, as they relate to the history of the United States since 1945.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will examine how events and ideas in American history have evolved, as well as to determine the contributions of Americans to the world community in the second half of the twentieth century. Students will demonstrate their understanding of these factors in exams and research projects.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will use the essay format for written presentation of research projects and for exams. Students will participate in class discussions related to Twentieth Century American history to enhance their ability to answer essay exam questions.

Analytical Skills**Critical Thinking Skills**

Students will synthesize materials from various sources to complete research projects and construct answers to essay examination questions. Students will learn to determine historical significance and demonstrate this ability in research projects and exams.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Cold War
- B. Vietnam War
- C. Great Society
- D. Civil Rights Movement
- E. Women's Movement
- F. Counter-culture movement
- G. Watergate
- H. America and the Middle East
- I. U.S./Latin American relations
- J. Rise of Conservatism
- K. Terrorism
- L. Technology