

Module code: MOD000710	Version: 2 Date Amended: 23/Jan/2020
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1. Module Title
The Growth of the USA: Race, Politics and Conflict, 1776-1900

2a. Module Leader
Rohan McWilliam

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
5

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	None		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

A survey course on the development of the USA, 1776-1900, which is designed to allow students to study in outline the major events, concepts and issues which shaped American culture in this period. Students will encounter great leaders such as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln but they will also examine the debate over the meaning of the Constitution, the creation of the American political system, the significance of the frontier and westward expansion in American history, the roots of feminism, and the role of race and ethnicity (particularly the issue of slavery). Much of the course is taken up with the causes and consequences of the American Civil War, which tore the nation in two. The latter part of the course will consider the ways in which the United States was on the verge of superpower status by 1900. The course is taught by a combination of lectures and seminars. Teamwork and oral skills are promoted through group discussion during seminars, and this helps to prepare students for employment as it encourages interaction with colleagues. The problem solving skills developed will be transferable both to other modules and to future employment.

6b. Outline Content

Indicative Topics: - The American Revolution - The US Constitution - The First Party System: Federalist versus Jeffersonian Republicans - Andrew Jackson and the Second Party System - The Wild West and Native Americans - Slavery and anti-Slavery - The American Civil War - Reconstruction after the Civil War - The Gilded Age - Protest Movements

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)

No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate familiarity with the main political and economic events of the period.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a basic comprehension of the culture and institutions of the United States and their development over the time period.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Show an awareness of the problems identified by historians of the United States in studying this period.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Show flexible and creative approaches to problem solving.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	12	1-4	1 Hour Lecture per week.
Other teacher managed learning	12	1-4	1 Hour Seminar per week.
Student managed learning	126	1-4	126 hours: students will need to organise their own extensive and intensive reading and critical use of web-based information.
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay: 2000 word essay.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Examination	1-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Exam: 1 hour.					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above**
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements**

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]