

0465 Thomas College U.S. History

Category: Social Studies **Grade:** 11-12 **No. of trimesters:** 3 **Credits:** 1

PREREQUISITE: CUMULATIVE AVERAGE OF 85 OR GREATER. This course is designed to expose students to the history of the United States from the formulation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights through the early twenty first century. Utilizing a thematic approach, students will explore powerful forces and critical junctures in our country's history that helped shape the political and social institutions of America. A focus unit on civics and U.S. Government will also be integrated throughout the year.

A central objective of this course is to promote critical thinking, i.e., drawing conclusions about key historical events and issues based on evidence and reasoned argument. Additionally, by the end of the course successful students will be able to:

Outline major events in U.S. History such as empire and expansion, causes and effects of war, American economics (depression, recession, inflation, stagflation, government control), political and social movements; historical trends and cycles.

Demonstrate an understanding of contemporary American democracy and other cultural values from a historical perspective;

Demonstrate an understanding of continuity and change in the American political system;

Analyze historical information and make reasoned arguments based on factual evidence;

Apply historical lessons to current notions of good government and citizenship.

Successful completion of this course will qualify students to earn 3 college credits granted through Thomas College.

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

1617 Atrocities of the 20th Century

Category: Social Studies **Grade:** 10-12 **No. of trimesters:** 1 **Credits:** 0.333

Genocide is widespread murder and other acts committed by governments or other groups with the intent to eliminate a national, racial, religious or ethnic group. It is estimated that forty million people were victims of genocide in the twentieth century. This trimester course will examine the precipitating causes, happenings and dynamics leading to atrocities in Europe, Africa and Asia. Potential case studies during the trimester include the Holocaust, Rwanda and Cambodia. The course will use film, novels, individual research and provided readings to explore each case.

1599 Street Law

Category: Social Studies **Grade:** 11-12 **No. of trimesters:** 1 **Credits:** 0.333

Street Law is designed to provide students with a practical understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities and knowledge of current issues and controversies relating to law and the legal system. Additionally, the course will seek to improve the students' basic skills in critical thinking and reasoning, communication and problem solving.