

Course title: American Cultural Studies II

Course code: SA0821

Type of course: compulsory

Level of course: BA

Year of study: 1st

Semester: 2nd

Number of ECTS credits allocated: 5

Name of the lecturer: Irina Chirica

Course objective: The course, held in English (with explanations in Romanian, whenever necessary), is meant to familiarize first-year students with basic data and interpretations in the field of American culture. The lecturer intends to observe an interactive methodology, which allows students to ask questions and come up with their own comments and pieces of knowledge during lectures.

Course contents: The course studies characteristic elements of American culture, such as the national character, the development of customs and mores, the development of an urban versus a rural culture, pop culture versus high brow, the development of sports, mass-media and entertainment (the Hollywood phenomenon). Special attention will be given to the geography of the United States. For tests, students shall make use of information acquired during lectures, as well as of data extracted from recommended bibliography.

Recommended reading: Chirica, Irina, 1999, *America, The Portrait of a Civilisation*. Iași: Editura Timpul; Fulbrook, Mary, 2002, *Historical Theory: Ways of Imagining the Past*. NY: Routledge; Kean Alasdair & Neal Campbell, 1998, *American Cultural Studies, An Introduction to American Culture*. New York: Routledge; Maddox, Lucy, ed., 1999. *Locating American Studies*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins; Warren Catherine, 2002. *American Cultural Studies*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press

Teaching methods: lectures, workshops

Assessment methods: homeworks; final (written) test

Language of instruction: English