

SYLLABUS

SUBJECT: CULTURE OF ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES - UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (CLASSES)

TEACHER: DR MAŁGORZATA MARTYNUSKA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of the course is to present a detailed account of significant aspects of American society and examine factors which influence American life, including e.g. the geography of the country, the structure and workings of the government, and the origins of the people. The course also enhances students' language fluency, especially reading and speaking skills.

Topics covered:

The National Symbols of the USA (flag, anthem)
Geography (climate, land and settlement).
American Society (Native Americans, ethnic minorities).
Immigrants and Acculturation Theories
The Federal Government and Constitution
The Executive Branch (Presidency).
The Legislative Branch (Congress)
The Judiciary Branch (Legal system)
Political Parties and Elections.
The Media (Newspapers, Radio, and Television).
Economy and Agriculture
Religion.
Education.
American National Celebrations
Tests on the USA.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student should be able to present basic aspects of the American civilization and make simple analysis concerning American society and government institutions.

GRADING POLICY

Grading based on test results and class participation.

TIMETABLE:

2 hrs a week

TEXTBOOK AND REQUIRED MATERIALS

Bromhead, P., *Life in Modern America*, Longman, Harlow, 1992.
Falk, R., *Spotlight on the USA*, Oxford University Press, New York, 1993.
Fiedler, E., Jansen, R., Norman-Risch, M., *America in Close-up*, Longman, Harlow, 1990.
Garwood, Ch., Gardani, G., Peris, E., *Aspects of Britain and the USA*, OUP, 1992.
Jurczyński, T., *Dictionary of the USA*, WSiP, 1995.
Kirn, E., *About the USA*, US Department of State, 1989.
Schroeder, R.C., Glick, N., *An Outline of American Government*, USIA, 1990.
Smolinski, F., *Celebrate! Holidays in the USA*, USIA, 1993.
Stevenson, D.K., *American Life and Institutions*, Ernst Klett Verlag, Stuttgart, 1997.

Tiersky, E. and M., *The USA – Customs and Institutions*, Prentice Hall Regents, 1990.

PREREQUISITES:

Language fluency – at least upper-intermediate level.