



FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND TRANSLATION
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHINESE-ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION
LEARNING MODULE OUTLINE

Academic Year	2023/2024	Semester	2
Module Code	HIST2102-221/222		
Learning Module	American Society and Culture		
Pre-requisite(s)	Nil		
Medium of Instruction	English		
Credits	2	Contact Hours	30 hrs
Instructor	Marco Pohl	Email	t1115@mpu.edu.mo
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MODULE DESCRIPTION

This learning module is designed to allow students to critically explore major aspects of American society and culture through discussion of key issues, the examination of a variety of media, and cross-cultural activities. The aim of the module is to provoke cross-cultural thinking by not only improving students' understanding of the American people but also reflecting on the similarities and differences between the society and culture of the United States and that of Macau and China. In the process, students will also develop an understanding of American idiomatic speech and recognize dialect differences which show the diversity of the American population.

MODULE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILOS)

On completion of this learning module, students will be able to:

M1.	recognize and familiar with basic aspects of the American civilization;
M2.	understand and make simple analysis on different aspects of American society and government institutions;
M3.	appreciate rich American traditions and culture, as well as understand American values, and ways of life;
M4.	use English language skills to talk about modern American society and popular culture as well as the differences between American culture and their own culture(s).

These ILOs aims to enable students to attain the following Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs):

PILOs	M1	M2	M3	M4
P1. Knowledge and skills of translation and interpreting in the areas of public administration, tourism, commerce and mass	✓	✓		✓



media;				
P2. Knowledge of translation theories, critical understanding of translation and interpreting;	✓	✓	✓	✓
P3. Knowledge and skills of both Chinese and English as language professionals;	✓	✓	✓	✓
P4. Knowledge of cross-cultural communication;	✓		✓	
P5. Master Chinese-English translation and interpreting skills, strategies and technologies;			✓	
P6. Apply Chinese and English writing competence into translation practices;				
P7. Apply knowledge of languages and translation studies into bi-lateral translation practices between English and Chinese;		✓	✓	✓
P8. Apply strategies and techniques in public speaking, consecutive and simultaneous interpreting;		✓	✓	✓
P9. Gain cross-cultural awareness in translation and interpreting practices;		✓	✓	✓
P10. Obtain basic research abilities.				

MODULE SCHEDULE, COVERAGE AND STUDY LOAD

Week	Content Coverage	Contact Hours
1	Introduction and the Geographic Diversity of the US	2
2	Traditional American Values and Beliefs	2
3	The Heritage of American Abundance	2
4	The Frontier History and Heritage of the US	2
5	The American Business Environment	2
6	The American Immigrant Experience and the American Dream	2
7	Race in America	2
8	Mid-term	2
9	Race and American Culture	2
10	The American Political Structure	2
11	Politics and the American People	2
12	American Family Life	2
13	American Educational Principles	2
14	Sports and Leisure	2
15	Final Exam	2



TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

In this learning module, students will work towards attaining the ILOs through the following teaching and learning activities:

Teaching and Learning Activities	M1	M2	M3	M4
T1. Lectures and group discussions	✓	✓	✓	✓
T2. In-class workshops	✓	✓	✓	✓
T3. Knowledge- based assignments and tests	✓	✓	✓	✓

ATTENDANCE

Attendance requirements are governed by the Academic Regulations Governing Bachelor's Degree Programmes of the Macao Polytechnic University. Students who do not meet the attendance requirements for the learning module shall be awarded an 'F' grade.

ASSESSMENT

In this learning module, students are required to complete the following assessment activities:

Assessment Activities	Weighting (%)	ILOs to be Assessed
A1. Quizzes	15%	M1-M4
A2. Review Sessions	15%	M1-M4
A3. Mid-term	30%	M1-M4
A4. Final exam	40%	M1-M4

The assessment will be conducted following the University's Assessment Strategy (see www.mpu.edu.mo/teaching_learning/en/assessment_strategy.php). Passing this learning module indicates that students will have attained the ILOs of this learning module and thus acquired its credits.

MARKING SCHEME

Excellent: Strong evidence of original thinking; good organisation, capacity to analyse and systemise; superior grasps of subject matter; strong evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Very Good: Evidence of grasps of subject; strong evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; good understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Good: Evidence of grasp of subject; some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Satisfactory: Profiting from the study experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.



Pass: Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the learning module.

Fail: Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weak in critical and analytical skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

REQUIRED READINGS

The reading materials will be provided by the lecturer.

REFERENCES

Althen, G. (2011). *American Ways: A Cultural Guide to the United States (3rd ed.)*. Intercultural Press.

Campbell, N., & Kean, A. (2016). *American Cultural Studies: An Introduction to American Culture (4th ed.)*. Routledge.

Datesman, M., Crandall, J., & Kearny, E. N. (2014). *American Ways: An Introduction to American Culture (4th ed.)*. Pearson.

STUDENT FEEDBACK

At the end of every semester, students are invited to provide feedback on the learning module and the teaching arrangement through questionnaires. Your feedback is valuable for instructors to enhance the module and its delivery for future students. The instructor and programme coordinators will consider all feedback and respond with actions formally in the annual programme review.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Macao Polytechnic University requires students to have full commitment to academic integrity when engaging in research and academic activities. Violations of academic integrity, which include but are not limited to plagiarism, collusion, fabrication or falsification, repeated use of assignments and cheating in examinations, are considered as serious academic offenses and may lead to disciplinary actions. Students should read the relevant regulations and guidelines in the Student Handbook which is distributed upon the admission into the University, a copy of which can also be found at www.mpu.edu.mo/student_handbook/.