

Study Plan
MASTER in AMERICAN STUDIES
(Thesis Track)

Plan Number 2013

First : GENERAL RULES & CONDITIONS:

1. This plan conforms to the valid regulations of the programs of graduate studies.
2. Areas of specialty of admission in this program:
 - A. Holders of the Bachelor's degree in all fields of knowledge

Second : SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

1. English will be the programme teaching language.
2. An Interview: 10% of the grade.

Third : STUDY PLAN: Studying 33 credit hours as follows:

1. Obligatory Courses: 18 credit hours:

Course No.	Course Title	Credit Hours	Theory	Prac	Prerequisite
3003701	History of the United States	3	3	--	---
3003702	American Philosophy and Literature	3	3	--	---
3003703	American Political System	3	3	--	---
3003704	American Economic System	3	3	--	---
3003705	American Foreign Policy	3	3	--	---
3002701	Research Methodologies in international studies	3	3	--	---

2. Elective Courses: 6 credit hours from the following:

Course No.	Course Title	Credit Hours	Theory	Prac	Prerequisite
3003706	American Social System	3	3	--	---
3003707	American and the Arab World	3	3	--	---
3003708	American Human Geography	3	3	--	---
3003709	Pressure Groups in the United States	3	3	--	---
3003710	American Culture	3	3	--	---
3003711	America and the world	3	3	--	---
3003712	American Media	3	3	--	---

- American : refer to the United States of America.

3. Thesis: 9 credit hours (3003799).

الخطة الدراسية المزمعة

Study Plan
MASTER in AMERICAN STUDIES
(Non Thesis Track)

Plan Number 2013

First : GENERAL RULES & CONDITIONS:

1. This plan conforms to the valid regulations of the programs of graduate studies.
2. Areas of specialty for admission in this program:
 - A. Holders of the Bachelor's degree in any field of knowledge

Second : SPECIAL CONDITIONS :

1. English will be the programme's teaching language.
2. An Interview: 10% of the grade.

Third : STUDY PLAN: Studying (33) credit hours as follows:

1. Obligatory Courses: (24) credit hours:

Course No	Course Title	Credit Hours	Theory	Prac	Prerequisite
3003701	History of the United States	3	3	--	---
3003702	American Philosophy and Literature	3	3	--	---
3003703	American Political System	3	3	--	---
3003704	American Economic System	3	3	--	---
3003705	American Foreign Policy	3	3	--	---
3003707	America and the Arab World	3	3	--	---
3003712	American Media	3	3	--	---
3002701	Research Methodologies in International Studies	3	3	--	---

2. Elective Courses: 9 credit hours from the following:

Course No	Course Title	Credit Hours	Theory	Prac	Prerequisite
3003706	American Social System	3	3	--	---
3003708	American Human Geography	3	3	--	---
3003709	Pressure Groups in the United States	3	3	--	---
3003710	American Culture	3	3	--	---
3003711	America and the World	3	3	--	---
3003713	Special Subject*	3	3	--	---
3003714	Religions in America	3	3	--	---

*Not to be repeated, even if the subjects vary
- American : refer to the United States of America.

3. A comprehensive exam (3003798)

الخطة الدراسية النهائية

M.A. in American Studies

Course Descriptions

(3003701) History of the United States (3 Credit Hours)

This course, taught primarily in a lecture format, offers a broad chronological survey of American history. The first half of the course focuses on the origins and development of Colonial North America, the American Revolution, the Early National period, the Jacksonian era, the coming of the Civil War, and the Civil War and Reconstruction eras. The second half of the course focuses on the post-1877 period: the Gilded Age, the progressive era, the 1920s, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War era, and recent America.

(3003702) American Philosophy and Literature (3 Credit Hours)

This intensive reading and writing course provides a comprehensive introduction to the study of American fiction, poetry and drama. Focusing on representative works of literature and literary criticism, the course examines the evolution of the American literary scene from its colonial origins to the experimental forms and deconstructionist critiques of the 1990s. The first half of the course considers the works of early writers such as Cooper, Hawthorne, Emerson, Poe, Melville, Twain, Dickinson, Stowe, Whitman, and Howells. The second half focuses on 20th century writers such as Dreiser, Eliot, Fitzgerald, Wharton, Lewis, Steinbeck, Hemingway, Faulkner, Stevens, Pound, Wilson, Brooks, Albee, Williams, Wright, Hughes, Ellison, Miller, Bellow, Hellman, Updike, Barth, Morrison, Walker, Pynchon, Styron, Oates, and Vonnegut. This course also shed light on American philosophy as a reflection of a unique American culture distinct from the European experience due to its tackling of several issues that weren't present in the European world, in doing such, the course covers the works of such American philosophers as Emerson, Thoreau, Douglass, Dewey, William James and Jane Adams.

(3003703) American Political System (3 Credit Hours)

This course offers an in-depth examination of American politics and government. The first half of the course deals with the origins, evolution, and maturation of the American federal republic, focusing on the development of the United States Constitution, the two party system, and mass politics. The goal is to acquaint students with the structure, functions, processes, and traditions of local, state, and national government, and with the complexities of American political culture. The second half of the course explores the theory and practice of democracy in the contemporary United States, placing American politics and government in comparative perspective.

(3003704) American Economic System (3 Credit Hours)

This course examines the historical development and present character and condition of the American economy. The course places the American economic system in historical and comparative perspective by analyzing the institutional structures, inner workings, and ideological relations of American economic life. Areas of focus include: the origins and early development of regional economies, the emergence and maturation of a national market economy, the ideological and cultural underpinnings of American capitalism, the evolution of commercial agriculture, the development of financial and banking institutions, industrialization and the triumph of corporate culture, patterns of competition and monopoly, cycles of boom and bust, mass production and consumption, organized labor and labor-management relations, international trade and protectionism, public relations and advertising, Taylorism and the gospel of efficiency, unemployment and the problem of economic inequality, migrant and immigrant labor, speculative behavior and the stock market, de-industrialization and social implications of abundance and economic growth.

(3003705) American Foreign Policy (3 Credit Hours)

This course examines the history of American foreign relations and diplomacy, with a special emphasis on America's emergence as a world power in the 20th century. Following a general survey of the pre 1900-era, the course offers an in-depth analysis of American attitudes toward 20th century imperialism and colonialism, the impact of World War I and the isolationist-internationalist debate of the 1920s, the internationalist initiatives of World War II and the Cold War era, the stresses and legacies of the Vietnam War and the post-Cold War adjustments of the 1990s.

(3003706) American Social System (3 Credit Hours)

This interdisciplinary course examines the evolution of American society over four centuries, focusing on broad patterns of change and continuity in American social structures and social norms. Important areas of inquiry include: demography, family life, women's history and gender relationships, age relationships and gerontology, social and economic class, social mobility, migration, regional variations, community studies, and the social implications of urbanization and industrializ.

(3003707) America and the Arab World (3 Credit Hours)

This course examines the long history of interactions between the United States and the Arab world, with a special emphasis on the nature of contemporary relations between American and Arab cultures. Important areas of inquiry include: the history of American foreign policy in the Middle East, diplomatic relations between Arabs and the United States, the impact of the Cold War, terrorism and military conflict in Arab-American relations, the influence of American culture on the Arab world, the evolution of American attitudes towards Arab cultures and the Islamic world, Arab immigration to the United States and the development of Arab-American culture, the experiences of Arab Americans in the contemporary United States, contemporary Arab attitudes towards the United States, and the evolving economic relationship between the United States and the Arab World.

(3003708) American Human Geography (3 Credit Hours)

This course explore the physical and cultural geography of the United States. Following an introduction to the historical geography of the United States, the course turns to the geographic complexities of recent and contemporary America. The primary aim of the course is to provide students with a sophisticated understanding o the geographic context of social, cultural, economic, and political life in the United Stated. Much of the course focuses on regional variation and the persistence of distinctive regional cultures such as those of the Deep South, New England, the Middle Atlantic States, the Midwest, the Pacific Northwest, the Southwest, the Sunbelt, and the Great Plains.

(3003709) Pressure Groups in the United States (3 Credit Hours)

This course examines pressure and interest groups in the United States and their impact on the domestic and foreign policy of the country. This includes an analysis of the major pressure groups in America today in all relevant fields such as the economic sector, domestic politics, minority rights, and foreign policy, as well as as investigation of the methods used by these groups to advance their agendas.

(3003710) American Culture (3 Credit Hours)

This course examines the development of American culture by drawing upon the perspectives of liberty, anthropology, sociology, cultural studies, and aesthetics. Placing special emphasis on the 20th century, the course surveys a wide variety of distinctively American cultural forms and traditions. Students explore a range of topics related to "high" culture, popular culture, and folk culture: art and architecture, music, film, television, and the role of the media in American life, food and fashion, sports and leisure, religion, education, the commodification of culture, and regional and ethnic folkways.

(3003711) America and the World (3 Credit Hours)

This course provides an overview of American relations with the rest of the world and their effect on the international scene. This include American foreign relations during the 20th and the 21st centuries. The course focuses on American ties with China, Russia (and the Soviet Union previously), Latin America, and the European Union, all the while analyzing any changes that have been witnessed in the course of these relations.

(3003712) American Media (3 Credit Hours)

This course aims to investigate the role played by media in American life, especially in the 20th century. It analyzes the role played by the media during the period of World War I and II, and the Cold War and the post-Cold War era. This course studies the ways that the media affect public opinion in America and to exert pressure on American administrations. It also sheds light on the attitudes of American media toward such hot topics as communism, Islam, the Arab world, and America's war on terror.

(3003713) Special Subject

(3 Credit Hours)

This is a variable topic course designed to allow students to concentrate on a special topic not offered in the regular list of compulsory and elective courses. Students are limited to one course (3 credit hours) in the Special Subject category. Possible special topics include: History of American Women, History of American Art, History of American Music, American Environmental History, the Cold War and American Society, the American South, the American West, Colonial America, the American Revolution, Civil War and Reconstruction, American Urban History, the Modern American Novel, African-American History, American Indian History, Film and American Popular Culture, America in the 1960s, American Folklore, American Slavery, and Social Issues of Contemporary America.

(3003714) Religions in America

(3 Credit Hours)

This course explores the role of religions in American history and contemporary America. Beginning with the religious encounters of the early-seventeenth century, the course examines the variety, complexity, and significance of American religious life. In this course students examine the full range of American religious institutions, traditions, and impulses, including: Puritanism, Anglicanism; Quakerism, Evangelism and the Great Awakenings; American adaptations of Roman Catholicism, Lutheranism, Presbyterianism, and Methodism, Mormonism; Shakerism; the Ghost Dance and American Indian religions; Christian Socialism; Reform Judaism; the Southern Baptist Convention; the African Methodist-Episcopal Church and other African-American denominations; religions as a powerful force in the American Civil Rights movement; Pentecostalism; Jehovah's Witnesses; Black Muslims and the Nation of Islam; Christian Science; Scientology; Televangelism; the "Born Again" movement and the Christian coalition; modern American variations of Islam, Buddhism, and Eastern religions; Spiritualism; New Age religions; and various forms of the occult. The primary focus of the course is cultural, not theological, nor theological analysis.

(3002701) Research Methods in International Studies

(3 Credit Hours)

This is an advanced course in methodological, theoretical and technical issues in international studies. The course focuses on philosophy of social sciences and research ethics, comparative methods in international studies, and on combining qualitative and quantitative methods. Students will study research design, techniques of data collection, sampling and measurement, report and proposal writings, statistical analysis with computer application game theory.