



FALL 2006

GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM COURSE OFFERINGS

The General Education Program provides "core courses" in *World Civilizations*, *American Pluralism*, and *Great Discoveries in Science* to all students enrolled at the University at Buffalo.

General Education focuses on a broad array of skills, knowledge, and issues that the University's faculty considers being particularly important for all college graduates. The program is intended to help students prepare for success and fulfillment in a continually changing world. General Education complements the departmental major. The major provides depth of study in a particular area of specialization and prepares students for particular careers or for advanced study.



University at Buffalo *The State University of New York*

College of Arts & Sciences • General Education Program
708 Clemens Hall
<http://gened.buffalo.edu>

About General Education Courses...

World Civilizations. The World Civilizations course is about the people, forces and ideas which have shaped the way people have experienced (and still do experience) the world. The perspective of this course is global; its focus is on the origins and development, geographical context and interactions of world culture.

World Civilizations courses are designed and intended to serve a fundamental purpose of university education – to broaden one's view and extend one's comprehension of the variety of cultural experiences which surround us. These courses serve this purpose by "instilling a greatly expanded sense of time and space, of values, history and geography." This is accomplished by challenging the students to investigate, analyze, interpret and, ultimately, to integrate their unique cultural heritage with the diversity which surrounds us.

-- *Professor Thomas Barry, World Civilizations Instructor*

It is highly recommended that World Civ I be taken prior to World Civ II.

American Pluralism. The American Pluralism course examines the multicultural, multi-ethnic nature of American society. It introduces students to five important areas of American experience and culture: race, gender, ethnicity, class and religious sectarianism. Writings by and about Americans of color, women, and people from diverse ethnic, class and religious groups provide background and context for discussions of contemporary issues.

A diverse faculty selected from many of the University's departments teaches American Pluralism. Students learn from a variety of contemporary and historical sources, including literature, art, journalism, research articles, guest lecturers, films, and the experiences of their classmates.

Great Discoveries in Science. Students must complete UGC 302 or UGC 303, "Great Discoveries in Science", or a Cognate (an approved equivalent course). These courses focus on selected great discoveries of science, presenting a particular body of scientific facts and concepts and connecting them with the process of science, related history and philosophy, and the interdependence of science and technology. The courses emphasize the central ideas that set the framework for a discipline and its "great discoveries." The examples are selected from diverse fields to provide a breadth that complements the depth offered in the prerequisite introductory-level science course.



WORLD CIVILIZATIONS I UGC 111

UGC 111B
Wed & Fri, 2:00-2:50 pm

Professor Ramya Sreenivasan
History Department

This course introduces students to the development of world civilizations from prehistory to about 1500, and concerns the peoples, forces, and ideas that have shaped the way individuals have experienced (and still do experience) the world. In this course we will focus on the origins and development of societies, states, economies and cultures in different parts of the world, and their interactions with each other. The course will emphasize the common threads in the emergence of early human societies, and then explore how and why their paths diverged.

UGC 111C
Mon & Wed, 11:00-11:50 am

Professor Thomas Barry
Classics Department

This section is designed to create an awareness of the world's history as a coherent and meaningful process of which we are all a part. To this end, we shall study the most important political, economic, social, and religious occurrences which illuminate the universal history of this sphere. Thus, the first goal of the course is to instill a greatly expanded sense of time and space, of history and geography. Even more, the students will confront the very diverse ways by which cultures express their values, form their basic assumptions, and relate to other societies. Yet we shall also investigate underlying communities of values which we share, the identity of which is often hidden by surface appearance. In this way, we shall meet the second goal of the course: to demonstrate the ways world history is a common experience of shared values. Students will analyze and interpret original source documents and materials, especially works of art where values are best concentrated, in order to participate directly in the struggle to understand world civilization through its own evidence.

UGC 111 D
Tues & Thurs, 8:30-9:20 am

Professor Steven Jurek

A description is not available at this time. Please check the website at: <http://gened.buffalo.edu>. This document will be updated daily.

UGC 111 E
Tues & Thurs, 9:30-10:20 am

Professor Timothy Boyd
Classics Department

My focus in UGC 111 is upon attempting to understand how various strands which make up history, including technology, economics, geography, military, religion, and sexuality, among many, are woven together in so many different and in so many similar ways from the ancient Egyptians to the Middle Ages. Along the way, we will examine everything from developments in architecture to

what gives women power within a society, even a society which appears, on the surface, to be completely male-dominated. Requirements will include weekly recitations, quizzes in lectures and recitations, and four hour exams with both objective and essay components.

UGC 111F
Tues & Thurs, 9:30-10:20 am

Professor John Larkin
History Department

By 1500 C.E. humankind had moved from a culture of predominately hunter-gatherers to a set of civilizations on the edge of the modern age. This course considers how humans (*homo sapiens*, *sapiens*) made this transition. The focus will be on three of those civilizations that have particularly influenced modern ways of thinking. While other traditions were contemporary with the West, India, and China, these three made especially important contributions to thought about modern religion, science, social order and politics. If only because they encompassed and influenced so many people, Western, Indian, and Chinese thought played a major role in the transition to the world we live in. Through lectures, recitation sessions and written exercises, students will become acquainted with these traditions and how they shaped the way people think today.

UGC 111G
Tues & Thurs, 2:00-2:50 pm

Professor Donald Grinde
American Studies Department

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to Ancient Civilizations around the world and to give students an appreciation of the extraordinary diversity of the human experience. We will examine the values, traditions, and ideas of cultures around the world in a comparative way. The emphasis will be on understanding different societies in a thoughtful and critical manner.

UGC 111 H
Tues & Thurs, 1:00-1:50 pm

Professor Warren Barbour
Anthropology Department

This course will cover the human career from 7 million years ago to the beginning of the age of western exploration around 1550 ca. Emphasis in lectures will be on those aspects of cultures and civilizations that entice the student to think about the construction and current expression of our society and its global context.

This “World Civilization” section will have two main foci. First will be the learning of the broad sweep of history and pre-history covered by your textbook. Importance will be placed on the rise and fall of cultures and civilizations, with the goal of having the student understand the dynamic, fluid nature of the worlds past societies.

The second focus will be to understand the course material from an anthropological and archaeological perspective. This will be presented in lecture through lectures, powerpoint presentations and video. It is important for the student to know that the lectures in this class will not be rehashes of the chapters assigned from the textbook. The lectures will expand an idea from the textbook, or focus on a controversy in theory or interpretation of a point brought up in the textbook.

Civilizations share many characteristics but differ in others that makes for intriguing puzzles and comparisons. Students will be able to explore these issues in a ten page paper specifically comparing a focused aspect [economy, religion, etc.] of two civilizations.

UGC 111 J
Tues & Thurs, 11:00-11:50 am

Professor William Baumer
Philosophy Department

The development and interactions of societies from the dawn of recorded history through 1550 AD are surveyed in this approach to World Civilization I. The course considers the changes and interplay of societies' major components: agriculture, arts and crafts, technologies and sciences, economic systems, social and political structures, religious and philosophical beliefs. The impacts of these components and of various societies on one another and the consequences for the shape and state of present societies and the world in the 21st century are the foci of this overview. Grades are based on three exams and a research paper.

UGC 111 K
Tues & Thurs, 9:30-10:20 am

Professor James Lawler
Philosophy Department

Many states and influential movements today are energetically renewing their allegiance to non-Western traditions. There is a renewal of Confucianism in the Far East, of Hinduism in India, and of Islam in the Middle East and elsewhere. Orthodox Christianity in Russia is in a period of revival. Even the animistic spirituality of the tribal societies of Africa and North America, as well as traditions such as that of the ancient Mayans in Mexico is an object of contemporary significance. Buddhism is a rallying point among Tibetan exiles, but it is also an increasingly powerful spiritual movement in Western countries. Fundamentalist Christianity, too, has become a dynamic force, especially in the United States.

To understand the contemporary world, it is more necessary today than ever before in history to comprehend the great civilizations of the past. This course will provide general historical overviews stressing the various styles of the great civilizations and major structural changes. Study of the socio-economic and political histories will be combined with readings in classic texts of the great religions and philosophies of the East and the West, the North and the South.

There will be short weekly quizzes, one comprehensive final exam, and one short paper. Students will keep a journal, and will be able to participate in e-mail discussions of topics relevant to the course.

UGC 111 L
Mon & Wed, 10:00-10:50 am

Professor Al Price
Architectre & Urban Planning

This is Part I of a two-course sequence that utilizes the city—its people, its activity patterns, its physicality (that is, its space and form)—as the object of analysis in seeking to understand human cultures. In our language, the words “city,” “citizenship,” “civic,” “civil,” and “civilization” share

the same Latin root. The course will attempt to trace changes in the physical pattern of permanent human settlements from their earliest known sites up to 1500 CE, emphasizing the connections between built form and the historic social, economic, political, and cultural forces which shaped it and gave it meaning. Formal lectures will be heavily illustrated with slides, with special attention given to examples of formal city planning, urban architecture, and civil engineering.

UGC 111 M
Tues & Thurs, 12:00-12:50 pm

Professor Timothy Boyd
Classics Department

My focus in UGC 111 is upon attempting to understand how various strands which make up history, including technology, economics, geography, military, religion, and sexuality, among many, are woven together in so many different and in so many similar ways from the ancient Egyptians to the Middle Ages. Along the way, we will examine everything from developments in architecture to what gives women power within a society, even a society which appears, on the surface, to be completely male-dominated. Requirements will include weekly recitations, quizzes in lectures and recitations, and four hour exams with both objective and essay components.

UGC 111 R
Mon & Wed, 1:00-1:50 pm

Dr. Claire Schen
History Department

This course covers a vast sweep of world history, beginning with the start of human history and the origins of civilizations and ending with the roots of modern exploration and imperialism. We will move through time and across geographical and political boundaries. Be prepared for thinking about comparisons and contrasts across time and place. The topics of the course will draw on political, economic, social, and cultural history. We will look at events and developments from the vantage point of participant and observer, of insider and outsider to particular cultures, regions, and states. We will all be historians in this course, reading and analyzing primary documents, as well as our secondary text, to understand the chronology and significant themes of the past.

UGC 111 S
Mon & Wed, 12:00-12:50 pm

Professor Tilman Lanz
Comparative Literature

In looking at mankind's history from the early Egyptians up to the medieval times, UGC 111 explores the complex development of human civilization. In discussing this development, we will look at, among other things, the emergence of agricultural societies, the development of scripture and language, technological developments and their meaning for civilization, as well as the development and meaning of religion in civilization. Requirements include attendance in lecture and recitations, two major exams, and the composition of a short essay.

UGC 111 T
Tues & Thurs, 3:30-4:20 pm

Professor John Mohawk
American Studies Department

A description is not available at this time. Please check the website at: <http://gened.buffalo.edu>. This document will be updated daily.



UGC 112 A
Mon & Wed, 9:00 – 9:50 am

Professor Victoria Razak

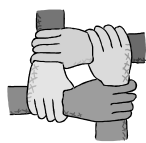
The epoch centered on 1500 is heralded as the beginning of the modern era. The authority manifested in the Protestant Reformation was being questioned, and the voyages of discovery revealed the possibilities of the globe to the European imagination – and greed. This second part of World Civilizations continues with the Western encounter with the non-Western world; the rise and fall of Muslim Empires; Africa, Latin-America and the colonial encounter; the scientific revolution and its enlightened aftermath; the challenge to absolute monarchy – revolutions in France and America; industrialization of Europe; two World Wars; totalitarianism and the Nazi State; the Soviet experiment; superpower rivalry; decolonization and the Third World; the New Asia; reemergence of the Muslim world; and increasing globalization. This course will be taught from the perspective of anthropology – culture-centered, and broad in scope. The sociocultural aspects and effects of historic events and change will be particularly emphasized. With the advantage of hindsight, students will be encouraged to critique and evaluate the past from their own perspective, but also must develop an understanding of the social, technological and political contexts, and advantages and constraints of the different eras.

UGC 112 B
Tue & Thurs, 2:00 – 2:50 pm

Professor Sasha Pack
History Department

This course outlines the major events and trends that have shaped the modern world since roughly 1500. Major topics will include the rise of the modern empires, the advance of globalization, the process of emancipation of the individual, the development of nationalism and the modern state system, and the major wars and genocides of the twentieth century.

Students will be required to write three 2-page papers on particular reading assignments. There will also be a midterm paper (4-5 pages) and a final paper (5-6 pages). Attendance and participation in the discussion section is required.



AMERICAN PLURALISM UGC 211

UGC 211 CAJ
Tues & Thurs, 3:00-4:20 pm

Professor Jesse Carter
African-American Studies

A more complete description is not available at the time of printing. Please visit our website, <http://gened.buffalo.edu> for updated descriptions.

UGC 211 CAR
Tue & Thurs, 2:00-3:20 pm

Professor Wesley Carter
African American Studies

At no time in our nation's history has it been more important to understand the man next door or the nation in the furthest hemisphere. The world is growing smaller every day. We have only to turn on our TVs and there is France, South Africa, Iraq; all very much in the news. But we will never understand the individuals in those "foreign" hemispheres if no attempt is ever made to understand the individuals in our own society. What we do with the people next door, if they happen to be of another color or religion, will largely determine our response to others like them in our parts of the world. Through this course, you will be given the opportunity not only to examine your levels of tolerance and understanding, but also to acknowledge the prejudices, biases, and related misconceptions that you may have about a variety of ethnic groups. The future is in your hands, but it comes with ever increasing responsibility to fashion that future for the securing of rights and freedoms for all.

UGC 211 CAW
Tue & Thurs, 5:00-6:20 pm

Professor Wesley Carter
African American Studies

At no time in our nation's history has it been more important to understand the man next door or the nation in the furthest hemisphere. The world is growing smaller every day. We have only to turn on our TVs and there is France, South Africa, Iraq; all very much in the news. But we will never understand the individuals in those "foreign" hemispheres if no attempt is ever made to understand the individuals in our own society. What we do with the people next door, if they happen to be of another color or religion, will largely determine our response to others like them in our parts of the world. Through this course, you will be given the opportunity not only to examine your levels of tolerance and understanding, but also to acknowledge the prejudices, biases, and related misconceptions that you may have about a variety of ethnic groups. The future is in your hands, but it comes with ever increasing responsibility to fashion that future for the securing of rights and freedoms for all.

UGC 211 DUR
Tues & Thurs, 3:30-4:50 pm

Professor Henry Durand
EOP

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the history, the social-political-philosophical context, and underlying theories surrounding the struggle for equal opportunity in the United States. The emphasis of this course will reinforce the skills of logic, synthesis, analysis, application, and evaluation when viewing or critiquing the complex issues of Social Equality, Educational Opportunity, and Diversity. The course is designed to provide the student with not only substantive data and background that form a foundation for the study of Equal Opportunity in America, but also the skills to make systematic and objective analyses of the related issues, problems, and concerns.

UGC 211 KAN
Tues & Thurs, 3:30-4:50 pm

Professor Sooyoung Kang
Asian Studies Program

This section of American Pluralism will address the history and ideas of American multiculturalism through examining the constant negotiations Asian Americans undertake to both expose and challenge the stereotypes that their social construction has historically depended upon. This course will reveal how the story of one minority group is inextricably linked to the stories of all other groups, and therefore sheds light on the enormously complex nature of this nation's history, present, and possible futures. By doing so, we will complicate the discussions of race and gender beyond the black/white binary as well as in a transnational context.

UGC 211 KOD
Tues & Thurs, 3:30-4:50 pm

Professor Debra Kolodczak
American Studies Department

American Pluralism is a course designed to explore themes and social history in areas identified as race, class, gender, ethnicity and religion. Each student in this section is responsible for preparing a written summary (3 to 5 pages long) on one of the reading assignments and presenting an oral report. Time permitting, class discussions will follow the oral presentations. Additionally, each student is responsible for completing a ten page final essay (on an additional text), two in-class examinations, and active participation during class and on-line. In this section students who seek to gain computer-based skills may, as an alternative to certain written assignments, qualify for digital imaging assignments that center on collecting and interpreting images in the public domain pertaining to course themes and social history.

This course has two required textbooks. The required reading assignments average out to about a chapter per class. Additional reading assignments are selected from the course bibliography, available on UBLearn. Textbook readings are “common” to the entire class while additional reading assignments are portioned out to individual students to read and report on. Although not responsible for all additional readings, all students are responsible for ALL material covered

during class discussions. Class attendance/participation is, therefore, mandatory and will directly impact the grade you receive for this course. This section utilizes UBLearn's Blackboard as a means to extend class participation, as a repository for written assignments; and as a focal point for our web-based research.

UGC 211 KOL
Tues & Thurs, 12:30-1:50 pm

Professor Debra Kolodczak
American Studies Department

American Pluralism is a course designed to explore themes and social history in areas identified as race, class, gender, ethnicity and religion. Each student in this section is responsible for preparing a written summary (3 to 5 pages long) on one of the reading assignments and presenting an oral report. Time permitting, class discussions will follow the oral presentations. Additionally, each student is responsible for completing a ten page final essay (on an additional text), two in-class examinations, and active participation during class and on-line. In this section students who seek to gain computer-based skills may, as an alternative to certain written assignments, qualify for digital imaging assignments that center on collecting and interpreting images in the public domain pertaining to course themes and social history.

This course has two required textbooks. The required reading assignments average out to about a chapter per class. Additional reading assignments are selected from the course bibliography, available on UBLearn's. Textbook readings are "common" to the entire class while additional reading assignments are portioned out to individual students to read and report on. Although not responsible for all additional readings, all students are responsible for ALL material covered during class discussions. Class attendance/participation is, therefore, mandatory and will directly impact the grade you receive for this course. This section utilizes UBLearn's Blackboard as a means to extend class participation, as a repository for written assignments; and as a focal point for our web-based research.

UGC 211 LUL
Tues & Thurs, 5:00-6:20 pm

Professor Y. G. Lulat
African-American Studies

The U.S. is truly one of the most pluralistic countries on this planet. In addition to the obvious diversity of sex, class, and religion, the U.S. has a diversity of races and ethnic groups that is representative of almost all of humanity. On one hand, this circumstance has been instrumental in the evolution of a robust democratic political system that only few countries can rival; yet on the other, it has been the basis, historically, of some of the most severely egregious forms of oppression (to put it mildly) that continue to persist to the present day. Against this backdrop, and in keeping with the mandate of an American Pluralism course, we will do our best to accomplish the following within the limitations of a one semester course: Provide an overview of the general history of the United States from the perspective of the evolution of democracy; explore how such social categories as class, race, ethnicity, sex, etc. affects democracy; grapple with racial and other stereotypes by looking at cultures of some of the groups that make up U.S. society; and work on developing critical thinking skills. From a structural point of view, the course has three parts to it: (1) class lectures; (2) course readings; and (3) audio-visual material. While each of these parts will

of course be related, they, however, will not have identical content. For example: class lectures will not be a regurgitation of material in course readings. All general education courses are required to have a writing component; therefore, a library-based written research project will be among the assignments in this course.

UGC 211 PEJ
Mon, Wed & Fri, 9:00-9:50 am

Professor Jill Peters
American Studies Department

Quite literally, “American Pluralism” means many American people with many views speaking in many voices. The American Pluralism course examines this multicultural, multi-ethnic nature of American society. It introduces students to five important areas of American experience and culture: race, gender, ethnicity, class and religion. Writings by and about Americans of color, women, and people from diverse ethnic, class and religious groups provide background and context for discussions of contemporary issues. UGC 211 provides opportunities for you and challenges you to speak, read, and write about controversial issues related to these aspects of American life, but the course does not push any particular ideology or philosophical position. This course also examines the history of oppression in the United States and how historical events have affected contemporary issues and your life. Emphasizing active, participatory, and empowering education, the American Pluralism course and your classmates will challenge you to think critically about cultural myths, our society’s core values, and your own existing beliefs and prejudices.

UGC 211 PET
Mon, Wed & Fri, 11:00-11:50 am

Professor Jill Peters
American Studies Department

Quite literally, “American Pluralism” means many American people with many views speaking in many voices. The American Pluralism course examines this multicultural, multi-ethnic nature of American society. It introduces students to five important areas of American experience and culture: race, gender, ethnicity, class and religion. Writings by and about Americans of color, women, and people from diverse ethnic, class and religious groups provide background and context for discussions of contemporary issues. UGC 211 provides opportunities for you and challenges you to speak, read, and write about controversial issues related to these aspects of American life, but the course does not push any particular ideology or philosophical position. This course also examines the history of oppression in the United States and how historical events have affected contemporary issues and your life. Emphasizing active, participatory, and empowering education, the American Pluralism course and your classmates will challenge you to think critically about cultural myths, our society’s core values, and your own existing beliefs and prejudices.



GREAT DISCOVERIES IN SCIENCE

UGC 302 DOM
Tues & Thurs, 1:00-2:20 pm

Professor Darlene M Dombroski
Microbiology And Immunology

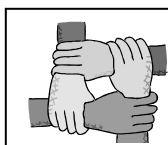
Great Discoveries in Science: Microworld

This course will examine important issues in human health and disease focusing on microbiology and immunology. We will delve into what is a "good" bacteria vs a "bad" bacteria and what causes a "good" bacteria to go "bad" - (Possibly hanging around with bad bacterial influences?) The lecture topics will focus on the current issues of the day - SARS, Mad Cow Disease, anthrax, bioterrorism, overusage of antibiotics etc. Also we will discuss such pertinent topics or urban legends such as - what is the most dangerous item in your kitchen; hidden hazards associated with summer barbecues; who is in the hot tub with you?; and when you hear "Singing in the Rain" at a local grocery store - is that stream of water really safe for the vegetables? There will be guest lecturers from the Microbiology and Immunology department and also from the local hospitals. The presentations will be informal with student participation encouraged. The topics presented will change dependent upon the current events. Contributing to the course grade will be attendance, class participation, and a short presentation by each student of a noteworthy (microbiology/immunology) news item.

UGC 303 G
Mon, Wed & Fri, 4:00 - 4:50 pm

Professor Rossman Giese
Geology Department

The subject of this section is our view of the universe (and especially the solar system) from the Neolithic to Aristotle, Ptolemy, Copernicus, Galileo, Newton, Lowell and NASA. Our perceptions have been changed over several thousand years by new ideas and new modes of observation. In spite of much progress, we still do not have all the answers.



COGNATE COURSES

Approved Equivalent Courses for American Pluralism

U.S. History I and II: U.S. history from Native American settlement to the end of the Civil War.

HIS 161 EDV	LEC	U S History 1	Marshall, G J	DFN 2	M W	1900-2020
HIS 161 SEE	LEC	U S History 1	Seeman, E R	KNOX 109	M W	0900-0950
HIS 161 YOU	LEC	U S History 1	Young, J R	HOCH 114	T R	0930-1020
HIS 162 CAH	LEC	Us History 2	Cahn, S K	NSC 215	M W	1000-1050
HIS 162 EDV	LEC	Us History 2	Marshall, G J	DFN 2	T R	1900-2020

*See the History Department for a specific course description.

SOC 211 – Sociology of Diversity
Tue & Thurs, 2:00 – 3:20 pm

Professor Michael Farell
Department of Sociology

This course serves as a sociological introduction to diversity in American society. The basis and social implications of difference will be explored, with particular reference to issues of race, ethnicity, religion, class, and gender.

DMS 213 – Immigration & Film
Tue & Thurs, 11:00 – 12:50 am

Staff
Media Studies Department

This course focuses on fundamental aspects of immigration in the United States and abroad by examining representative examples of films and documentaries. This semester we will focus on three main aspects of immigration and film – (1) political immigration, (2) economic immigration and (3) forced migration and displacement. In addition, we will investigate four major sub-topics related to that issue i.e.; (1) representation of race and ethnicity in film, (2) cultural identity and its reciprocal relationship with cinema, (3) the common narrative of movement, be it geographic or social/economic and (4) tensions between assimilation and cultural diversity.

Several themes will be examined repeatedly throughout the semester – the various ways first, second and third generations experience immigration; social cultural integration and/or assimilation and cultural diversity.

We will survey global film history, critically viewing examples of silent film, classical Hollywood, contemporary Hollywood, European documentary and independent narrative film. We will inform our understanding of these films by reading and discussing historical, theoretical, and critical texts that relate to the weekly screening. In addition, writing assignments, close readings of films and class discussions will provide you with opportunities to develop critical thinking and writing abilities. This course fulfills the American Pluralism requirement.