

CUNY Common Core Course Submission Form

Instructions: All courses submitted for the Common Core must be liberal arts courses. Courses may be submitted for only one area of the Common Core. All courses must be 3 credits/3 hours unless the college is seeking a waiver for a 4-credit Math or Science course (after having secured approval for sufficient 3-credit/3-hour Math and Science courses). All standard governance procedures for course approval remain in place.

College	Kingsborough Community College
Course Number	HIS 21
Course Title	Popular Culture in America
Department(s)	History
Discipline	U.S. History
Subject Area	Flexible Core Group B – U.S. Experience in its Diversity
Credits	3
Contact Hours	3
Pre-requisites	None
Catalogue Description	Development of sports, fads, and folklore in America including additional significant aspects of American society from the colonial era to the present.
Syllabus	Syllabus must be included with submission, 5 pages max
Waivers for 4-credit Math and Science Courses All Common Core courses must be 3 credits and 3 hours. Waivers for 4-credit courses will only be accepted in the required areas of Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning and Life and Physical Sciences. Such waivers will only be approved after a sufficient number of 3-credit/3-hour math and science courses are approved for these areas.	
If you would like to request a waiver please check here:	<input type="checkbox"/> Waiver requested
If waiver requested: Please provide a brief explanation for why the course will be 4 credits.	
If waiver requested: Please indicate whether this course will satisfy a major requirement, and if so, which major requirement(s) the course will fulfill.	

Indicate the status of this course being nominated:

☒ current course ☐ revision of current course ☐ a new course being proposed

CUNY COMMON CORE Location

Please check below the area of the Common Core for which the course is being submitted. (Select only one.)

Required

- ☐ English Composition
☐ Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning
☐ Life and Physical Sciences

Flexible

- ☐ World Cultures and Global Issues ☐ Individual and Society
☒ US Experience in its Diversity ☐ Scientific World
☐ Creative Expression

Learning Outcomes

In the left column explain the assignments and course attributes that will address the learning outcomes in the right column.

II. Flexible Core (18 credits)

Six three-credit liberal arts and sciences courses, with at least one course from each of the following five areas and no more than two courses in any discipline or interdisciplinary field.

B. U.S. Experience in its Diversity

A Flexible Core course must meet the three learning outcomes in the right column.

The class requires readings from multiple points of view and sources, including contemporary accounts of popular culture phenomena including 19th-century theater, minstrel shows, Vaudeville, early phonograph recordings and silent films, media images during Depression and wartime, the birth of rock 'n' roll and the rebellious 60s, and issues in contemporary popular culture. They are required to interpret and assess these sources through written assignments, essays, quizzes, examinations, and/or oral presentations.

- Gather, interpret, and assess information from a variety of sources and points of view.

The writing assignments and/or the major exams assigned in the course require using several readings and critically evaluating different arguments.

- Evaluate evidence and arguments critically or analytically.

Students will produce individual essays and may be assigned term papers or group reports (at the discretion of the instructor), all of which require using evidence to support conclusions. This is a departmental requirement for the final exam; at least 50% of that exam must consist of written material in essay format that includes a critical, evaluative, or analytical component.

- Produce well-reasoned written or oral arguments using evidence to support conclusions.

A course in this area (II.B) must meet at least three of the additional learning outcomes in the right column. A student will:

This course addresses the history of U.S. popular culture and familiarizes students with how this subject is studied in various disciplinary and interdisciplinary traditions. Readings and other materials (i.e. video, film, music, art, etc.) include works of history, cultural studies, media studies, history, U.S. literature, art, popular media and criticism..

- Identify and apply the fundamental concepts and methods of a discipline or interdisciplinary field exploring the U.S. experience in its diversity, including, but not limited to, anthropology, communications, cultural studies, economics, history, political science, psychology, public affairs, sociology, and U.S. literature.

Students will use the course readings and independent student assignments to address the issues of the history and development of United States popular culture from a variety of informed perspectives. Specific themes include cultural perceptions of women, African Americans and immigrants in popular culture; media depictions of the Great Depression from realistic and escapist perspectives; popular expressions of pro- and anti-war sentiments in different eras; contemporary popular culture images and themes and how they draw on those of the past.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze and explain one or more major themes of U.S. history from more than one informed perspective.
19 th century images of slaves are examined from the viewpoints of the abolitionist movement and minstrel shows to examine the divergent understandings of slavery at that time; so too are images of late 19 th century immigrants from both sympathetic and more antagonistic Nativist perspectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate how indigenous populations, slavery, or immigration have shaped the development of the United States.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain and evaluate the role of the United States in international relations.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and differentiate among the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government and analyze their influence on the development of U.S. democracy.
The period covered by this course provides a treasure trove of material on race in popular culture (including minstrel shows, the Harlem Renaissance, Hollywood movie imagery, contemporary rap and hip-hop culture, etc.), gender (WWII 'Rosie the Riveter,' feminism, women's fiction and images in film, etc.), class (films and music produced during recessions, documentary images, etc.) and other subjects of social differentiation. Students are asked to address at least two of these subjects through various reading and writing assignments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze and discuss common institutions or patterns of life in contemporary U.S. society and how they influence, or are influenced by, race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, belief, or other forms of social differentiation.