A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Prerequisites: WRIT 131 Writing I

Lab Hours/Weeks: Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/Week:

MnTC Goals: Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies, Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

This course takes "current events" out of the headlines and into the realm of history. We examine controversies and developments that have marked American political and social life since 1980. Issues such as Ronald Reagan's election, economic policy, abortion, affirmative action, welfare, "political correctness," the Iran-Contra scandal and the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars are considered. The class brings the perspective of history to bear on Reagan's presidency, the power of the conservative movement and the opposition to that movement.

B. Course Effective Dates: 12/15/2017 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Understands basic events and trends of political and social life in the United States since 1980, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
2. Understands both the growing economic inequalities of American society and the simultaneous easing of certain forms of social and cultural inequality in the United States since 1980, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
3. Understands both the operations of power from the top down and the activities of grassroots mobilizations in the United States since 1980, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
4. Understands the development of U.S. foreign policy and the impact of world events on the United States in the last decade of the cold war and in the post-cold war era, up through the 9/11 attacks on the United States, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies

None

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
3. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.

G. Special Information