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| Title of the subject: Current Social and Political Issues in the United States | Credit value: 4 |
| Category of the subject: optional | |
| Extent of the theoretical or practical nature of the subject, "*educational character*"[[1]](#footnote-1): practical 100% (credit%) | |
| Type of the class: sem. and number of classes: 26 in the given semester,  (*if the subject is (partially) taught in any language other than Hungarian, then the language*: *English)*  Further (*specific*) forms, characteristics[[2]](#footnote-2) of the transfer of the given knowledge *(if any)*: ……………………….. | |
| Form of testing (exam / pract. mark / other): practical mark  Further (*specific*) forms to be applied in [[3]](#footnote-3) knowledge testing*(if any)*: …………………….. | |
| Position of the subject in the curriculum (number of the semester): 3rd | |
| Required preliminary studies *(if any)*:BBNAN00900 | |

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| Description of the subject: the brief, still informative description of the knowledge to be attained | |
| The course is building on the introductory courses on American history and society; its objective is to develop students’ familiarity with the US by focusing on current social and political issues and employing an analytical approach. The primary focus is on contemporary United States, but special attention will be devoted to historical background of current social and political phenomena. Students are expected to do their own research in their chosen topic, find articles and secondary literature, examine each problem from multiple points of view and participate actively in classroom discussion.  The course will focus on some of the following issues (the list is incomplete): legal and illegal immigration, racial and ethnic tensions, the problems of abortion and gun ownership, social polarization and the impoverishing middle class, controversial aspects of the political and electoral system, civil rights, political influence in the news media, the role of religion in public life. |
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| List of the most important 2–5 pieces of *required* and *recommended* literature (lecture notes, handbooks) with bibliographical details (author, title, edition information (or specific pages), ISBN) | |
| * Required Literature: * Campbell, Neil – Alasdair Kean. *American Cultural Studies. An Introduction to American Culture.* Routledge, 2016. ISBN: 9781138833142 * Recommended Literature: * Ojeda, Auriana ed. *Civil Liberties: Opposing Viewpoints.* San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 2004. ISBN: 0737716754 * Williams, Mary ed. *Immigration: Opposing Viewpoints.* San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 2004. ISBN: 0737716916   Torr, James D. ed. *Race Relations: Opposing Viewpoints.* San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 2004. ISBN: 0737707615 | |

1. Determination of the educational character, value expressed in credit%: knowledge contents, nature of the competences to be attained *(see description of the subject),* by comparing, evaluating the form of knowledge transfer and form of testing in a combined, complex manner. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. e.g. case discussions, role play, thematic presentations, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. e.g. hand-in assignments, such as case studies, elaboration of specific topics, compositions, essays, business and organizational plans, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)