

Argosy University
COURSE SYLLABUS
E7136
Jan 11 to March 3, 2010

"Higher Education in the US"

Faculty Information:

Jacob Ng, Ed.D. - Has been involved in higher education in the State of California for the past 25 years. Currently serves as Associate Vice Chancellor of International Affairs, Distance and Community Education for the Peralta Community College District.

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Meeting Dates: Jan 14, 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 18 & 25

Course Hours: 4pm - 10:00pm

Course Location: Peralta District Board Room, Oakland, CA

Course Description:

This course will provide students an opportunity to analyze and examine assessment and planning of American Higher Education. Theories and models of institutional arrangement, as well as governance and management processes are also considered in this course.

This course will provide students an opportunity to gain insight into current political and social controversies surrounding American public and private higher education. It will also enable students to gain understanding of the various social, political, and economic challenges of higher education in the twenty-first century in the US, as well as in the world. Students will develop critical thinking skills regarding each theme discussed in the chapters and related supplemental material.

The class assignments are designed to prepare students to gain valuable current knowledge through readings and activities during the course. The assignments consist of reading designated chapters in the textbook and writing papers on the selected topics discussed in class. Participation in class discussion and completing class projects are crucial for students' learning outcome.

Course Pre-requisites: An inquisitive mind and positive attitude

Course Length: 8 Weeks

Course Credit Value: 3.0

Required Text:

Altbach, Philip G./ Berdahl, Robert O./ Gumport, Patricia J. (2005) *American Higher Education in the Twenty-First Century: Social, Political, and Economic Challenges* (2nd Ed.) Baltimore, MD: John Hopkins University Press

Lucas, Christopher J. (2006) *American Higher Education: A History* (2nd Ed.) New York, NY: St. Martins Press, Inc.

Course Objectives:

The objective of this class is to help students become familiar with the History of American higher education as well as the social, political, and economic issues surrounding higher education in the US in the 21st century.

The course seeks to:

- Analyze and discuss the fundamental challenges of higher education in the 21st century as demonstrated through a review of literature
- Examine critical issues such as finance, technology, curriculum, leadership dilemmas, academic freedom, autonomy and accountability, state and federal government, students and faculty, racial and legal issues facing American higher education
- Explore theories and models of institutional structures in higher education
- Analyze the governance and management processes in higher education
- Examine organizational behaviors as demonstrated through experiential learning

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify current major developments, issues and challenges related to K-12 and higher education policy.
- Formulate a rational approach to addressing a problem or issue facing higher education in the context of appropriate leadership levels.
- Tie the history of American education to the earliest periods as discussed in Lucas' *American Higher Education, A History* to modern institutional settings in the US and appreciate the value of education today.
- Present educational information in writing using appropriate media and technology that is concise, organized well supported, and in a professional manner appropriate to the audience.
- Access information from a variety of credible sources and apply that information to the solution of educational problems relevant to the improvement of higher education.
- Effectively use the Internet to investigate and conduct research on current literature that relates to contemporary problems and issues.

Class Calendar

Week	Readings	Chapters	Assignments
Week 1: 1/11 - 1/17 <i>Meeting:</i> 1/14	American Higher Education, A History	Chapter 1-3 <i>(2 students will present on each chapter)</i>	Each student will be expected to follow the weekly assignments both in readings, papers & group projects. Students will present their selected chapters. (Papers will be due the following week.)
Week 2: 1/18 - 1/24 <i>Meeting:</i> 1/21	American Higher Education, A History & American Higher Education in the 21 st Century	Chapters 4-5 Chapters 1-4	Each student will be expected to present chapters and participate in discussion. 40 minute presentation per student

Week 3: 1/25 - 1/31 <i>Meeting:</i> 1/28	American Higher Education, A History & American Higher Education in the 21 st Century	Chapters 6-7 Chapters 5-8	Each student will be expected to present chapters and participate in discussion. 40 minute presentation per student
Week 4: 2/1 - 2/7 <i>Meeting:</i> 2/4	American Higher Education, A History & American Higher Education in the 21 st Century	Chapters 8-9 Chapters 9-12	Each student will be expected to present chapters and participate in discussion. 40 minute presentation per student
Week 5: 2/8 - 2/14 <i>Meeting:</i> 2/11	American Higher Education in the 21 st Century Selected Topic	Chapter 13-15 3 presentations	Individual presentations on chapters or selected topics <i>Choose your individual topic from the list below.</i>
Week 6: 2/15 - 2/21 <i>Meeting:</i> 2/18	American Higher Education in the 21 st Century Selected Topic	Chapter 16-18 3 presentations on individual topics	Individual presentations on chapters or selected topics <i>Choose your individual topic from the list below</i>
Week 7: 2/22 - 2/28 <i>Meeting:</i> 2/25	Selected Topic	6 presentations	<i>Choose your individual topic from the list below</i>
Week 8: 3/1 - 3/3			GRADES SUBMITTED

Supplemental Reading: Students are encouraged to read *The Chronicle of Higher Education* for class discussion.

Presentations/Papers: 5 Chapters & 2 Selected Topics

Each student is required to **select a chapter each week** from the readings *and* **two "selected topics" from below.**

Presentations:

Each meeting each student will do **one in class presentation** on the Chapter or selected topic. Presentations will be around **40 minutes** (including discussion).

Papers

Each student will submit a **4-5 page** double spaced paper (APA style) on the chapter/topic selected. The papers will be due after the presentations on a day to be determined and agreed upon in class.

Course Evaluation: The A-F grading system will be used for the course. Class grades will be given according to the following:

1. Attendance & Class Participation (20%)
2. Five Chapter Presentations & Papers (50%)
3. Two "Selected Topic" Presentation & Papers (30%)

A Denotes exceptional accomplishment relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements

A-

B+

B Denotes superior accomplishment relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements

B-

F Denotes failure in accomplishment relative to the level necessary to meet basic course requirements and is unworthy of credit

NOTE: No late work will be accepted without prior approval from the Professor or valid medical reason.

APA style should be used for all papers and project reports, including the references.

Selected topics for Individual/Group Presentations, Papers & Projects:

The following topics should be presented and written based on a controversial point of view.

Selected Topics

- 1. Institutional Effectiveness as a Leadership and Management Process**
- 2. Importance of Diversity on School Campus**
- 3. Importance of Workforce Development and Vocational Programs**
- 4. Importance of Student Learning Outcomes in Academic Programs and Designs**
- 5. Enhanced Learning Effectiveness: Online VS Class Lecture**
- 6. Importance of Shared Governance in the Decision Making Process, such as, Hiring**
- 7. The Advantages and Disadvantages of Open Door Policies in the Community College System**
- 8. Acquired Other Sources of Revenue for the Institution, such as, Grants, Contract Ed, International Education, etc...**
- 9. Leadership of Board of Trustees or Governing Board of the Higher Education System or Institution**
- 10. Entrepreneurial Management in American Higher Education**
- 11. Improving the Success Rates of Students in the School Systems**
- 12. Roles of Student Services in the Response to Reduced Support Services**
- 13. Faculty Practices and Attitudes as Teachers and Scholars**
- 14. Expanding Partnerships between High Schools and Community Colleges or Universities**
- 15. Enhancing the Image of the School/University through Public Relation**
- 16. Strategic Management of Institution in a Dynamic Environment**
- 17. The Challenges and Obligations Facing the Education in the Twenty-First Century**
- 18. The role of Technology and Communication**
- 19. Globalization of the American Institutions**
- 20. The Role of the Principal/Presidents in the School Systems**
- 21. Open Door Admissions, Transfer and Terminal Curriculum of the Community Colleges**
- 22. Self Selective Topic (approval needed):**